

Salvation Vision

My decision to do ministry with my life began after having this vision of Jesus explaining salvation. Once you see Jesus in a vision, your life entirely changes. I knew from that moment on my life would never be the same.

One evening two years ago, I was reading the New Testament and I got to the part where Jesus died for our sins. It sounded nice but I honestly did not understand it well enough. That night I prayed to God that He would help me understand the concept.

In the middle of the night, while I was sleeping that night, I had the following vision which explained everything. I want to share this experience with you. A vision is something you never forget. It is not a dream, it is much more real - as real as you seeing something in the daytime when you are awake. In fact, in some respects it is more real than this because it is God communicating with you and you will never forget it.

The vision was as follows:

To my left I see an innocent person being hurt by a bad person. The bad person is cutting the innocent person (victim) with a knife - cutting his left and right arms deeply. He was trying to hurt him and maybe kill him.

All of a sudden to my right but also in front of me, I see Jesus coming through an old city gate riding on a donkey.

Jesus' arms left and right were terribly sliced and deeply cut with a tremendous amount of bleeding. I looked at His face and you could see He was suffering severely. You could see that He knew He was going to die, but I also suddenly realized that He was suffering this injury to help the bad guy.

Let me explain.

What is the bad guy's sin or crime? It is hurting the innocent person, cutting the victim with a knife many times for no reason. What is the penalty or punishment for this sin or crime? In Exodus 21:24, the Bible says, "eye for eye, tooth for tooth, wound for wound, stripe for stripe."

Therefore, the punishment for this bad guy's sins is for him to be hurt back the same way he hurt the innocent person. Jesus comes along and says I (Jesus) will take your punishment. I will pay your penalty. I will pay for your sins. In fact, I will die for your sins. However, this is the "deal" - the New Covenant of the New Testament.

If you accept Me (Jesus) as your Lord and Savior, your sins are forgiven and you become a child of God, and you then have Salvation and can go to heaven. All the bad guy has to do is thank Jesus for paying for his sins and accept Jesus in his heart.

The bad guy does not deserve to be in heaven because of his sins. The glories in heaven are so wonderful that he does not deserve to be there, but God the Father gives it to him anyway by grace, as long as he accepts His Son Jesus as his Lord and Savior. This is the covenant of the New Testament.

The bad guy can not just show up in heaven with all his sins (i.e. crash the party without an invitation).

His sins have to be paid for in full. His bill has to be paid for before he can show up in heaven. Jesus paid the bad guy's bill. Sins are considered debt to God, a debt that has to be paid. You can't make this payment - only Jesus can.

Jesus' last words on the cross were "Tetelestai," which means paid in full. Tetelestai is Greek for payment done.

Greek is the original language of the New Testament. In the English translation Jesus says, "It is finished." The exact meaning of Jesus' words is Tetelestai - a debt that is finished. Jesus paid for all man's sins - past, present and future - in full. Payment completed - finished.

An example that helps explain Jesus' last words "tetelestai" is this: During Jesus time, when a man was in prison and finished his prison sentence (paid for his sins in full - took all his punishment), the man was then released and given a document. This was a "debt to society" document which was then immediately stamped with the words Tetelestai - Paid in Full. Then the man was allowed to be free in society.

In our lives on Earth, we are convicted criminals who can not possibly pay for all our sins on earth because we continue to sin up to the moment we die. Our redemption is done by Jesus. He paid for all our sins so that we can go to heaven.

The second part of the vision is as follows:

I am in a prison cell with iron bars for eternity, and I have the feeling that I am never getting out of there. It was the worst feeling I have ever had. Then all of a sudden, I am free and out of the prison cell, and I go to northern Canada. (For some reason, I think of that vast territory as freedom - maybe because of the wide open space that is there.) Then I go to a restaurant to get something to eat, and guess who I see there? The innocent person that was being cut earlier in the vision.

This is salvation - being free and not in prison.

There are 2 categories of people in God the Father's eyes:

- 1) The person who accepts Jesus and his or her sins are forgiven and they become a child of God. They go to heaven.
- 2) The person who does not accept Jesus and his or her sins are not forgiven. They go to hell and then later to Gehenna— the Lake of Fire.

Two categories: 1) child of God, and 2) condemned sinner awaiting punishment. Believe me, you want to be a child of God.

When you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, your sins are immediately forgiven and God the Father no longer sees any of your sins. You are immediately made pure and white. Your sins are covered by the blood of Jesus. God the Father sees the blood of Jesus only and does not see your sins anymore.

"Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." *Hebrews 10:17*

If the bad guy in this vision truly accepts Jesus in his heart, and is sincere (because God searches the heart to see if you meant it), then the bad guy's sins are forgiven and he becomes a child of God, and he will then live in heaven forever. When the bad guy shows up in heaven he has peace with God the Father because his sins are paid for in full and forgiven. The bad guy kept the covenant (the deal) of the New Testament.

The New Covenant of the New Testament: If you accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you live eternally in heaven with God.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." *John 14:6*

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" *John 1:29*

If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. *Romans 10:9*

God Bless,
Pastor Jim