

Salvation History

Preview Sheet

Salvation history traces the pattern of events in human history that reveal God's saving plan. The short version is simple yet quite complex: God's covenant with Abraham; Israel's deliverance from Egypt; the giving of the Law to Moses; Israel's entry into the Promised Land; the monarchy of King David; and the incarnation, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Early saving events in the Old Testament are mostly military or political. But above all they are physical: God saves his chosen people from concrete dangers. That sets up the expectation that the God who delivered us yesterday will rescue us tomorrow. In time, biblical salvation takes on a spiritual aspect as well. We need saving not only from real enemies but from the consequences of our own choices. Salvation comes to imply the rescue of the whole person, body and spirit. Ultimately, what we need is to be ransomed from death—so God extends the divine rescue all the way to the tomb.

Central to Salvation History is the Paschal Mystery. As Catholics, this is the center of our faith that we celebrate every Sunday at Mass and live every day of our lives- the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Your tasks before class:

As you prepare for this class, please read the following passages that are pivotal to Salvation History:

Genesis 12:1-9, 17: 1-14

Exodus 3, 12: 1-20, 13: 1-16

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

Joshua 2: 1-24

I Samuel 12:18-25

II Samuel 7: 1-17

Isaiah 9:1-6, 11: 1-9

I Kings 12:1-20

Zephaniah 3: 12-20.

Mark 9:2-9

Matthew 5:1

John 1: 1-18

John 1:19 – 2:1-12

Luke 4: 16-30

Matthew R. Schwartz
Parish Success Group
Theological Consultant, Trainer and Coach
matt@parishsuccessgroup.com
www.parishsuccessgroup.com