

The
“Whosoever”
Doctrine of Salvation

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Introduction

A certain man asked a little boy once, “What do you want to be when you grow up” The little boy thought for a few moments and then replied. He said, “Sir? I would like to be a “Whosoever”.

The man laughed and said, “ A Whosoever, what is that?” The little boy again replied saying, “Don’t you read your Bible.”

The little boy continued to explain. “If I become a doctor or lawyer or a successful business man, I no doubt will gain wealth, fame and maybe even power over others but if I loose my own soul in the process, what has it benefited me?”

“On the other hand, if I become a “whosoever” I gain eternal life. I will be blessed in this life and the one to come”

The little boy was wise beyond his years. He was an avid reader of the Bible and loved to learn about God. His desire to know led him to the greatest discovery of all times, the meaning of life and eternity. It was all there, wrapped up in one word spoken by Jesus, “**Whosoever.**”

What's In A Word?

The word, “Whosoever” is full of meaning. You just have to think about it. The dictionary says this: “an archaic or formal word for whoever”

Ok, whosoever preceded whoever. Again, here is what the dictionary says:

A Pronoun

1. Any person who; anyone that: *whoever wants it can have it*
2. No matter who: *I'll come round tomorrow, whoever may be here*
3. An intensive form of *who*, used in questions: *whoever could have thought that?*
4. **(Informal)** an unknown or unspecified person: *give those to John, or Cathy, or whoever.*

So, the word describes an unknown person that does something. It requires action on the part of the unknown individual. He or she must do something in order to be a, “Whosoever.”

The Actions of A “Whosoever”

Whosoever or whoever, whichever you like, must do something...jump off a cliff or get in the car or follows me home...*(there is a reward or punishment based upon the action taken by the unknown or unspecified persons.)*

Let's look at some “Whosoever” Scriptures to see the actions of the “Whosoever”.

Related To The Lord's Supper

“Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.” **I Corinthians 11:27**

In this example: Paul, the apostle, is talking to Christians about the Lord's Supper. The very next verse tells the story. “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup.” **I Corinthians 11:28**

The “Whosoever” must examine himself to see if there is anything that stands between him and his relationship with his Lord.. If so, the remedy is to ask for forgiveness in accordance with **I John 1:9** and then accept the sacrament. To participate without seeking forgiveness is to take it unworthily.

The truth of the scripture is the revelation that the blood of Christ was shed for the remission of sin, our sin and His body was broken, in death, for us. His body now exists in a multitude of believers that are one in Him. We are His body. “Now you are the body of Christ, and members in particular” **I Corinthians 12:27**

Related To Salvation

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” **Romans 10:13** and “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” **John 3:16**

The actions of the, “Whosoever”, is clear. It is to call upon the name of the Lord and to believe in Him. There is no mention of joining a church, following a certain religion, keeping a strict set of rules, or doing lots of good deeds.

Salvation, per **John 3:16**, is offered to all who believe. It is a free gift given by God out of a deep love for us, even though we are full of sin. Read what the Bible says.

- *“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross”*
Colossians 2:13-14
- *“As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But*

because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

- *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* **Ephesians 2:1-10 NIV**

Salvation is by the grace of God. It is offered to the, “Whosoever” of this world. They are those that accept the offer. If the call to salvation is rejected, the one who rejects it is not a, “Whosoever” and thus misses out on its blessings.

Related To Being A Child of God

“Whosoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loves him that begat loves him also that is begotten of him.” **I John 5:1**

Here is a clearly stated benefit of being a, “whosoever”. Those that believe in Jesus are born of God. The apostle Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome and said this to them:

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.” **Romans 8:16-17**

We need only to believe to become a child of God. His Holy Spirit will let us know in many different ways that we are His children. If we suffer with Him through ridicule or persecution, we will also share in His glory.

“We all suffer with Christ as we live out our salvation. It is a fight to the finish against evil forces. “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” **Ephesians 6:12**

Related To Spiritual Growth

Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whosoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whosoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” **John 6:35**

I believe that this is a shadow, not an image of the physical but rather a portrait of the spiritual. Our society is going hungry for a lack of God’s Word. We are in a full-blown Spiritual famine. Oh, yes, Spiritual food is all around us but labeled as fanatic, evil, silly and so forth. Many choose not to partake and end up Thirsty for the Gospel and Hungry for the truth of God’s Word.

Back in the days of the dustbowl, people went hungry for a lack of food. Some folks wised up and planted potatoes and survived but many narrow-minded Christians, said that potatoes were grown in the ground. They did not grow up like other stuff. Because God had cursed the ground, they would not eat potatoes and went hungry as a result.

When Spiritual food is all around us, being narrow-minded and abstaining for eating it is not the right thing to do. Yet many in Jesus’ day and now in ours do just that.

Related To Listening & Obedience

“Therefore whosoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.” **Matthew 7:24**

The benefit of listening and doing what you are told is the blessing of wisdom. Knowing the sayings of Jesus is not enough to gain wisdom. You also have to apply what you know. This is the cornerstone of Godly wisdom.

The story in Matthew chapter seven is about two types of men. Both are building a home, which is a type of lifestyle. One uses a solid rock; a symbol of Jesus and His sayings while the other ignores God and what Jesus has to say. This ignorance is pictured as a foundation of sand. The storms of life came to both but only the one that was solidly built on the Rock of Ages remained in place. The other was destroyed by the storms and its destruction was great. It is important to listen for the voice of God and even more so to obey. Hearing the sayings found in the Bible is where the, “Whosoever,” begins.

Related To Righteousness

“Whoever pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honor.”
Proverbs 21:21

We can find life, prosperity and honor by seeking righteousness and love. We are to pursue them or diligently search for them with all our hearts.

