



GOOD NEWS

for the unsaved WORLD!

(#142)

Learning the basics about being saved:
Studying the Bible to find out (5).

Ways to STUDY the Bible.

> To get an overview. <

For a basic overview of Scripture, we can simply read it through, without stopping for in-depth study. An easy-to-read translation is often helpful – or even an audio version.

> To grow in understanding. <

Two common ways are: ① looking at Scripture passages (paragraphs, chapters or entire books), and ② looking at specific issues (words and topics). This is where we apply the basic Bible Study method.


Don't limit yourself to passages or issues you *like* – to the neglect of those that make you uncomfortable. If you do, you will never grow in a full knowledge of the truth. (Even *false teachers* can focus on *half* of the truth – the half they like to hear.)

A BASIC METHOD FOR UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE.


⇒ We're looking at a basic and valuable starting point for studying the Bible, using the "save/salvation" concept to illustrate it.

We need to pay attention to:


- ① The words and their meanings.
- ② How those words connect.
- ③ The context of the passage.
- ④ What other passages say.



⇒ TODAY: More prepositions: Their influence on our understanding of salvation.



PREPOSITION (REPRESENTED VISUALLY)



IN THE FUTURE, DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO PREPOSITION WORD STUDIES?

ABSOLUTELY NOT! JUST PAY ATTENTION TO THEM AS YOU STUDY OTHER CONCEPTS!

There is no need to memorize all the prepositions and their definitions! Just pay careful attention to the words you find in the passage you are studying.

PREPOSITIONS CONNECTED TO THE SAVE/SALVATION CONCEPT.


(We will omit the preposition "OF" – since we looked at it last time.)

OUR GOAL is to demonstrate how important even "insignificant" words are! Without such words, our understanding of God's Word would be very minimal – shallow, at best!

- A realization that all the words are important will greatly benefit us in our Bible study – even if we don't know the "official" names for the various word forms.

Sometimes, a verse may be difficult to understand, unless we look beyond the words ⇒ to the context and other Scripture passages. *In this presentation, we will limit our comments about such verses. (We illustrated this issue more extensively in the previous presentation.)*


What do prepositions teach us about the "SAVE/SALVATION" CONCEPT?



The SAVIOR.

1. "TO" teaches us about the SAVIOR.

- ✓ The *Savior* Jesus – brought by God **TO** the nation Israel, as promised in the Old Testament – Acts 13:23. [The Good News about this Savior is for both Jews and non-Jews.]



SALVATION.

1. "TO" teaches us about SALVATION.

- ✓ Salvation belongs **TO** our God and the Lamb [= Jesus] – Revelation 7:10. [It belongs to him... and he offers it to us. He gets full credit for our salvation.]
- ✓ Salvation is brought **TO** all people (by God's grace, which teaches us how to live) – Titus 2:11. [The context has to do with different social classes. All can be saved. But only those who are willing to learn what God's grace teaches will be saved.]

I'VE MADE SALVATION AVAILABLE TO ALL OF YOU...

NO THANKS, WE AREN'T INTERESTED IN CHANGING!

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2. "WITH" teaches us about SALVATION.

- ✓ Salvation is to be "worked out" [not "worked for"] **WITH** fear and trembling – Philippians 2:12. [God is at work *in* you, to make this "working out" possible – v. 13.]


3. "THROUGH" teaches us about SALVATION.

- ✓ Salvation is **THROUGH** our Lord Jesus Christ – 1 Thessalonians 1:9.
- ✓ Salvation is **THROUGH** sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth – 2 Thessalonians 2:13.
- ✓ Salvation is **THROUGH** faith in Christ Jesus – 2 Timothy 3:15.

4. "IN" teaches us about SALVATION.

- ✓ Salvation is **IN** Christ Jesus – 2 Timothy 2:10.
- ✓ Salvation is **IN** no one else – Acts 4:12.

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SAVE/SAVING.

1. "WITH" teaches us about SAVE/SAVING.

- ✓ We are saved **WITH** a holy calling – 2 Timothy 1:9. [We have a God-honoring life to live!]
- ✓ We are saved **WITH** difficulty (trials, hardships, discipline, etc.) – 1 Peter 4:18.

2. "IN" teaches us about SAVE/SAVING.

- ✓ We are saved **IN** this hope (the future redemption of our bodies, v. 23) – Romans 8:24. [Our *present* salvation is accompanied by a confident hope regarding the *future*.]

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3. "THROUGH" teaches us about SAVE/SAVING.

- ✓ God sent Jesus to save the world **THROUGH** him – John 3:17. [Those unwilling to trust Jesus will remain unsaved – vs. 18, 36.]
- ✓ We are saved **THROUGH** the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ – Acts 15:11.
- ✓ We are saved from God's wrath **THROUGH** Christ – Romans 5:9.
- ✓ By grace, we have been saved **THROUGH** faith – Ephesians 2:8.

