

THE NON-NEGOTIABLES

EPISODE 03

THE SALVATION

How are we saved?

OLD TESTAMENT

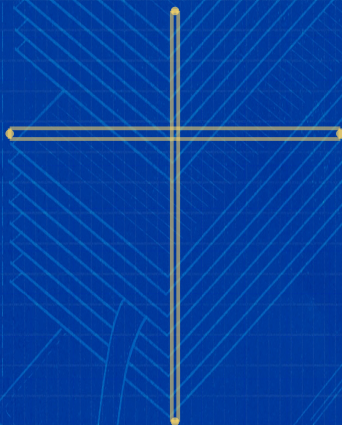
- Genesis: Hebrew
- Exodus: Egypt
- Leviticus: Law
- Numbers: Faith
- Deuteronomy: Promise
- Joshua: Conquest
- Judges: Law
- Ruth: Mercy
- 1 Samuel: Faith
- 2 Samuel: Faith
- 1 Kings: Faith
- 2 Kings: Law
- Isaiah

NEW TESTAMENT

- Matthew: Resurrection
- Mark: Resurrection
- Luke: Mercy
- John: Mercy
- Romans: Law
- Corinthians: Faith
- Galatians: Faith
- Colossians: Faith
- 1 Timothy: Faith
- 2 Timothy: Faith
- Titus: Faith
- Philemon: Faith
- Hebrews: Resurrection

shame □ covered

IT IS FINISHED



sin □ forgiven

death □ defeated

— the covering that began in Genesis —
finds its fulfillment in Him

PHIL KNIESEL • LEAD PASTOR

APRIL 2026

HOPE CITY CHURCH

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THE BOLD CLAIM

At the core of Christianity is a claim that is exclusive, anti-cultural, and absolutely non-negotiable: salvation is found in Jesus alone – not in religion, effort, sincerity, or any other path.

THE NON-NEGOTIABLE:

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven..."

ACTS 4:12

WHAT "SAVED" ACTUALLY MEANS

The Greek word for "saved" is *sozo* – a word with layers. It is not a small religious idea but a full restoration of what humanity lost in the Garden.

Jesus...

RESCUED

us from sin and its consequences

RESTORED

us to wholeness

RECONCILED

us into relationship with God

REDEEMED

us through Jesus alone

"The suffering of Jesus was corrective – He was willing to suffer in order that He might correct us and perfect us."

— A.W. TOZER

OLD TESTAMENT

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- Leviticus Levit
- Numbers Numer
- Deuteronomy Deuter
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- Ruth Ruth
- 1 Samuel 1 Sam
- 2 Samuel 2 Sam
- 1 Kings 1 Kings
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- Isaiah Isaie

NEW TESTAMENT

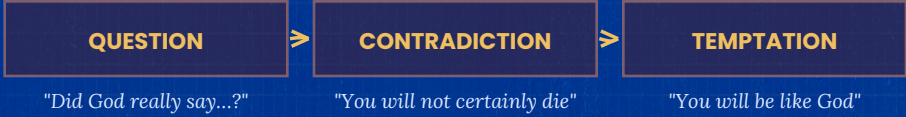
- Matthew Mathew
- Mark Mark
- Luke Luke
- John John
- Acts Actes
- Romans Roman
- 1 Corinthians 1 Corin
- 2 Corinthians 2 Corin
- Galatians Galat
- Ephesians Ephes
- Philippians Philip
- Colossians Coloss

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THE MOMENT EVERYTHING BROKE

Genesis 3 takes us back to a single decision that changed everything. Up until then, only three voices had spoken — God, Adam, and Eve. Then a fourth voice entered.

Satan spoke and brought a:



*"You will not certainly die," the serpent said.
"For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes
will be opened, and you will be like God."*

— GENESIS 3:4-5

THE 59,999 TREES

Botanists estimate roughly 60,000 species of trees on earth. God said, "Eat from any of them — except one." The enemy got humanity to focus on the single restriction and forget the thousands of gifts.

59,999

trees you can eat from

1

tree you cannot — and we choose it

□ Sin is not just rule-breaking — it is trust-breaking.

"I want autonomy. I want to define good and evil myself."

WHEN TRUST BREAKS

Common human actions:

HIDE

They hid from God
whom they walked with

SHAME

They felt shame —
something they'd never known

BLAME

They blamed each other
fracturing relationship

FEAR

They covered themselves
with fig leaves

SELF-IMPROVEMENT WON'T FIX DEATH

Culture preaches better, faster, healthier, more — but no amount of effort fixes what is fundamentally broken. The Bible doesn't offer self-improvement. It offers a Saviour.

THE WAGES

"of sin is death"
what we earn

death

THE GIFT

"is eternal life"
what He gives

life

— ROMANS 6:23 —

WHAT OTHER WORLDVIEWS SAY ABOUT JESUS

BUDDHISM

an enlightened man, like Buddha

HINDUISM

an incarnation of god, like Krishna

ISLAM

a prophet, inferior to Muhammad

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

the archangel Michael, a created being

MORMONISM

a man who became one of many gods

NEW AGE

a state of consciousness we can aspire to

SCIENTOLOGY

an implant on Thetan a million years ago

CHRISTIANITY:

Jesus is God. Crucified. Risen. Saviour.

one name · one way · one Saviour — non-negotiable

*"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us,
so that in him we might become
the righteousness of God."*

— 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

ATONEMENT = AT · ONE · MENT

The bringing together — the reconciliation of humanity with God.
Justice satisfied · mercy released · love demonstrated · life given.

WHY THIS MATTERS

You can drive with a cracked windshield — but everything is distorted. That is what sin does. We don't just occasionally do wrong things; something inside is off. And we cannot fix it ourselves.

"All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."

— ROMANS 3:23

- Jesus didn't come to improve your life. He came to save it.

GRACE — RECEIVED, NOT ACHIEVED

Salvation is a gift. You don't climb your way there. You don't perform your way there. You don't fix enough of your past to qualify.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — not by works, so that no one can boast."

— EPHESIANS 2:8-9

THE REAL QUESTION

Not "Am I good enough?" — but...



"Are you ready to follow Jesus?"

neutrality is a decision · delay is a decision

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

— ROMANS 10:9

THE NON-NEGOTIABLES

Foundations of the Christian Faith

EPISODE 03: THE SALVATION

COMING UP IN THIS SERIES:

- EP 04** The Church
- EP 05** The Final Judgement
- EP 06** More to Come...

OLD TESTAMENT

Gen. 1-11
 Job
 Ps.
 Prov.
 Eccl.
 Song
 Isa.
 Jer.
 Lam.
 Ezek.
 Dan.
 Hos.
 Joel
 Amos
 Obadiah
 Jonah
 Micah
 Zeph.
 Hag.
 Zech.
 Mal.

GO DEEPER:

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