

DOCTRINE OF SALVATION

1. The meaning of Salvation:

A. Definition: Biblically, salvation is the **transforming work of God on behalf of man**. It includes all of the divine undertaking to provide for this transformation **from the estate wherein man is lost**, condemned by God and separated from a relationship with Him, to an estate wherein man is brought **into a right relationship with God**.

B. Vocabulary:

- (1) σωτηρία - soteria - (Greek noun) - meaning: salvation, deliverance, preservation
- (2) ישועה - YeSHU'AH - (Hebrew noun) - meaning: salvation, deliverance, help, welfare, victory

C. The scope of salvation:

The general doctrine of salvation includes the following doctrines (dogmas):

- (1) Substitution - Rom. 5:6, 8; 8:32; 1 Cor. 5:7; 15:3; 2 Cor. 5:21
- (2) Redemption - Heb. 9:12
- (3) Reconciliation - Rom. 5:10, 11; 2 Cor. 5:19; Col. 1:20
- (4) Propitiation - Rom. 3:25; Heb. 2:17; 9:5; 1 Jn. 2:2; 4:10
- (5) Conviction - John 16:7-10
- (6) Calling - Matt. 22:14; Rom. 8:30
- (7) Election - Eph. 1:4; Col. 3:12
- (8) Predestination - Rom. 8:29, 30; Eph. 1:5
- (9) Sovereignty - Mark 3:35; Rom. 1:10; 12:2; 15:32; Jn. 1:13
- (10) Free will - John 8:36
- (11) Grace - Eph. 2:8, 9
- (12) Repentance - 2 Pet. 3:9
- (13) Faith - Acts 16:31; John. 3:15, 16; Eph. 2:8, 9
- (14) Regeneration - Matt. 19:28; Jn. 3:3, 7, 16; Titus 3:5; 1 Pet. 1:3
- (15) Forgiveness - Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; 2:13
- (16) Imputation - Rom. 3:22; 9:30; 10:10; 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:9
- (17) Justification - Rom. 4:25; 5:18; 8:30
- (18) Baptism - Rom. 6:3, 4; 1 Cor. 12:13
- (19) Sanctification - 1 Cor. 1:2, 30; 2 Thess. 2:13
- (20) Judgment - Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10
- (21) Glorification - Rom. 8:30

2. The author of salvation (Who planned salvation?)

God is the author of salvation. (Psa. 3:8; 51:14; Rom. 1:16; Titus 2:11)

3. The purpose of salvation (Why do we need salvation?):
“*All have sinned...*” and “*...the wages of sin is death...*” (Rom.3:23; 5:18, 19; Rom. 6:23; cf. Gen. 2:16, 17; 3:6, 7)
4. The prophecy of salvation (How do we know about it?):
God’s salvation is taught only in the **word of God**. “*Behold, your king is coming endowed with salvation...*” (Psalms 3:8; Zech. 9:9; cf. Gen. 3:15; Isa. 53; Matt. 1:21)
5. The person of salvation (Who is the savior?):
God the Son, **the Lord Jesus Christ**, is the only savior. (Matt. 1:21; Lk. 2:11; Jn. 1:29; Acts 4:12; 2 Tim. 1:9; Titus 2:11, 13; Heb. 5:9)
6. The work of salvation (How was it accomplished?):
The only work of salvation is the substitutionary atoning **death of Jesus Christ** on the **cross** for our sins. (1 Cor. 2:2; 15:3; Col. 1:20; 1 Pet. 2:24; Titus 3:4-7; cf. 2 Cor. 5:21)
7. The appropriation of salvation (How do I get saved?):
Eternal salvation is appropriated individually by **faith alone in Christ alone**.
(Acts 16:31; Eph. 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5) “*...Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved...*” **NOTE:** Repentance and faith are inseparable functions of belief.
8. The results of salvation concerning sin and death:
 - A. Saved from sin:
 - (1) The **penalty** (condemnation) of sin - Adam’s **original sin**
(Rom. 5:15-19) (imputed sin)
 - (2) The **power** (control) of sin - The **old sin nature**
(Rom. 6:5-14; 1 Cor. 15:56; Rom. 8:2) (inherent sin)
 - (3) The **presence** of sin (practice of sin) - Our **Personal sins**
Matt. 1:21; Jn. 1:29; 1 Jn. 3:5) (volitional sins)
 - B. Saved from death:
 - (1) **Spiritual Death** (Condemnation) - (Rom. 6:13; 8:1; 1 Cor. 11:32; Eph. 2:1, 5; Jn. 3:18)
 - (2) **Temporal death** (Slavery to sin and evil) - (Rom. 6:16-22; 7:14-21)
 - (3) **Second death**, the “*lake of fire*”, (Everlasting judgment) - (Jn. 5:29; Rom. 6:23 Heb. 6:2; Rev. 20:14, 15)
9. The results of salvation concerning everlasting life and resurrection:
 - A. Saved to everlasting life (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 6:23; 1 Jn.5:11-13):
 - (1) **Newness of life** - (Rom. 6:4; 2 Cor.5:17)
 - (2) **Freedom of life** - (Jn.8:32, 36; Rom. 8:2; Gal. 5:1, 13)
 - (3) **Abundance of life** - (John 10:10)

