**WEAVER STUDY GUIDES**

# So You Think You're Saved

*Study Guide*

Economics and Stewardship

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John Weaver

Weaver Bible College

A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

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## Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

# Pastor John Weaver - So You Think You're Saved

*Part One of Two*

December 15, 2021

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-23 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

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## Major Themes

### False Assurance of Salvation

Many people wrongly assume they are saved based on family heritage, nationality, church membership, or personal experiences rather than on biblical grounds.

**Lecture support:** Weaver lists responses like 'My father was a preacher' and the girl whose mother said she was a Christian because she lived in America.

### Salvation Is Impossible with Man

Human effort, decision, or merit cannot achieve salvation; it is only possible through God's power.

**Lecture support:** Jesus said, 'With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible' (Mark 10:27).

### Salvation Is from Sin, Not Just Its Penalty

True salvation delivers from the power and practice of sin, not merely from its consequences; a life of ongoing, unrepentant sin indicates a lack of salvation.

**Lecture support:** Weaver states, 'Salvation from judgment... is a byproduct of being saved from your sins' and cites Matthew 1:21.

### The Necessity of Self-Examination

Believers must examine their lives against Scripture to confirm their faith, looking for a consistent pattern of obedience rather than sinless perfection.

**Lecture support:** 2 Corinthians 13:5, 2 Peter 1:10, and 1 John 2:3-6 are cited, with emphasis on the Greek present tense indicating continual keeping of commandments.

### Christ as the Divine Surety

Jesus Christ is the surety who guarantees the payment of sin's debt, standing in the place of sinners who cannot pay.

**Lecture support:** Hebrews 7:22 is quoted, and the concept is illustrated by Judah's suretyship for Benjamin (Genesis 43-44) and Paul's for Onesimus (Philemon).

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## Key Arguments

### Salvation is not inherited or cultural

Being born into a Christian family or living in a 'Christian nation' does not make one a Christian; salvation is a sovereign, supernatural work of God.

**Lecture support:** John 1:13 says believers are 'born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.'

### The rich young ruler's morality was insufficient

Despite his outward obedience to commandments, the rich young ruler's trust in riches revealed he had not kept the first commandment, showing that external morality cannot save.

**Lecture support:** Jesus told him to sell all he had, exposing his idolatry; he went away sorrowful because he had great possessions.

### Trust in riches makes salvation impossible

Jesus taught that it is impossible for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God, as illustrated by the camel and the needle's eye.

**Lecture support:** Mark 10:24-25: 'how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle...'

### Continuing in sin disproves salvation

Those who practice unrighteousness will not inherit the kingdom; true salvation results in a changed life, not a continuation in sin.

**Lecture support:** 1 Corinthians 6:9-11: 'such were some of you: but ye are washed...' and Galatians 5:19-21: 'they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.'

### Salvation is exclusively through Christ

There is no salvation in any other name; Jesus is the only way to the Father, and Peter's declaration in Acts 4:12 directly challenged the Roman imperial cult.

**Lecture support:** Acts 4:12: 'Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.'

### A surety is essential for salvation

Sin is an unpayable debt; a surety is needed to guarantee payment. Christ is the surety who undertakes for His people, satisfying God's demands.

**Lecture support:** Hebrews 7:22: 'By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.' The parable of the unforgiving servant shows the impossibility of paying sin's debt.

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## Scripture References

### Mark 10:17-27

The account of the rich young ruler, read at the beginning of the sermon, illustrating the impossibility of salvation by human effort and the need for God's power.

### John 1:11-13

Used to show that salvation is not by natural birth or human will but by God's sovereign work.

### Mark 10:19

Jesus quotes the commandments to the rich young ruler, which the man claims to have kept from his youth.

### Mark 10:21

Jesus tells the man he lacks one thing: to sell all, give to the poor, and follow Him, exposing his idolatry.

### Mark 10:23-25

Jesus teaches how hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom, especially those who trust in riches.

### Mark 10:26-27

The disciples' question 'Who then can be saved?' and Jesus' answer that with man it is impossible but with God all things are possible.

### Matthew 1:21

Cited to emphasize that Jesus saves His people from their sins, not just from judgment.

### 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Lists those who will not inherit the kingdom and contrasts their past sinful state with their present washed, sanctified, and justified condition.

**Galatians 5:19-21**

Lists the works of the flesh and warns that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

**Romans 6:1-2**

Paul's rhetorical question about continuing in sin that grace may abound, answered with 'God forbid' and the statement that those dead to sin cannot live in it.