4. "BY" teaches us about SAVE/SAVING.

- ✓ We are saved **BY** God's grace – Ephesians 2:5,8.
- ✓ We will be saved **BY** Jesus' life – Romans 5:10.
- ✓ We are saved **BY** the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit – Titus 3:5.
- ✓ We are saved **BY** the Good News, *if* we hold firmly to the message Paul preached – 1 Corinthians 15:2.

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5. "ACCORDING TO" teaches us about SAVE/SAVING.


- ✓ We are saved (and called to a holy life) **NOT ACCORDING TO** our own works, but **ACCORDING TO** God's purpose and grace – 2 Timothy 1:9.
- ✓ He saved us **NOT** because of good deeds we have done, but **ACCORDING TO** his mercy – Titus 3:5.

6. "FROM" teaches us about SAVE/SAVING.

- ✓ Jesus would save his people **FROM** their sins – Matthew 1:21. [Prophecy before his birth.]
- ✓ Peter told the Jews to save themselves **FROM** "this corrupt generation" by trusting Jesus – Acts 2:40. [They were to reject the world and its sinful ways, and thus escape its coming judgment.]
- ✓ Through Jesus, we will be saved **FROM** God's wrath – Romans 5:9.
- ✓ The repentant sinner will be saved **FROM** death – James 5:20.

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What **OTHER** CONCEPTS do prepositions connect to "SAVE/SALVATION"?



The SAVIOR.


1. "TO" connects other concepts to the SAVIOR.

- ✓ **Glory, majesty, power and authority** belong **TO** God our Savior – Jude 1:25.

2. "FOR" connects other concepts to the SAVIOR.

- ✓ We **eagerly wait FOR** a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ – Philippians 3:20.

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↓
SALVATION.

1. "TO" connects other concepts to SALVATION.

- ✓ **Godly sorrow** results in **repentance** that leads **TO salvation** – 2 Corinthians 7:10.
- ✓ The Bible is able to give us **the necessary wisdom** that leads **TO salvation** – 2 Timothy 3:15.

2. "IN" connects other concepts to SALVATION.

- ✓ **Confessing Jesus** results **IN salvation** – Romans 10:10. [Trust is also involved.]
- ✓ We must **crave God's Word**, in order to **grow up IN** our **salvation** – 1 Peter 2:2.

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3. "FOR" connects other concepts to SALVATION.

- ✓ The **Good News** is God's power **FOR salvation** – Romans 1:16.
- ✓ **Paul's desire** for the Jews was **FOR** their **salvation** – Romans 10:1.
- ✓ They were **chosen FOR salvation** – 2 Thessalonians 2:13. [It was proved by ① the effects of the Spirit's presence, and by ② their acceptance of the truth of Scripture.]
- ✓ We are **shielded/protected** by God's power (through faith) **FOR** the **salvation** that is coming in the "last time."
- ✓ **When Christ returns**, he will come **FOR** the **salvation** of those who are eagerly waiting for him – Hebrews 9:28.

4. "ABOUT" connects other concepts to SALVATION.

- ✓ The **prophets tried to understand** what they could **ABOUT** this **salvation** – 1 Peter 1:10.

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"TO" + SAVE/SAVING.

When the word "TO" is used with "save/saving" – as in "to save" – the word "TO" is not being used as a preposition. It is an **infinitive** ("TO + verb").

1. The infinitive "TO SAVE" teaches us:

- ✓ Jesus came **TO seek/save** the lost – Luke 19:10.
- ✓ Jesus came **TO save** the world, not to judge it – John 12:47.
- ✓ Christ Jesus came **TO save** sinners – 1 Timothy 1:15.
- ✓ God desires all people **TO be saved** and to know the truth – 1 Timothy 2:4.
- ✓ God uses what the world calls a "foolish" message **TO save** those who believe it – 1 Corinthians 1:21.
- ✓ There is one lawgiver/judge, who is able **TO save/destroy** – James 4:12.

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Your MISSION:

Pay attention to how words connect!

- Obviously, the "big" words are important. But without the "little" words, the "big" words don't communicate much.
- We have focused on "little" words (such as conjunctions and prepositions) in order to show the importance of all the words.

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Interested in the "water of life"?

When we focus ONLY on the "important" words.

IT'S LIKE THIS



When our focus includes ALL the words.

IT'S LIKE THIS



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INTERESTING NUMBER TRIVIA

The word "THE" occurs 64,016 times in the King James Version of the Bible. Though it's an important word, it would not be a good Bible word study!

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