

Romans 10:13 -- For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be *saved*.” (NKJV - emphasis added)

Word Definition: The Greek word that Paul uses in Romans 10:13 for saved is the word *sōzō*. It has a number of meanings. *Sōzō* means to save. It also means to keep safe and sound; to rescue from danger or destruction; to save a suffering one from perishing; to preserve someone who is in danger of destruction; to deliver from the penalties of judgment. It also means to make one whole: spirit, soul and body.

I. Salvation is eternal: past, present, and future.

Romans 6:23 -- For the wages (*payment*) of sin is death, but the (*free*) gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (NKJV - clarity added)

1 John 2:25 -- And this is the promise that He has promised us—*eternal life*. (NKJV - emphasis added)

1 John 5:13a -- These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, *that you may know (with certainty) that you have eternal life*, (NKJV - clarity and emphasis added)

A. God identifies Himself as being the eternally existent One.

Exodus 3:14 -- And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” (NKJV)

B. In the book of Revelation Jesus identifies Himself to John as the eternally existent God; Who is and Who was and Who is to come.

Revelation 1:4b -- Grace to you and peace from *Him who is and who was and who is to come*,... (NKJV - emphasis added)

Revelation 1:8 -- “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, “*who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty*.” (NKJV - emphasis added)

Revelation 1:8 -- The Master declares, “I’m A to Z. I’m THE GOD WHO IS, THE GOD WHO WAS, AND THE GOD ABOUT TO ARRIVE. I’m the Sovereign-Strong.” (MSG)

C. Jesus is worshipped in the heavenly places by the four living creatures, the 24 elders, and by an angel as the One "who was and is and is to come."

Revelation 4:8c -- "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, *Who was and is and is to come!*" (NKJV - emphasis added)

Revelation 11:17 -- "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, *The One who is and who was and who is to come,*..." (NKJV - emphasis added)

Revelation 16:5 -- And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, *The One who is and who was and who is to be,*..." (NKJV - emphasis added)

Hebrews 13:8 -- Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (NKJV)

Wisdom Point: God is the author of eternal salvation.

D. We must understand that our salvation is past, present and future.

E. If we don't understand our salvation in the past tense, we will struggle to understand it in both the future and present tenses.

Wisdom Point: Salvation is not a goal to be achieved. It is a gift to be received.

Ephesians 1:3-6
(NKJV - emphasis added)

- (3) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who *has blessed* us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
- (4) just as He *chose* us in Him *before the foundation of the world*, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,
- (5) having *predestined* us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
- (6) to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which *He made us accepted in the Beloved*.

Definition: People often argue about scripture means when it says that God predestined. Did God in fact predetermine that some would go to heaven and some to hell, regardless of the choices that they would make in regard to their and His grace?

response to God

Speaking for myself, I believe that God predestines according to His foreknowledge of a person's life and choices. But, we need to remember that *to predestine simply means to predetermine a destiny. We need to remember that God has a good destiny for every person that will*

choose it!

Ephesians 1:11-14
(NKJV - emphasis added)

- (11) In Him also we *have obtained* an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,
- (12) that we who first *trusted* in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.
- (13) In Him *you also trusted*, after *you heard* the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, *having believed*, you *were sealed* with the Holy Spirit of promise,

(14) who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the *purchased possession*, to the praise of His glory.

1 Corinthians 6:19b-20 -- *You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.* So glorify God in your body. (ESV - emphasis added)

Wisdom Point: Remember, if you have trusted in the gospel of your salvation, you are God's purchased possession. You belong to Him!

Ephesians 1:13b-14 -- *having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.* (NKJV - emphasis added)

1 Corinthians 6:11 -- And such were some of you (*unrighteous sinners*). But you *were washed*, but you *were sanctified*, but you *were justified* in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of God. (NKJV - clarity and emphasis added)

II. What do I do now?

Luke 15:4-10
(NKJV - emphasis added)

- (4) “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?
- (5) And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
- (6) And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘*Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!*’
- (7) I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.
- (8) "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
- (9) And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, ‘*Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!*’
- (10) Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”