

# Dr. Robert A. Peterson, Salvation, Session 1, Introduction Resources from NotebookLM

1) Abstract, 2) Audio podcast, 3) Briefing Document, 4) Study Guide, and 5) FAQs

## 1. Abstract of Peterson, Salvation, Session 1, Introduction, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL

**Dr. Robert Peterson's "Salvation, Session 1, Introduction" provides an overview of the theological concept of salvation from a biblical perspective.** The lecture begins with prayer and establishes that salvation, found throughout Scripture, signifies both physical and spiritual deliverance, with an emphasis shifting towards the spiritual in the New Testament. **Peterson highlights key biblical terminology related to salvation and emphasizes God's and Christ's role as Savior.** The session explores the past, present, and future dimensions of salvation as an eschatological reality, underscoring that salvation originates with the Lord and is extended to all through faith and repentance. **Finally, the lecture outlines the biblical narrative of salvation through creation, fall, redemption, and consummation, setting the stage for further exploration of the doctrine.**

**2. 26 - minute Audio Podcast Created on the basis of Dr. Peterson, Salvation, Session 1 – Double click icon to play in Windows media player or go to the Biblicalelearning.org [BeL] Site and click the audio podcast link there (Theology → Theology, Peterson → Salvation).**



**Peterson\_Salvation\_  
Session01.mp3**

### 3. Briefing Document: Peterson, Salvation, Session 1, Introduction

#### Briefing Document: Dr. Robert A. Peterson on Salvation, Session 1: Introduction

**Date:** October 26, 2023 (Based on source creation date of © 2024) **Source:** Excerpts from "Peterson\_Salvation EN\_Session01.pdf" **Author:** Dr. Robert A. Peterson

#### Overview:

This briefing document summarizes the main themes and important ideas presented by Dr. Robert A. Peterson in the introductory session of his teachings on salvation. The session lays the groundwork for a deeper exploration of the doctrine by defining salvation, examining its biblical terminology, exploring its temporal dimensions (past, present, and future), emphasizing God's central role, and providing a biblical-theological overview from creation to consummation.

#### Main Themes and Important Ideas:

##### 1. Defining Salvation:

- Salvation is a "wonderful biblical theological topic."
- It encompasses a new identity in Christ, characterized by being chosen and called by God.
- It involves spiritual vitality through union with Christ and receiving new life.
- It includes repentance (turning from sin) and faith (trusting Christ).
- It results in being accepted and declared righteous by God.
- It leads to adoption as God's sons and daughters.
- It signifies becoming saints who are being transformed into holy people, "being changed from glory to glory."
- Salvation profoundly impacts our relationships and perspectives on God, ourselves, other believers, and those outside of Christ.

##### 2. Biblical Terminology for Salvation:

- The English words "save" and "salvation" are common in both the Old and New Testaments.

- The Hebrew verb *yasha* and the Greek verb *sozo* are most often translated as "save."
- The Hebrew nouns *yeshua*, *teshuwa*, and sometimes *pleta*, and the Greek noun *soteria* are usually translated as "salvation."
- The Greek noun *soter* gives rise to the word "savior."
- **Physical Deliverance:** These terms frequently refer to physical preservation and deliverance (e.g., Lot escaping Sodom, Jerusalem saved from Assyrians, disciples saved from the storm, woman healed by touching Jesus' robe, Israel delivered at the Red Sea). While common in the Old Testament, it is less so in the New Testament. Paul's assurance of physical preservation during the shipwreck in Acts 27 is an example.
- **Spiritual Deliverance:** The New Testament often emphasizes spiritual deliverance. Peter proclaims, "**there is no salvation in anyone else**" (Acts 4:22) except Jesus Christ. Paul declares salvation is open to all who believe, both Jews and Gentiles (Romans 1:16). The sinful woman was "**saved and forgiven of her sins by virtue of her faith**" (Luke 7:50). Believers are spiritually rescued by Jesus' blood and resurrection (Romans 5:9-10). Hebrews states that Jesus "**is able to save completely those who come to God through him**" (Hebrews 7:25).
- **God as Savior:** The title "Savior" is prominent in the Pastoral Epistles, where Paul refers to God as Savior ten times and Jesus Christ as Savior four times, highlighting their shared deity. Generic use of "Savior" refers to the Father, while "Jesus Christ our Savior" refers to the Son. God's role as Savior is linked to His desire for all to be saved (1 Timothy 2:3-4) through the provision of Jesus.

