

Widening our view of human problems, needs, and so of salvation and it's imperatives for living and being human

Interrelated contexts for all human need and, therefore, for all salvation:

- Personal / internal
- Social / external
- Immediate
- Systemic
- Eternal

Human life is relational life. All its contexts are relational; all its problems are relational; all its needs are relational; all its imperatives are relational. Sin is rejection and denial of relationship. All the needs below require transformation. The past cannot be changed but is redirected into a new trajectory so its influences upon the present and future are changed. Salvation, then, is both contextual and relational. The meeting of any of these needs is an incident and aspect of salvation. All the positives have corresponding negatives. The table is meant to be incomplete and so to invite development at every point, not to fix our humanity in a diagram or schematize salvation.

Human problems from which the Bible promises our deliverance	Corresponding needs	Corresponding imperatives created as God's grace meets our needs
Guilt	Forgiveness and self-forgiveness	Forgiving those who have wronged us or are in debt to us / not seeking revenge
Shame	Acceptance / respect / self-acceptance and self-respect	Respecting others / listening humbly
Hopelessness / despair	Hope (not mere optimism)	Sharing hope / fostering it
Alienation / aloneness / loneliness / hostility	Restoration / reconciliation / belonging / community	Reaching across barriers / reconciling
Sickness / disability	Healing / health / well-being / competence / respect	Ministering / healing / seeking wholeness / respecting people
Addiction	Deliverance / strength / competence / reintegration	Liberating / releasing / restoring
Imprisonment	Release / liberation / reintegration / restoration	Seeking liberation and restoration for others / seeking to humanize our judicial and incarceration systems / taking the profit out of imprisonment
Arrogance	Humility / new bases for self-respect / better ways of handling shame	Speaking truth to power / leaving room for change in the arrogant / speaking to the humanity arrogance hides
Wealth	True treasure / liberation / discovering true value / finding humanity in self and others	Sharing (not playing benefactor) / seeking redistribution
Foolishness	Wisdom / becoming teachable / becoming curious	Sharing curiosity / transcending slogans, standards, and orthodoxies / seeking depths of understanding and empathy
Lack of vision for life	Dynamic vision that guides and sustains direction	Pursuing God's promises in all contexts of human life / cooperating in sharing and pursuing the vision / wanting what God wants
Injustice	Justice / fairness / respect	Doing justice and seeking to make justice / becoming offended by injustices done to others / learning empathy / seeking to change systems that perpetuate injustices
Poverty	Provision (daily bread) / freedom and competence	Sharing / seeking to change systems that perpetuate poverty / making room for the poor in the making of decisions and policies