

What does it mean to be saved?

The issue of salvation is on the one hand very simple but on the other hand fairly complex. Over the next several lessons, various issues regarding the question of salvation and what it means and to whom it applies will be addressed. For now, we will begin with the beginning issue. The very definition of salvation

1. What is a person saved from?

Matthew **1:21**

John **3:35-36**

Romans **7:18-25**

Matthew **25:46**

The bible tells us that a person will be saved “from their sins”. The bible also tells us that the “saved” person still continues to sin. So a person is not saved from sinning but he is saved from sin. That is, he is saved from the eternal ramifications of sinning which is the outpouring of the wrath of God.

2. Why does a person need to be saved?

Ephesians **2:1-3**

Romans **3:23**

1 John **1:5-10**

Ephesians **5:1-6**

Luke **18:18-20**

People need to be saved because each and every one of us is a sinner and every sinner is deserving God's eternal punishment. A basic terms, a sinner is someone whose character has “missed the mark” of goodness. The only being that has ever existed who is truly good and has not missed the mark or standard of goodness is God Himself. Whether that individual is God the Father, or God the Son (Jesus), or God the Holy Spirit. Only God is good and all others have failed to measure up to God's standard. There will be some who claim that they do not have any sin associated with their life or they may claim that they have never, ever, sinned. In either case, they are at best deceiving themselves but they are not deceiving God.

3. What is required in order to be saved?

Acts **16:30-31**

2 Corinthians **7:10**

Romans **10:8-11**

1 Corinthians **15:1-4**

1 John **1:9**

In order to be saved, each person “must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ”. The idea behind “believing on the Lord Jesus Christ” is a recognition of one's own sinfulness before God and that His justice would be served by condemning yourself to eternal condemnation. With salvation will come the confession of sin and the plea to God for mercy and then repentance or a turning away from sinful acts. In order for God's justice to be satisfied and for God's mercy to be extended, the Lord Jesus Christ offered up Himself as the payment for the sins of mankind. Only by recognizing what Christ has personally done for you will true confession and repentance be possible. Only when personal sin, and the gift of grace through Christ on the cross are truly comprehended in the heart will salvation be a valid possibility.

4. What happens if a person does not desire to be saved?

Romans **1:16-19**

John 3:36

John **12:46-48**

Revelation **20:10-15**

Revelation **21:7-8**

Whoever reject the gospel of Jesus Christ, rejects the only hope of escaping the outpouring of God's wrath. That person has no hope of anything other than eternal condemnation or eternity in God's eternal lake of fire (commonly referred to as hell).