### 3. The Time of Salvation (Eschatological Perspective):

- Salvation is not solely a past event but has past, present, and future dimensions and is fundamentally eschatological (pertaining to the last days).
- Paul states, "**the ends of the ages have come**" (1 Corinthians 10:11), and Hebrews affirms God has spoken through his Son "**in these last days**" (Hebrews 1:2).
- Jesus "**gave himself for us, our sins, to rescue us from this present evil age**" (Galatians 1:4), illustrating the present aspect of salvation as deliverance.
- The "already but not yet" nature of God's redeeming work means even past salvation is an eschatological reality, as "**by grace you have been saved through faith...it is the gift of God**" (Ephesians 2:8).

- Believers are currently "**being saved**" (1 Corinthians 1:18, 2 Corinthians 2:15), indicating a progressive aspect of salvation.
- Salvation also has a future dimension, with Jesus "**who rescues us from the coming wrath**" (1 Thessalonians 1:10, Romans 5:9-10).
- Christ will "**appear a second time to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him**" (Hebrews 9:28, Revelation 12:10). Peter speaks of "**a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time**" (1 Peter 1:5).

#### 4. Salvation Belongs to the Lord:

- Scripture emphatically declares that "**salvation belongs to the Lord**" (Jonah 2:9, Psalm 27:1).
- Humans cannot accomplish salvation on their own and must entirely depend on God. Moses told Israel at the Red Sea, "**stand firm and see the Lord's salvation that he will accomplish for you today**" (Exodus 14:13).
- The hope for spiritual deliverance originates with God, "**who chooses people for salvation**" (2 Thessalonians 2:13).
- God's grace is evident when "**Christ Jesus comes into the world to save sinners**" (1 Timothy 1:15) through his death and resurrection.
- This salvation is not limited to Jews but extends to all people: "**everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved**" (Joel 2:32, Acts 2:21, Romans 10:13), where "Lord" now refers to Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9-10).
- Saving faith includes repentance (2 Corinthians 7:10) and perseverance: "**the one who endures to the end will be saved**" (Matthew 10:22, Hebrews 2:3, 10:39).
- Saving faith produces good works (James 2:14) as a necessary fruit, not the basis, of salvation.

#### 5. Salvation and the Biblical Story (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Consummation):

- **Creation:** God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1), emphasizing his sublimity, power, majesty, and wisdom. He is the transcendent and sovereign creator, bringing things into being by his word (Genesis 1:3, Hebrews 11:3). He is also personal, creating humanity in his image (Genesis 1:26-27), granting them dignity, the capacity to know Him, and dominion over creation. Creation was inherently good (Genesis 1:31). The Garden of Eden was a sacred space, a "temple garden," highlighting God's presence with humanity. God gave Adam and

Eve privileges and responsibilities, with one prohibition: not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

