

LESSON 4:

What Did God Do to Accomplish Our Salvation?

Summary

Salvation is commonly seen as just the work of atonement and forgiveness of sin, but the work of salvation which God has wrought includes not only the crucifixion of Christ Jesus, but also His resurrection and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon God's people on the Day of Pentecost. Thus, all three Persons of the Godhead are involved in the work of salvation, making it a truly Trinitarian activity. Understanding this lays the groundwork for explaining how this applies to us as Christians.

Study Questions

Preparation

1. Read Acts 9:1-11. Four things which occur throughout Paul's writings are our *union with Christ*, the necessity of the *resurrection*, *grace*, and the *indwelling of the Holy Spirit*. How are those things present in his conversion on the road to Damascus.

Observation

2. How does Paul describe our union with Christ in Eph. 5:32 and Romans 6:1-11?
3. Have you ever heard of the idea that we are united to Christ? What do you think it means?
4. Read 1 Cor. 15:12-19. In Paul's view, is the resurrection of Christ a necessary part of salvation? Why do you think that is the case?

5. Read John 14:16-18, 16:5-15, and Acts 1:5-8. How important does the Lord Himself see the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? What will the Spirit do?

Reflection

6. What would be lost from our salvation if we lacked the atonement, the resurrection, or Pentecost?