

QUESTION: What does it mean in I Timothy 2:15 where it says a woman shall be saved in childbearing?

ANSWER:

- **I Timothy 2:15** "Nevertheless, **she shall be saved in childbearing**, if they continue in faith and charity (love) and holiness with sobriety (sober-mindedness)."

First of all, let's look at the meaning of the word "saved". It does not always mean saved in the sense of going to heaven when you die. The Greek word for salvation is "sozo" which has the meaning of being healed from disease, made whole, and delivered from harm and kept safe from destruction, as well as the meaning of being saved from sin. Secondly, it does not say she will be saved BY her childbearing, but IN it, or through it. The Bible is very clear that NO ONE, man or woman, is saved from their sins and going to heaven by any other means than faith in Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross. However, we can be saved or delivered in and through a number of things during our lives here on earth. This earth is still under the curse (Genesis 3:16-19), and we must **cry out to God continually to save us, heal us, make us whole, and deliver us** from all kinds of dangers, diseases, dysfunctions, and the consequences of our own bad choices. In spite of the pain of childbearing which a woman passes through, while suffering her part of the curse of Genesis 3:16, she shall be saved (if she is a woman of faith - "if they continue in faith and love and holiness..."). In the same way, a man shall be saved, even though he has to bear his part of the curse, namely, hard work by the "sweat of the brow."

- **Genesis 3:16-19** "To the woman He said, 'I will greatly multiply your pain in childbirth. In pain you shall bring forth children; yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you. Then to Adam He (God) said, 'Because you have heeded (listened to) the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you saying. 'You shall NOT eat of it': 'CURSED is the ground for your sake (because of what you have done); **in toil (hard work)** you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles (weeds) it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. **In the sweat of your face** you shall eat bread (work hard for a living) till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return.'"