B. Saved to resurrection (John5:29a):

(1) **Resurrection body** - (1 Cor.15:51-57; 1 Jn.3:2, 3)

(2) **Eternal blessings** (our inheritance) - (1 Cor. 3:10-15; Eph. 1:3; 1 Pet. 1:4)

(3) **Rewards** - (1 Cor.3:10-15; 2 Cor. 5:10)

10. The aspects of salvation:

There are **three aspects or phases** of salvation:

A. Appropriation (Phase #1) - **regeneration** - “...*you have been saved...*”
(Eph. 2:8, 9; Acts 16:31)

B. Demonstration (Phase #2) - **sanctification** - “...*you keep on being saved...*”
(1 Cor. 15:2; Phil 2:12)

C. Anticipation (Phase #3) - **glorification** - ...“*he shall be saved...*”
(1 Cor.3:15; Heb. 9:28 cf. 1 Pet. 1:5)

11. The message of salvation:

The message of salvation is presented as “**good news**”, the **gospel**: (Acts 16:31; Rom. 1:16; Eph. 1:13; 1 Cor. 15:1-8)

12. The blessings of salvation:

At the moment of salvation we receive at least 36 specific blessings. (Eph. 1:3)

SEE: The **Doctrine of the Manifold Blessings of Salvation**

13. The security of salvation:

The salvation of the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is eternally secure.

(1 Jn 5:11-13)

SEE: The **Doctrine of Eternal Security**

THE SCOPE OF SALVATION

1. **Substitution** - Jesus Christ died on the cross, “**expiation,**” **on behalf of** (instead of, in place of) sinners. (Rom. 5:6, 8; 8:32; 1Cor. 5:7; 15:3; 2 Cor. 5:21)
2. **Redemption** - includes “**expiation**” (the price paid, the process of the purchase, and the person who paid the debt) and the **freedom** which results from the purchase. (Heb. 9:12)
3. **Reconciliation** - is the **peace** established between God and man by God through the cross work of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 5:10, 11; 2 Cor. 5:19; Col. 1:20)
4. **Propitiation** - is God the Father’s **satisfaction** with the work of God the Son in the incarnation and on the cross. (Rom. 3:25; Heb. 2:17; 9:5; 1 Jn. 2:2; 4:10)
5. **Conviction** - The Holy Spirit **confronts** the lost regarding sin, righteousness, and judgment. (John 16:7-10)
6. **Calling** - is the individual **invitation** to the unbeliever by God to accept salvation. (Matt. 22:14; Rom. 8:30)
7. **Election** - is the **positional relationship** of the believer in Christ in time to the plan Of God formulated in eternity past. (Eph. 1:4; Col. 3:12)
8. **Predestination** - is God’s **pre-designed plan** for believers (the elect), as established “in Christ,” positionally in eternity past. (Rom. 8:29, 30; Eph. 1:5)
9. **Sovereignty** - is the **absolute will and authority** of God. (Mk. 3:35; Rom. 1:10; 12:2; 15:32; Jn. 1:13; 2 Pet. 3:9)
10. **Free will** - is the **un-coerced choice** belonging to each human being. (John 8:36)
11. **Grace** - is the **plan of God** which is manifested in unmerited favor (everything that God is free to do for us on the basis of the cross of Jesus Christ). (Eph. 2:8, 9)
12. **Repentance** - is our **change of mind** regarding the person and work of Jesus Christ as our Savior; **it is synonymous with faith** at the moment of our salvation; generally, it is any change of mind about who and what God is and the reality of our sinful condition. (2 Pet. 3:9)

13. **Faith** - is our **individual acceptance** (appropriation) of the fact that Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures and is our God and savior. (Acts 16:31; Jn. 3:15, 16; Eph. 2:8, 9)
14. **Regeneration** - is a **new or second birth** (a spiritual rebirth - being "*born again*"). (Matt. 19:28; Jn. 3:3, 7, 16; Titus 3:5; 1 Pet. 1:3)
15. **Forgiveness** - is the **removal of judgment** for our sins because of divine satisfaction provided for by Jesus Christ's death on the cross. (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14; 2:13)
16. **Imputation** - is the ascribing or **crediting of the righteousness of God** to the believer at the moment of salvation appropriation, (**making the believer righteous**). (Rom. 3:22; 9:30; 10:10; 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:9)
17. **Justification** - is **the declaration** of a believer in Jesus Christ as righteous because of God's imputation of righteousness, (**declaring the believer to be righteous**). (Rom. 4:25; 5:18; 8:30)
18. **Baptism** - is the **identification** of the believer with Jesus Christ in His death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and session. (Rom. 6:3, 4; 1 Cor. 12:13)
19. **Sanctification** - is our spiritual position as **being set apart by God** unto a special purpose at the moment of salvation. (1 Cor. 1:2, 30; 2 Thess. 2:13; Heb. 10:10; 13:12) It is also the ongoing process of purification in the believer's life. (Eph. 5:26, 27)
20. **Judgment** - is **the act, the process the verdict, and the sentence of God the Son** based on His justice and His decision as judge in the evaluation of His creatures. (Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10) **NOTE: "For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son..."** (John 5:29)
21. **Glorification** - is **our eternal (everlasting) position** in Christ with resurrection bodies, blessings, rewards, and honor. (Jn. 17:22; Rom 8:30; cf. 1 Jn. 3:2)