- **The Fall:** Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command (Genesis 3), tempted by the serpent who questioned God's truthfulness. The act of eating the forbidden fruit brought divine justice. Consequences included shame, alienation from God and each other, fear, pain in childbirth and toil in work, and banishment from Eden (Genesis 3:22-24). They experienced spiritual death and the beginning of physical decay. Sin entered the world, disrupting all human relationships. The narrative in Genesis 4-11 illustrates the spread and intensification of sin (Cain's murder of Abel, pervasive sin before the flood, Tower of Babel).
- **Redemption:** Despite humanity's "cosmic treason," God graciously began a restoration project. He called Abraham and established a covenant with him (Genesis 12:1-3, 17:7), promising land, a great nation, and blessings for all peoples. The Old Testament recounts God's dealings with Israel through the Exodus, the Law, the Promised Land, the period of the Judges, and the monarchy. Cycles of peace, rebellion, judgment, repentance, and renewed peace occurred. God promised a deliverer through the prophets (Isaiah 9:6-7, 52:13-53:12) and promised restoration from Babylonian captivity (Jeremiah 25:11-12), which occurred under Ezra and Nehemiah. After 400 years, God sent his Son, Jesus, the promised Messiah, suffering servant, king of Israel, and savior of the world. Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection are central to redemption. He came "**to seek and save the lost.**" His death on the cross was part of God's plan to save sinners as their substitute, victor, sacrifice, new Adam, redeemer, and peacemaker. His resurrection confirmed his identity, defeated sin and death, and gives new life. He commissioned his disciples to spread the gospel. The Holy Spirit was sent at Pentecost, forming the church as God's New Testament people. The early church focused on apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayer, evangelism, discipleship, ministry, and worship. Salvation is planned by the Father, accomplished by the Son, and applied by the Spirit.
- **Consummation:** Jesus will return to reign as king, bringing justice, peace, and victory. The kingdom of God is both a present reality and a future promise tied to Christ's second coming, inaugurated in his ministry and expanding through the church. The fullness of the kingdom awaits Jesus' return when he will judge the world (Matthew 25:31-46), with believers entering eternal life and unbelievers facing eternal punishment in hell (Revelation 20:15). God will create a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21-22), restoring the goodness of creation

and dwelling with his people in a new earth city garden temple. Sin and death will be banished, God's glory will be unobstructed, and his eternal plan of cosmic reconciliation in Christ will be realized (1 Corinthians 15). Satan and demons will be tormented forever (Revelation 20:10). Only those whose names are written in the Book of Life will enter the new creation. Heaven will be a perfect, glorious, multinational, and holy temple where God's people will serve, reign, encounter, and worship him, fully living out their creation in God's image.

**Conclusion:**

Dr. Peterson's introductory session provides a comprehensive overview of the fundamental aspects of salvation. He emphasizes its multifaceted nature, rooted in biblical terminology, spanning across time, and ultimately being the work of God. The biblical-theological framework from creation to consummation highlights the grand narrative within which salvation unfolds, setting the stage for a more detailed examination of the doctrine in subsequent sessions.

## 4. Study Guide: Peterson, Salvation, Session 1, Introduction

### Salvation: An Introduction - Study Guide

#### Quiz

1. What are the primary Hebrew and Greek words that are translated as "save" and "salvation" in English Bibles? Provide one meaning associated with these terms.
2. According to the source, what are the two main categories of deliverance spoken of in the Bible regarding salvation? Which Testament emphasizes which category more prominently?
3. How does the source explain the "already but not yet" nature of salvation in relation to New Testament eschatology? Provide a biblical example of salvation as a past event that is still eschatological.
4. According to Jonah 2:9 and Psalm 27:1, to whom does salvation belong? What implications does this have for human effort in achieving salvation?
5. The source mentions that saving faith includes what other important element? Briefly explain the relationship between saving faith and good works.
6. Describe God's initial relationship with humanity as presented in the creation account (Genesis 1-2). What privileges and responsibilities did Adam and Eve have?
7. What was the central act of disobedience in the Fall (Genesis 3)? Briefly describe two immediate consequences of this act for Adam and Eve.
8. Following the Fall, how did God begin his "restoration project"? What covenant did he establish with Abraham, and what were its key promises?
9. What is the significance of Jesus' death and resurrection in the context of salvation? Mention at least three roles Jesus fulfills in saving sinners.
10. Describe the consummation of salvation as presented in Revelation 20-22. What are some key characteristics of the new heavens and the new earth?

