

## Infant Salvation: Biblical Precepts

The study of this subject presupposes a correct understanding of biblical salvation by grace through faith in Jesus. An understanding of this subject raises questions about the salvation of those who die prior to the age of reason and before they have a real opportunity to accept Jesus as their personal Savior. What is their state?

The bible is conspicuously silent concerning salvation of infants and the unborn. We will need to examine scriptures and extrapolate and apply relevancy to rightly answer this question. The precedent for this process has been established with the belief of a triune God, the trinity. Nowhere in scripture will you find direct treatment or statements on the trinity. However, there are a numerous scriptures to establish the Divinity of a triune God, as a fundamental tenet of Christianity. The same process of inference needs to be engaged here to address the question of infant salvation.

We will begin by first examining what the Scriptures have to say concerning conditions for salvation, our state prior to acceptance of Jesus as Savior, the sinful nature of humanity and children, both born and within the womb.

Rom 9:11

(for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), (NKJ)

### **We have all inherited a sinful nature through Adam and have sinned**

Most scriptures that deal with sin have at its core how all people innately choose, through their nature to sin. (Rom. 7, 8:3, Isa. 1:4, Gen. 13:13, Num. 32:14)

Rom 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned--

Eccl 7:20

For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin.

Rom 3

9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;

11 There is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God.

Rom 5:12-21

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned--

- 13 (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.
- 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.
- 15 But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.
- 16 And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.
- 17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)
- 18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.
- 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.
- 20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more,
- 21 so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gal 3:22

But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Rom 2

11 For there is no partiality with God.

12 For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law

Rom 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

## **We are born in sin**

**Ps 51:5**

**“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.**

Rom 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned--

## **We are known by God from infancy**

Ps 22:9

But You are He who took Me out of the womb; you made Me trust while on My mother's breasts.

Ps 71:5-6

5 For You are my hope, O Lord GOD; you are my trust from my youth.

6 By You I have been upheld from birth; you are He who took me out of my mother's womb. My praise shall be continually of You.

## **We are known by God from the womb**

Isa 45

9 "Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork say, 'He has no hands'?"

10 Woe to him who says to his father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to the woman, 'What have you brought forth?'"

Job 31:15

Did not He who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same One fashion us in the womb?

Ps 139:13

For You formed my inward parts; you covered me in my mother's womb.

Isa 44:2

Thus says the LORD who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you: 'Fear not, O Jacob My servant; and you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

Isa 44:24

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, and He who formed you from the womb: "I am the LORD, who makes all things, who stretches out the heavens all alone, who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;

## **Some for a Holy Purpose**

Judg 13:5

"For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."

Judg 16:17

that he told her all his heart, and said to her, "No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If I am shaven, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man."

**Ps 22:10**

**I was cast upon You from birth. From My mother's womb you have been My God.**

Isa 49:1

"Listen, O coastlands, to Me, and take heed, you peoples from afar! **The LORD has called Me from the womb; from the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name.**

Isa 49:5

"And now the LORD says, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel is gathered to Him (for I shall be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and My God shall be My strength),

**Jer 1:5**

**"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."**

Luke 1:15

"For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb."

Luke 1

41 And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

42 Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!"

Gal 1:15

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace,

## **Some for Evil**

Ps 58:3

The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies.

Isa 48:8

Surely you did not hear, surely you did not know; surely from long ago your ear was not opened. For I knew that you would deal very treacherously, and were called a transgressor from the womb.

Job 15:35

They conceive trouble and bring forth futility; their womb prepares deceit."

Isa 46:3

"Listen to Me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been upheld by Me from birth, who have been carried from the womb:

### **Not all sin is imputed**

Rom 4:8

Blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin."

John 9:41

Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains.

John 15:22

"If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.

John 15:24

"If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father.

John 16

8 "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

9 "of sin, because they do not believe in Me;

Based upon the above Scriptures it is clear that Salvation or eternal death is the sole prerogative of God and this has been determined by Him before the foundation of the earth. Some will be saved and some lost. based upon the preponderance of the Scriptures, I see no reason why a born again believer should think that a child lost prior to the age of reason should believe that child is anywhere other than in the loving arms of our heavenly Father.