

# Understanding Salvation

## What is salvation?

Salvation is deliverance from sin and its consequences through faith in Jesus Christ. You may hear the term used interchangeably with Born Again or Saved.

In Strong's concordance, you find the definition of Salvation in the original languages, which helps give a deeper understanding.

**Hebrew: יְשׁוּעָה (yeshû'âh) – Strong's H3444**

Meaning: Salvation, deliverance, welfare, prosperity, victory.

**Greek: σωτηρία (sōtēria) – Strong's G4991**

Meaning: Deliverance, preservation, safety, salvation.

Salvation is the first step in a lifelong journey of transformation, so it doesn't mean that we become perfect overnight, but that we are work in progress aided by God's Holy Spirit to become who He originally intended for us to be from the foundation of the world.

“<sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup>God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup>he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus” (*New International Version*, Romans 3:23)

❧ Jeremiah 1:5 says, “I knew you before I formed you in your mother’s womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations.” (*New Living Translation*)

❧ “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” (*King James Version*, Genesis 1:27)

### Why is salvation important?

Receiving salvation through Jesus is a personal decision, yet there are many benefits. We’ll look at just a few.

The first benefit is life in Christ offers true freedom. (Romans 8:2). Without salvation we remain under the law of sin and death. Romans 6:23 reminds us that “the wages of sin is death”.

Looking at the Strong’s concordance definitions once more, we understand that death is looked at both literally and figuratively.

Literal:

❧ the death of the body (natural death)

Figurative:

❧ the loss of a life worthy of its name (spiritually lifeless)

❧ the misery of the soul due to sin, which begins on earth and increases after death

❧ the separation from the life and fellowship of God.

The second benefit is abundant life. John 10:10 says, “The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).” (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*)

The last benefit we'll discuss is healing. 1 Peter 2:24, "who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." (*King James Version*) The healing we received is for our wholeness – Spirit, soul, and body. Jesus paid the price for our sins (past, present, and future), His death, burial, and resurrection was the full redemptive cost, and His sacrifice means we walk in newness of Spirit, soul, and body.

### There are 5 key understandings of salvation:

- ✠ Recognition of Sin: We are all born into sin (Psalm 51:5). Salvation begins when we admit our need for God's rescue.
- ✠ Repentance: True repentance isn't just feeling sorry; it's a 180-degree turn — a change of heart, mind, and life toward God.
- ✠ Confession and Belief: Romans 10:9–10 teaches that confessing Jesus as Lord and believing in His resurrection brings salvation.
- ✠ Baptism: Water baptism is a public symbol of an inward change, representing the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, often marked by speaking in tongues (Acts 2:1–4), empowers believers for a Spirit-filled life.
- ✠ Living in Obedience: Salvation is the start, but daily obedience is the journey — through reading the Word (John 8:31–32), prayer (Luke 18:1), church community (Jeremiah 3:15), fellowship (Hebrews 10:25), and serving others (Mark 16:15–17).

### How do I receive salvation?

You receive salvation, through prayer.

### **Prayer:**

"Father, I recognize my need for salvation. I repent of my sins, ask for Your forgiveness, and believe that Jesus died for me and rose again. Jesus, come into my life and be my Lord and Savior. Thank You for saving me and teaching me to walk daily in Your love and truth. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

### **Final thought:**

Salvation is not earned; it's a gift received by faith and lived out in relationship. It's a daily walk of being made more like Him. Enjoy the journey!

Citations:

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