#### Quiz Answer Key

1. The Hebrew verb for "save" is *yasha*, and the main Hebrew nouns for "salvation" are *yeshua* and *teshuwa*. The Greek verb for "save" is *sozo*, and the noun for

"salvation" is *soteria*. One meaning associated with these terms is physical preservation or deliverance.

2. The two main categories of deliverance are physical and spiritual. The Old Testament commonly speaks of physical deliverance, while the New Testament often presents the idea of spiritual salvation, though both are present in both Testaments.
3. The "already but not yet" character of salvation means that the end times have been inaugurated with the coming of Jesus, bringing salvation to believers (already), but the full consummation of salvation awaits his return (not yet). Ephesians 2:8, stating believers "have been saved," illustrates the past yet eschatological reality, as it occurs in the context of the last days brought by Christ.
4. Salvation belongs to the Lord. This implies that humans cannot accomplish salvation on their own and must depend entirely upon God's initiative and grace for deliverance.
5. Saving faith includes repentance, which is a turning from sin. Good works are not the basis of salvation but are its necessary fruit, demonstrating the genuineness of saving faith through a transformed life.
6. In the creation account, God created Adam and Eve in his image, granting them astonishing dignity and the capacity for intimate relationship with him. They were given dominion over creation and lived in a harmonious relationship with God, each other, and the created order in the Garden of Eden.
7. The central act of disobedience was eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Two immediate consequences were that they realized they were naked and felt shame, and they tried to hide from God, indicating a broken relationship.
8. God began his restoration project by calling Abraham from idolatry and establishing a covenant with him, promising to be his God and the God of his descendants, to give him land, to make him a great nation, and through him to bless all peoples.
9. Jesus' death on the cross was part of God's eternal plan to save sinners, acting as their substitute, victor over sin and death, and a sacrifice for their sins. His resurrection three days later confirmed his identity, defeated death, gave new life to believers, and foreshadowed their future resurrection.



10. The consummation of salvation involves Jesus' return to reign as king, bringing ultimate justice and peace. God creates a new heaven and a new earth, where he dwells with his covenant people in a perfect, glorious, multinational, and holy temple-city-garden. Sin and its effects are banished, God's glory is unobstructed, and believers fully realize their identity as those created in his image.

## **Essay Format Questions**

1. Discuss the significance of both physical and spiritual deliverance in the biblical understanding of salvation, tracing their prominence from the Old Testament to the New Testament.
2. Explain the concept of the "already but not yet" in relation to salvation, providing biblical examples to illustrate how believers experience aspects of salvation in the present while still awaiting its future fullness.
3. Analyze the biblical narrative from creation to the fall, highlighting how the initial state of humanity and the consequences of sin necessitate God's redemptive work in salvation.
4. Describe the multifaceted role of Jesus Christ in the salvation of humanity, drawing from the various titles and functions attributed to him in the provided source material.
5. Outline the key events and characteristics of the consummation of salvation as depicted in Revelation 20-22, emphasizing the ultimate restoration and glorification of God's people and his creation.

## Glossary of Key Terms

- **Salvation:** The act by which God delivers humanity from sin and its consequences through faith in Jesus Christ. It encompasses past justification, present sanctification, and future glorification.
- **Redemption:** The act of buying back or rescuing someone or something by paying a ransom. In theology, it refers to Christ's act of freeing humanity from the bondage of sin and death through his sacrifice.
- **Justification:** God's act of declaring a sinner righteous in his sight, not based on their own works but on the righteousness of Christ imputed to them through faith.
- **Sanctification:** The ongoing process by which believers are made holy and conformed to the image of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Glorification:** The final aspect of salvation when believers will be resurrected or transformed and will receive perfect and eternal union with God in his glory.
- **Eschatology:** The branch of theology concerned with the end times or last things, including the second coming of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, final judgment, and the eternal state.
- **Covenant:** A binding agreement between God and humanity, establishing a relationship with specific promises and obligations.
- **Repentance:** A sincere turning away from sin and toward God, often accompanied by sorrow for past wrongdoing.
- **Faith:** Trust in God and reliance on Jesus Christ for salvation, involving intellectual assent, emotional conviction, and volitional commitment.
- **Consummation:** The final completion or fulfillment of God's plan for creation and salvation, typically referring to the return of Christ and the establishment of the new heavens and new earth.

