BASICS OF CHRISTIANITY - PART 5: SALVATION IS BY FAITH ALONE

A. INTRODUCTION

In Part 3 we saw that man is a sinner who is alienated from God and incapable of pleasing God in any way, and thus under God's wrath and judgment. In Part 4 we saw that God sent Jesus to save His people from their sins. Does this mean that all men are saved?

B. HOW IS A PERSON SAVED?

1. Source of salvation
   a. Love of God – Romans 5:8
      i. God the Father: planned salvation
      ii. God the Son: implemented the Father's plan
      iii. God the Holy Spirit: applies salvation to man
   b. Call of God – Ephesians 1:4-5
      i. Hear the gospel message (Good News) of God's salvation – Romans 10:14
      ii. Respond to the gospel message – Romans 10:13
2. Salvation is God's gift
   a. It cannot be earned – Titus 3:5
   b. It is the result of God's gift of faith that enables a person to respond – Ephesians 2:8-9
   c. It is the only way to be reconciled back to God – John 14:6
3. Salvation results when a person exercises faith in Jesus Christ
   a. Repent – Mark 1:15
      i. Confess sin to God – 1 John 1:9
      ii. Turn your heart to Jesus – Matthew 4:19-20
      iii. Begin a new spiritual life with Jesus as first/Lord of your life – Matthew 6:33
   b. Believe
      i. Jesus is God's solution to your sin problem – Luke 19:10
      ii. Trust God/believe in Jesus for salvation (from sin) – John 3:16
   c. God's assurance – John 5:24
4. Result of salvation
   a. You become a brand new spiritual baby – 2 Corinthians 5:17
   b. God's Holy Spirit now lives within you – 1 Corinthians 3:16
   c. God begins a process to make you more like Jesus – Galatians 5:22-23
   d. God will keep you as His child forever – John 10:28

JUSTIFICATION	**SANCTIFICATION**	**GLORIFICATION**
(Past)	(Present)	(Future)
<u>Have been</u> saved from	<u>Are being</u> saved from	<u>Will be</u> saved from
sins <u>*penalty*</u>	sins <u>*power*</u>	sins <u>*presence*</u>

C. SALVATION AND THE CHURCH

1. What is the Church?
   a. The body of Christ – 1 Corinthians 12:12
   b. It comprises all who have been saved – Ephesians 5:23
2. Christ is its head – Colossians 1:18
   a. Guides His church through men He has equipped (elders) – Acts 20:28
   b. Believers are commanded to:
      i. Meet together regularly – Hebrews 10:25

ii. Submit to Christ's shepherds – Hebrews 13:17
iii. Live with Christ as their Lord – Luke 6:46

3. Not all "churches" teach the truth – 2 Peter 2:1-2