**John 14:6**

Jesus' exclusive claim to be the way, the truth, and the life, with no one coming to the Father except through Him.

**Ephesians 2:18**

Through Christ we both have access by one Spirit to the Father, emphasizing the Trinitarian nature of salvation.

**Acts 4:8-12**

Peter's declaration before the rulers that salvation is found in no other name under heaven, directly challenging the Roman imperial claim.

**2 Corinthians 13:5**

Paul's command to examine and prove oneself to see whether Christ is in you, using Scripture as the objective standard.

**2 Peter 1:10**

Peter's admonition to make one's calling and election sure by adding virtues, confirming salvation through biblical evidence.

**1 John 2:3-6**

The test of knowing Christ is keeping His commandments; a consistent pattern of obedience demonstrates abiding in Him.

**1 Kings 15:5**

David's life is used as an illustration of a generally obedient life with a notable exception, showing that true believers are characterized by obedience, not sinless perfection.

**Hebrews 7:22**

Jesus is made a surety of a better testament, introducing the concept of Christ as the guarantor of the new covenant.

### Matthew 18:23-35

The parable of the unforgiving servant illustrates the impossibility of paying the debt of sin (10,000 talents) and the need for a surety.

### Genesis 43-44

Judah becomes surety for Benjamin, pledging to bear the blame forever if he does not bring him back, typifying Christ's suretyship.

Study notes

## Discussion Questions

**1.** What are some common false assurances of salvation that people rely on today, and how can we lovingly challenge them with Scripture?

**Consider:** Weaver lists family heritage, nationality, church membership, and experiences as insufficient grounds for assurance.

**2.** How does the rich young ruler's story expose the danger of trusting in anything other than Christ for salvation?

**Consider:** The rich young ruler outwardly kept commandments but trusted in his wealth, revealing his idolatry.

**3.** In what ways do people today treat Jesus as a 'fire escape' rather than a Savior from sin?

**Consider:** Weaver warns against wanting deliverance from hell without repentance and turning from sin.

**4.** What does it mean to 'examine yourselves' according to 2 Corinthians 13:5, and how can we do this without falling into morbid introspection?

**Consider:** Weaver explains that examination involves comparing our lives to the objective standard of Scripture.

**5.** How does the concept of Christ as our surety deepen our understanding of salvation and assurance?

**Consider:** The sermon presents Christ as the one who guarantees payment of our sin debt, illustrated by Judah and Paul.

**6.** Why is it impossible for a person to be saved while continuing in unrepentant sin, according to 1 Corinthians 6 and Galatians 5?

**Consider:** These passages list sins that characterize the unrighteous and state that those who practice them will not inherit the kingdom.

**7.** How does Peter's declaration in Acts 4:12 challenge the pluralistic mindset of our culture?

**Consider:** Peter proclaimed that salvation is found in no other name, directly opposing the Roman imperial cult and modern religious pluralism.

# Applications

### Examine your salvation biblically

Do not rely on family background, nationality, or experiences; instead, test your life against Scripture to see if you are truly in the faith.

**Lecture support:** 2 Corinthians 13:5 commands self-examination; 1 John 2:3-6 gives the test of keeping Christ's commandments.

### Repent of trusting in anything other than Christ

Identify any idols - such as wealth, morality, or religious activity - that you may be trusting for salvation, and turn to Christ alone.

**Lecture support:** The rich young ruler trusted in his riches and went away sorrowful; Jesus said it is hard for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom.

### Understand salvation as deliverance from sin

Recognize that salvation is not merely a ticket to heaven but a transformation that breaks the power of sin; if you are living in unrepentant sin, examine whether you have truly been saved.

**Lecture support:** Matthew 1:21 says Jesus saves His people from their sins; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 shows that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom.

### Rest in Christ as your surety

Find assurance not in your own performance but in Christ's finished work as the surety who guarantees your salvation and has paid your sin debt in full.

**Lecture support:** Hebrews 7:22 declares Jesus the surety of a better covenant; the illustrations of Judah and Paul show a surety taking full responsibility.

Study notes

## Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

# Pastor John Weaver - So You Think You're Saved

*Part Two of Two*

December 15, 2021

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 25-42 (October 9, 2026 opening-heading corrected edition).

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## Major Themes

### False Assurance of Salvation

Many people mistakenly believe they are saved based on baptism, church membership, or good deeds, rather than on Christ alone.

**Lecture support:** Weaver states that 90% of church members may be lost and that many depend on things other than Jesus Christ.

