

THEOSIS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Salvation is an ongoing, progressive reality, past, present and future, requiring man's active cooperation, making him able to say, "I am saved. I am being saved. I will be saved." The Scripture uses all three tenses for salvation, and it is also clear that without continued cooperation, salvation becomes ineffective. Salvation requires ongoing hope and faith, not a one-time decision with absolute certainty. In that cooperation man can truly know God (John 17:3), becoming a "partaker of the divine nature" (2 Pet. 1:4), growing in Christlikeness (Eph. 4:13).

Matthew 10:22: And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. **But he who endures to the end will be saved.** (cf. Matt. 24:13, Mark 13:13)

Romans 8:23-25: Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we **wait eagerly for our adoption as sons**, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. **Who hopes for what he already has?** But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Romans 11:22: Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but **kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off.**

Romans 13:11: And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because **our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.**

1 Corinthians 1:18: For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who **are being saved** it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 15:2: By this gospel **you are saved, if you hold firmly** to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

2 Corinthians 2:15: For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those **who are being saved** and those who are perishing.

Ephesians 1:13-14: And you also **were included in Christ** when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance **until the redemption of those who are God's possession**—to the praise of his glory.

Philippians 2:12-13: Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work **out your salvation with fear and trembling**, for it is God who works in you [literally, "energizes in you"] to will and to act [literally, "to energize"] according to his good purpose.

1 Thessalonians 1:9b-10: They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who **rescues us from the coming wrath.**

1 Thessalonians 5:8: But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the **hope of salvation** as a helmet.

1 Timothy 1:15: Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.**

1 Timothy 2:15: But women **will be saved** through childbearing—if **they continue** in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

1 Timothy 4:16: Watch your life and doctrine closely. **Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.**

2 Timothy 3:15: ...and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to **make you wise for salvation** through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Titus 2:11-13: For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. **It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions**, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we **wait for the blessed hope**—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 1:14: Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who **will inherit salvation**?

Hebrews 5:7-9: During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the **source of eternal salvation for all who obey him**.

Hebrews 6:9-12: Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are confident of better things in your case—things that accompany salvation. God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. We want each of you to **show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure**. We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Hebrews 9:28: So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to **bring salvation to those who are waiting for him**.

James 2:14: What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? **Can faith save him?**

1 Peter 1:3-5: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he **has given us new birth into a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until **the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time**.

1 Peter 1:8: Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you **are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls**.

1 Peter 2:2: Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may **grow up in your salvation**,

2 Peter 1:10: Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to **make your calling and election sure**. **For if you do these things, you will never fall**, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:3-4: ...as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the **knowledge of Him who called** us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 2:20-21: For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. **For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness**, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.

Revelation 12:10: Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “**Now have come the salvation** and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ.”