

# ***Sermon Discussion Guide***

**Date:** June 23, 2024

**Sermon:** What We Believe: Salvation pt1

**Preacher:** Hector

**Primary Text:** Ephesians 1:3-14



## **SUMMARY**

*Big Idea: Rejoice in the Lord's Salvation*

So far in the series, we've considered the necessity of Theology, the Scriptures as our sole source and authority for theology, the doctrine of God, the doctrine of Man, and what went wrong, the doctrine of Sin. This week, from our passage (Ephesians 1:3-14), we considered part 1 of the doctrine of Salvation, what God has done to remedy the sin problem. The Lord has provided salvation - the Father has willed it, the Son fulfills it, and the Spirit is sent to apply and seal it. As believers we must remember what the Lord has saved us *from*, as well as what the Lord has saved us *to*. Our world and lives are filled with functional "hells" that lead us to functional "saviors". But the Lord through His word diagnoses the root cause, sin. To redeem from sin's curse and penalty, the Lord, in Christ dealt not merely with the effects of sin, but sin itself. Through the word, Son and Spirit, the Lord comes to us, makes us new, preserves us, and anchors our hope.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**Read: Ephesians 1:3-14**

- 1) Summarize these verses in your own words. What do you think is the main point? Why?
- 2) When? In these verses, what is the time frame that in view? How does this help us understand the significance of these verses?
- 3) Who? Regarding the work of God, how do you see each member of the trinity at work? What roles do they play? How does this help us understand these verses?
- 4) Why? In these verses, what motive is given for why the Lord has acted in this way? Why is that significant?
- 5) We are prone to create "functional hells" (temporary, fear-based, short-sighted, worldly), and then, to save us from those, we turn to "functional saviors". How have you seen this at play in your own life and thinking?
- 6) In what ways is this doctrine currently ignored, opposed, or twisted?
  - Consider your answers in 2 realms
    - i. "Out there" - in our current culture
    - ii. "In here" - in your own heart and mind
- 7) Why is believing and holding to what the Scriptures teach about this important?
- 8) How would you explain this teaching to someone? (children, neighbors, coworkers)
- 9) How does this doctrine fuel and inform your love for God and love for others?