### The Necessity of a Surety

Salvation requires a surety - one who guarantees payment for sin - as illustrated by Judah's pledge for Benjamin.

**Lecture support:** Weaver recounts the story of Judah acting as surety for Benjamin in Genesis, willing to bear the blame forever.

### The Necessity of a Substitute

Because sinners cannot pay their own debt, they need a substitute. Jesus Christ is the substitute provided by God.

**Lecture support:** Weaver explains that God provided Himself as the sacrifice, referencing Genesis 22:8 and John 1:14.

### The Necessity of a Sacrifice

Without the shedding of blood there is no remission, but only Christ's sacrifice is perfect and final.

**Lecture support:** Weaver cites Hebrews 9:22 and Hebrews 10 to show that Old Testament sacrifices were shadows, while Christ offered one sacrifice for sins forever.

### The Necessity of Satisfaction (Propitiation)

Christ's work satisfied God's righteousness and justice, making Him both just and the justifier of believers.

**Lecture support:** Weaver expounds Romans 3:25-26, explaining that Christ is the propitiation who appeased God's wrath.

### Assurance Through the Resurrection

The resurrection proves that God was satisfied with Christ's work and that Jesus is the Son of God.

**Lecture support:** Weaver references Acts 2:32, 3:15, 4:10, and Romans 1:3-4 to show that the resurrection declares Christ's divine sonship.

### Salvation is Objective, Not Subjective

Salvation depends on Christ's finished work, not on human feelings or experiences.

**Lecture support:** Weaver argues that feelings fluctuate, but salvation is an objective reality accomplished outside of us.

### Exclusive Salvation in Christ

Only Jesus Christ fulfills all the requirements of salvation; there is no other Savior.

**Lecture support:** Weaver concludes that no man, religion, or angel can match Christ's work, citing John 14:6.

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## Key Arguments

### Man's Inability to Save Himself

Sinners cannot pay their own sin debt because the wages of sin is death; any attempt to do so leads to eternal misery.

**Lecture support:** Weaver states, 'if you try to pay your own way, you will end up in eternal misery, for it's impossible to pay that which you owe.'

### The Law Demands Perfect Obedience

God's law requires personal, perfect, and perpetual obedience, which no sinner can render; thus, a substitute is needed.

**Lecture support:** Weaver cites Galatians 3:10 and explains that even if one became perfect now, past sins would still require payment.

### God Provided the Substitute

God not only accepted a substitute but provided His own Son, demonstrating His grace.

**Lecture support:** Weaver uses the illustration of a debt and points to Genesis 22:8, where Abraham says, 'God will provide himself a lamb.'

### Old Testament Sacrifices Were Insufficient

The Levitical sacrifices were shadows that could not take away sins; they pointed to Christ's once-for-all sacrifice.

**Lecture support:** Weaver reads Hebrews 10:1-10, emphasizing that the blood of bulls and goats cannot remove sin.

### Christ as Propitiation Satisfied God

Jesus Christ, as propitiation, satisfied God's righteousness and justice by rendering perfect obedience and bearing God's wrath.

**Lecture support:** Weaver explains Romans 3:25-26 and the meaning of 'propitiation' as appeasement and satisfaction.

### Imputation of Righteousness

Through imputation, Christ's righteousness is credited to believers, giving them the same standing before God as Christ.

**Lecture support:** Weaver expounds 2 Corinthians 5:21, stating that God made Christ sin for us so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

### Resurrection Validates Christ's Work

The resurrection is God's public declaration that He was satisfied with Christ's sacrifice and that Jesus is the Son of God.

**Lecture support:** Weaver cites multiple passages in Acts and Romans 1:3-4 to prove that the resurrection confirms Christ's divine sonship.

### Salvation is Entirely of God

Every aspect of salvation - faith, repentance, and the will - is a gift from God; man only furnishes the sinner.

**Lecture support:** Weaver shares the story of a man who said, 'I did my part. I furnished the sinner,' emphasizing God's sovereignty.

## Scripture References

**Mark 10:17-27**

The story of the rich young ruler, used to introduce the theme of salvation's impossibility with men but possibility with God.

**1 John 5:9-13**

Cited to show that believers can know they have eternal life through the witness of God.

**2 Timothy 1:12**

Paul's confidence in Christ's ability to keep what he committed to Him, illustrating assurance.

**1 John 4:17**

Used to show that our love is made perfect so we may have boldness in the day of judgment.

**Romans 8:29**

Predestination to be conformed to the image of Christ, indicating that conformity begins now.