## 5. FAQs on Peterson, Salvation, Session 1, Introduction, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

### Frequently Asked Questions on Salvation

**1. What does the Bible mean by "salvation"?** The biblical concept of salvation encompasses both physical and spiritual deliverance. In the Old Testament, it frequently refers to physical rescue and preservation, such as God saving Israel from Egypt or individuals from danger. While this aspect is present in the New Testament (e.g., healing, rescue from storms), the emphasis shifts towards spiritual deliverance from sin and its consequences. Ultimately, salvation signifies a comprehensive rescue and new life provided by God through faith in Jesus Christ.

**2. How is God the "Savior" in the Bible?** The term "Savior" is used for both God the Father and Jesus Christ in the New Testament. God's role as Savior is particularly highlighted in the pastoral epistles, where it is linked with His desire for all people to be saved. This saving work becomes a reality through Jesus Christ, His Son, who is also explicitly called Savior. This dual usage underscores their shared divine nature and their joint role in bringing about salvation.

**3. When does salvation occur according to the Bible?** Salvation is not limited to a single point in time but has past, present, and future dimensions. In the past, believers have been saved from the penalty of sin through Christ's atoning work (justification). In the present, believers are in the process of being saved (sanctification), experiencing ongoing transformation. In the future, salvation will be fully realized when believers are rescued from God's wrath and enter into the fullness of God's kingdom (glorification). This "already but not yet" nature is a key aspect of New Testament eschatology.

**4. What is the human role in achieving salvation?** The Bible consistently emphasizes that salvation belongs to the Lord. Humans cannot achieve salvation on their own due to sin. Instead, salvation is entirely dependent on God's grace and is received through faith in Jesus Christ. This saving faith is not merely intellectual assent but involves repentance (turning from sin) and a transformation that produces good works as its fruit. Perseverance in belief is also essential for final salvation.

**5. How does the biblical story from creation to consummation relate to salvation?** The entire biblical narrative provides the context for understanding salvation. God's good creation established a harmonious relationship with humanity. The Fall introduced sin, breaking this relationship and bringing death and alienation. Redemption is God's gracious restoration project, beginning with His covenant with Abraham and culminating in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Consummation is the future and final restoration of all things, where God's kingdom is fully realized, sin is eradicated, and believers experience eternal life in God's presence.

**6. What is the significance of Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection for salvation?** Jesus Christ is central to God's plan of salvation. His sinless life fulfilled God's will perfectly. His death on the cross was a substitutionary sacrifice, bearing the sins of humanity and satisfying divine justice. His resurrection from the dead confirmed his identity as the Son of God, defeated sin and death, and offers new life and the promise of future resurrection to believers. Through his work, Jesus acts as Savior, Redeemer, and reconciler, bridging the gap between God and humanity created by sin.

**7. What is the role of the Holy Spirit and the Church in God's plan of salvation?** After his ascension, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to empower the Church, the New Testament people of God. The Spirit forms the Church and enables it to bear witness to Christ among all nations. The Church plays a vital role in God's plan by engaging in evangelism (sharing the gospel), discipleship (teaching believers), fellowship (living in community), ministry (serving one another), and worship (praising God). The Holy Spirit applies the work of salvation accomplished by Christ to individual believers.

**8. What will the final consummation of salvation look like?** The consummation of salvation involves Jesus' return as King to bring ultimate justice, peace, and victory. He will judge the world, welcoming believers into the fullness of His kingdom and banishing unbelievers. God will create a new heaven and a new earth, free from sin, pain, and death. God will dwell directly with His people in a perfect, glorious, and holy city-garden-temple. Believers will be fully restored as God's image-bearers, serving and worshiping Him eternally, experiencing the complete realization of their salvation and the unobstructed glory of God.