

## What is Salvation?

(Mathews Barnabas Metropolitan)

It is not only freedom from all kinds of sins of commission and omission. It is perfection in the image of God. It can be had only through God's ever continued grace. It may be lost at any time. Prophet Ezekiel says "But when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity and does the same abominable things that a wicked man does, shall he live? None of the righteous deeds which he has done shall be remembered. For the treachery of which he is guilty and the sin he has committed he shall die." (Ezek. 18:24)

In the "Pilgrim's Progress" written by John Bunyan, we find the pilgrim coming up to the gates of heaven. Finding a way to one side he asks a bystander where that way led to. "To hell" was the reply. This shows that even from the gates of heaven, there is a way to hell.

Hence we must be perfect in love till we enter heaven itself. We must be 1) helping the needy whole heartedly 2) respecting everyone, and forgiving all that hurt us.