



## Salvation

Salvation is being saved or rescued from the penalty of sin. We are all sinners, and the consequence of sin is death—not just physical death, but eternal separation from God. To be saved from your sin, you must do three things: Ask forgiveness for your sins; be willing to turn from your sins; and believe that Jesus Christ—our Lord and Savior—died for your sins and rose again.

If you have done these things, you are saved! You have salvation, which means you have accepted God's love and forgiveness, are adopted into His family and have fellowship with His people—your fellow Christians. You are free from the power of sin—a child of God! The Bible promises you eternity in heaven (Romans 10:9-10).

### How Are We Saved?

John 3:16-17 and John 10:10 tell of the great love God has for us. Because of His love, He wants us to come to Him just as we are. He wants to have a personal relationship with us and longs for us to talk to Him freely about our sins and our needs.

God revealed His love for us by sending His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins more than 2,000 years ago. Jesus understands us because He lived as a man on earth for 33 years. He lived a sinless life and paid the price for our sins by offering Himself as the perfect sacrifice on the cross. He rose from the dead three days later and went up into heaven, where He intercedes on our behalf (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25).

### Don't Good People Go to Heaven?

Many people think that being good will get them into heaven—that if they are nice, don't commit any crimes and try to do the right thing, they have earned their way into God's kingdom.

But the Bible says we all fall short of God's glory (Romans 3:23). We all sin, and the penalty for sin is death (Romans 6:23). There's nothing we can do to earn our way into heaven.

But God made a way by sending Jesus Christ to die for our sins! None of us are good enough to get to heaven on our own, but if we ask Christ into our lives, we can look forward to eternity with Him in heaven. It's not about good things you've done, but about what Christ has done for you (Ephesians 2:8). It's not about emotions you might feel, but about what God's Word tells you (1 John 5:11-13). Jesus provides the only path to salvation.

## So What Do I Do?

Jesus has all power and authority over sin and evil (Matthew 28:18; Hebrews 2:14-15; 1 John 3:8), and through Him we can also live victorious lives. We read in 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" The Bible also says in 1 Corinthians 15:57: "Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

The first thing you must do to be saved is admit to God that you are a sinner. Then repent of your sins. What is repentance? Repentance carries with it the idea of confession, sorrow, turning and changing. We shouldn't ask forgiveness over and over again for our sins and then return to those sins, expecting God to forgive us. We must turn from our practice of sin as best we know how, and turn by faith to Christ as our Lord and Savior. None of us are perfect, and we will continue to sin, but the important part is that we are genuinely sorry for our sin and make our best effort to correct it.

Once you repent of your sins, ask for God's forgiveness and recognize Jesus as Lord, thank God for His love and acceptance of you. If we give ourselves to Jesus, He comes into our hearts and lives there (Revelation 3:20). We must commit ourselves to Him and trust Him alone as our Savior and Lord.

Have complete confidence in everlasting life by accepting Christ, and experience the joy that comes from knowing Him personally.

**How can you be sure you're saved? Read more by visiting the Common Questions section on our website and clicking ["How do I know I'm saved?"](#)**