Eternal Salvation PASTOR MIKE YODER

What would be the thing that, if you only had it, would make all things right?

God's salvation in Christ displays His plan from long ago (Luke 1:68,69).

"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has come to His people and redeemed them."

"He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David."

"When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish His Kingdom."

"He is the One who will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of His Kingdom forever."

God's salvation in Christ comes through the forgiveness from the cross (Luke 1:76–79).

"And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him,"

"to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins,"

"Because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven"

"to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

"She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."

John will be the giant index finger pointing the way to God's salvation from sin.

Thabiti Anyabwile

John prepares for all that God will do through the Messiah. The preparation involves a message, the proclamation of the knowledge of salvation, and the forgiveness of sins. In the Messiah, God's plan and design are found, so that when Messiah comes, God comes.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled!"

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free; From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.

To be the child of some rich king would be nice; but to be the beloved of the emperor of the universe is beyond words. The salvation of this God is better even than forgiveness.

Michael Reeves

God's salvation in Christ exists to benefit all peoples (Luke 2:25–35).

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him.

It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the Child Jesus to do for Him what the custom of the Law required,

Simeon took Him in his arms and praised God, saying:

Luke 2:28

"Sovereign Lord, as You have promised, You may now dismiss Your servant in peace."

"For my eyes have seen Your salvation,"

Luke 2:30

"which You have prepared in the sight of all nations:"

Luke 2:31

"a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

The Child's father and mother marveled at what was said about Him.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, His mother: "This Child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,"

"so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

He says: "It is too small a thing for you to be My servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that My salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

Jesus came not just to enter our darkness; He came to give light to those who had no way out of the darkness.

Jesus' ministry shows where hearts really are before God. He is a litmus test. How humans respond to God's promise is made evident by how they respond to Jesus, whose presence reveals their true colors.

God's salvation in Christ invites response from all people (Luke 3:4–6).



As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him.'"

"Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth."

"'And all people will see God's salvation.'"

Luke 3:6

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

The Christmas Child was destined to be the Savior of humanity.