This does not mean to become righteous in our own eyes by keeping a set of rules or judgments. We, as Christians, already know that it cannot be obtained by our own efforts. We obtain it from Jesus as the Word of God teaches.

(Here’s a excerpt from Qot/Questions.com)...The apostle Paul writes, “But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe” (**Romans 3:21–22**).

Through our faith in Christ, the righteousness of God is given to us. This is called “imputed” righteousness. To impute something is to ascribe or attribute something to someone. When we place our faith in Christ, God ascribes the perfect righteousness of Christ to our account so that we become perfect in His sight.

“For our sake he made him [Jesus] to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (**2 Corinthians 5:21**).

Related To Our Relationship With Jesus

”For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and *in his* Father's, and of the holy angels.” **Luke 9:26**

It’s clear that we must be all in or not at all. Being ashamed means to reject Him or deny Him when it really counts. Peter did that three times the night before Jesus was crucified. We do it all the time when we laugh at off color jokes, run with a crowd that uses His name in vein, and never publicly proclaim His love and salvation.

When was the last time you shared your faith with another person? When was the last time you stood up against folks that go against the Word of God? You know who they are, the folks that push free sex, abortion, Gay rights, and other immoral practices that the Word of God condemns.

We are the, “Whosoever” of this generation. We ought to proudly proclaim Jesus as Lord and Savior. We should not care if someone’s disagrees with us. We should follow Jesus anyway and share our faith with whoever will listen.

God’s, “Whosoever,” Fan Club

We are the adoring fans of Christ. We are His “Fan Club”. We are millions of, “Whosoever” that put their faith and trust in God’s only Son. We answered the call of God to join His family. We are willing to take the criticism of those that will not believe and the insults from those that seek evil and immorality.

We come from every nation, every language and every cultural background. We are Black, White, Asian, American Indian, and stream through every nationality. We are Fireman, Policeman, Ministers, Housewives, Teachers, Unemployed, Homeless, Educated, Unschooled, and Male or Female.

We are the face of Him who bled and died on the cross for the redemption of mankind. We are in Him and He is in us. We bear the image of His likeness and dwell in His Spirit.

Conclusion

It should be obvious by now that the Biblical definition of a, “Whosoever” is one that believes in Jesus. They have responded to the call of God to trust in His only begotten Son and have made Him Lord over their life. Listen to what Jesus said:

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16

Jesus didn’t say that God was angry or mad at us. He said that the call to salvation was from a heart full of love. He also said that those who respond will not perish but instead attain eternal life.

Note: To perish is to be eternally separated from God. To attain eternal life is to eternally be with God, living in His love and blessings.

God is on our side. He wants us to live, not die. His destiny for us is to be with Him. His will is to allow us to be joint or equal heirs with Christ to His entire kingdom. It's an exciting time that we should be so blessed. There is no sorrow, no tears, and no hell for the, "Whosoever's".

Hell is a place originally created for the devil and his angels (Demons). It is also a place where the lost will spend eternity. It is a place of torment and suffering where everyone will bear the judgment of their sin. We don't want to go there.

A Free Will Choice

Some have said that we do not have a choice in salvation...that it is all of God and nothing of man. He wills who will be saved and who will not, who will go to hell and who will not. I do not follow this doctrine.

I do believe that God chose us from the foundation of the world and that it is His election. We are the elect of God, a chosen generation. However, we are because we believed. Man does have a part in his own salvation. If we didn't, Jesus would not have said, whosoever believes attains life eternal.

I think the apostle Paul put it in perspective in his letter to the Roman church. Here's what he told them.

“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us” Romans 8:29-31

This scriptural text tells us several things:

1. God, in His foreknowledge, knew who would respond to His call.
2. He then pre-determined their destination...to be Christ-like.
3. The purpose of this action was to insure that Jesus would be the 1st born of many, a new race of man that is in harmony with God.
4. The called out ones are both justified and glorified because of Jesus.

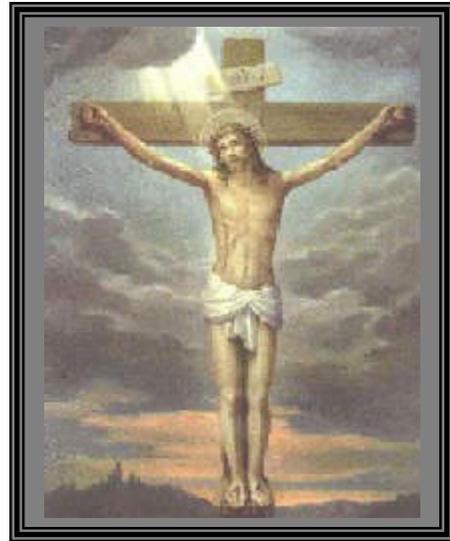
Because God knew who would trust in Christ before they made a decision to follow Him, doesn't mean that His salvation was only offered to them and not offered to all of mankind.

Inclusive And Exclusive

The, "Whosoever" doctrine is inclusive to all but limited to the few that accept it. The offer is to everyone but sadly, not everyone will believe. Those that do believe attain the blessings. Those that do not are like the may that built their houses without an adequate foundation. It will fall into ruin when storms come. Salvation is open to all and reserved for those who believe in Jesus.

So, the, "Whosoever" is one who, of his own free will, makes a choice to believe in Christ as Lord and Savior and follows His teachings.

You can be a, "Whosoever" and join millions of others through the ages that have been, "Born Again" into the family of God. It's a simple decision that is made by faith. We make it by faith and we live it out by faith.



The "Whosoever" Doctrine

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
John 3:16*