**1 John 2:3-6**

Evidence that knowing Christ is demonstrated by keeping His commandments and walking as He walked.

**Matthew 1:21**

Jesus saves His people from their sins, emphasizing the negative aspect of salvation.

**1 Thessalonians 1:8-10**

Salvation involves turning from idols to serve the living God, showing both negative and positive aspects.

**Romans 6:23**

The wages of sin is death, underscoring the need for a substitute.

**Galatians 3:10**

Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things written in the law, highlighting the law's demand.

**Isaiah 64:6**

All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags, showing the insufficiency of human goodness.

**Genesis 22:7-8**

Abraham's statement that God will provide Himself a lamb, foreshadowing Christ as the substitute.

**John 1:14**

The Word became flesh, indicating the incarnation of Christ as God's provision.

**1 Timothy 3:16**

God was manifest in the flesh, affirming the deity of Christ.

**Isaiah 1:10-17**

God rejects the sacrifices of wicked Judah, showing that even ordained sacrifices are unacceptable without obedience.

**Hebrews 9:22**

Without shedding of blood there is no remission, establishing the necessity of sacrifice.

**Hebrews 10:1-10**

Old Testament sacrifices were shadows; Christ's sacrifice sanctifies once for all.

**Hebrews 10:11-14**

Christ offered one sacrifice for sins forever and sat down, indicating completion.

**Hebrews 9:28**

Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many.

**1 Corinthians 5:7**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, fulfilling the Old Testament type.

## Discussion Questions

**1.** Why do so many people think they are saved when they are not, according to Weaver?

**Consider:** Weaver opens by stating that many depend on baptism, church membership, or good deeds rather than Christ.

**2.** How does the story of Judah and Benjamin illustrate the concepts of surety and substitute?

**Consider:** Weaver uses Judah's willingness to become a bond slave in Benjamin's place as a picture of Christ's substitution.

**3.** What does 1 John 5:9-13 teach about the assurance of salvation?

**Consider:** Weaver reads this passage to show that believers can know they have eternal life through the witness of God.

**4.** Why is a substitute necessary for salvation, and why can't we pay our own sin debt?

**Consider:** Weaver explains that the wages of sin is death, and no sinner can pay that debt and live.

**5.** How does the Old Testament sacrificial system point to Christ's sacrifice?

**Consider:** Weaver contrasts the repeated, insufficient sacrifices of the law with Christ's once-for-all offering.

**6.** What does it mean that Christ is our propitiation, and why is this important?

**Consider:** Weaver defines propitiation as satisfaction, explaining that Christ satisfied God's righteousness and wrath.

**7.** How does the resurrection prove that God was satisfied with Christ's work?

**Consider:** Weaver cites multiple Scriptures to show that the resurrection validates Christ's sacrifice and divine sonship.

**8.** Why should salvation not be based on feelings or experiences?

**Consider:** Weaver argues that feelings fluctuate, but salvation is an objective reality accomplished by Christ.

# Applications

### Examine Your Salvation

Listeners are urged to examine whether they have a surety, substitute, sacrifice, and satisfaction in Christ, rather than relying on false assurances.

**Lecture support:** Weaver concludes by asking, 'Do I have a surety? Do I have a substitute? Do I have a sacrifice? Do I have a satisfaction?'

### Flee to Christ Alone

Those who are not truly saved must flee to Christ, trusting in Him alone for salvation.

**Lecture support:** Weaver exhorts, 'If you're not truly saved, if the Lord Jesus Christ is not your savior, you must flee to him.'

### Rest in Objective Salvation

Believers should rest in the objective work of Christ rather than subjective feelings, knowing that salvation depends on Him.

**Lecture support:** Weaver states, 'Salvation does not depend upon you. It depends upon the Lord Jesus Christ.'

### Reject False Hopes

Listeners should reject reliance on baptism, church membership, good deeds, or genealogy for salvation.

**Lecture support:** Weaver warns against depending on 'baptism... church membership... good deeds... genealogy' instead of Christ.

### Live in Conformity to Christ

True salvation will be evidenced by a life increasingly conformed to Christ's commandments and example.

**Lecture support:** Weaver teaches from 1 John 2:6 that those who abide in Christ ought to walk as He walked.

## Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

# Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

**Lesson 1: Pastor John Weaver - So You Think You're Saved - Part One of Two**

Lecture JW01638

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01638&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

**Lesson 2: Pastor John Weaver - So You Think You're Saved - Part Two of Two**

Lecture JW01639

Open the formatted lecture online

https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW01639&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

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# Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.