

**The Redeemed Christian Church of God
Open Heavens Assembly, Johannesburg**

Digging Deep

MY SALVATION EXPERIENCE

Texts: John 3: 3-8, 4:21-26, 39

INTRODUCTION

One of the best moments in the life of a believer is the day s/he gives his/her life to Christ. It is a memorable day that one remembers with so much fondness because it represents a day of rebirth; when you consciously give your life to Christ; receives Jesus into your life and your name is written in the book of life. Birthdays, wedding anniversaries, the day you got your first job or received your first salary or the day you had your first child are some of those memorable days in one's life; but the greatest gift one can receive in this life is the gift of eternal life; which is why; when a person is saved, s/he cannot forget how they met Jesus and what transformation took place in their life that day. It is an unforgettable moment in one's life. Do you have such an experience? The woman in John 4 had such a spectacular experience; that she had to tell everybody what happened to her when she met Jesus; your salvation experience is the bedrock of your evangelical ability.

A. COMPONENTS OF A GENUINE SALVATION EXPERIENCE

1. Salvation means to be born again; to become a partaker of God's divine nature. It means becoming a new creature; all sins are forgiven, yokes are destroyed and one receives a peculiar nature of Christ. One assumes the membership of God's family; a new culture of love, unity, prayer, joy, faith, power and greatness is acquired. 1 Pet 1:23, Jhn 1: 11-13, Rom 8: 15, 2 Pet. 1: 3-4, 2 Cor. 5: 17, 1 Jhn 1: 7, 1 Pet. 2: 9-10.
2. Every genuine salvation experience involves genuine repentance of turning from sin/unrighteousness to God; confessing and renouncing sins; asking for forgiveness and accepting Christ as Lord and Saviour. Rom.10: 10, Rom 10: 17, Acts 4: 12. It is an absolute work of grace. This is also known as instant salvation. However; there is need for the new convert to constantly work on his/ her salvation with fear and trembling. Phil 2: 12. S/he must put on the full armour of God and be watchful at all times. Ephe 6: 12-18, 1 Pet 5: 8. It is only those who endure to the end that shall be saved; this is called ultimate salvation. Matt 10: 22.
3. Every genuine salvation experience is nurtured by a process of continual sanctification; to preserve the converted soul blameless before God. Sanctification is the 2nd work of grace; after salvation which every believer must experience. Sanctification is the carrying onto perfection the work started by God at regeneration, and it extends to the whole man. 1 Thess 5: 23-24. Your ultimate salvation is guaranteed by your sanctification by God. Are you sanctified? Jhn 15: 3, 1 Pet 1: 15-16, Jude 1: 24.

CONCLUSION

Our salvation experience is a unique one, treasured for life. It is worth nurturing and keeping alive. However, your instant salvation must transit to ultimate salvation by continually submitting to the process of sanctification. What is your salvation experience so far?