

How Can I Be Saved?



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Table of contents

What does it mean to be saved.....	2
Man's Problem.....	3
The Sin-nature.....	5
God's Solution.....	6
The Result of Salvation.....	8

**for He says,
“At the acceptable time I listened to you,
And on the day of salvation I helped you”;
Behold, now is “the acceptable time,”
Behold, now is “the day of salvation”
– (2 Cor 6:2)**

How do I get saved?

Do you know, my friend, that you are alive for a reason? No matter what you have done in the past, or what your present spiritual condition is, THERE IS HOPE FOR YOU!! God has a plan for your life and that plan starts at salvation.

What is Salvation?

The word salvation from a spiritual sense carries with it the idea of being delivered from condemnation and the penalty, power, and presence of sin.

What does it mean to be saved?

The word “save” is a very common word often used in our language. The word “save” means “to rescue”, to keep from harm, to rescue from destruction, or to deliver. The word implies that you are in some kind of danger and need to be rescued. Imagine a person drowning, then being rescued as he is sinking into the ocean’s depths. He is helpless to save himself. Someone saw his condition and took the initiative to save him. The person was saved.

In order for a person to be saved he must first realize he is in great danger.

Did you know that every person in the human race is born in great danger, condemned, and doomed for the lake of fire, because of one man’s decision to rebel against God’s will? That man was Adam.

Therefore, just as through one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death [spiritual death] through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned. (Rom 5:12)¹

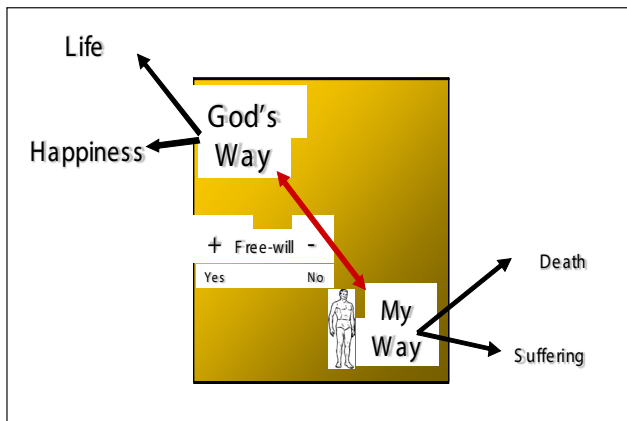
The scriptures tell us that spiritual death came into the world through Adam’s sin of disobedience.

Did you know that prior to Adam’s and Eve’s sin of disobedience they were in a state of innocence and holiness? In this state of innocence and holiness they were still capable of sinning because God gave Adam and Eve the free will to choose to do good or evil, to obey or not obey, to sin or not to sin. **So**, God put into place a restriction to test man’s free will to choose to obey Him when given a choice.

Man's Problem: Sin

*And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."
(Gen 2:16-17)*

God gave the first man and woman freedom to eat from any tree of the garden, and warned them of the consequence of disobedience if they ate from the forbidden tree. The diagram below depicts the choice they faced in the Garden of Eden.



The Temptation of our first parents

By Genesis 3, which gives us the temptation of our first parents, Satan, a fallen angel originally named Lucifer, had sinned through pride and arrogance (Isa 14:12-15), and had fallen from heaven to earth cursed to spend eternity in the lake of fire along with one third of angels who chose to join him in his rebellion (Mat 25:41). God allowed this chief fallen angel to continue to exist for the purpose of allowing him to test the free will of man. God will, through man's free will, prove that He is fair, a God of love and grace. Satan's plan is to lead man to function under his own will and not the will of God.

In Gen 3 Satan uses the serpent (shiny upright creature) as an instrument in his temptation against Eve. Satan raised doubt in the woman's mind about the truth of God's word. God had given man clear instruction and a clear restriction (Gen 2:16-17). Satan begins his temptation with a challenge to God's word.

"Indeed has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?'"
(Gen 3:1b)

Eve responds to Satan's attack on God's word but misquotes God's word from (Gen 2:16-17). God had not told them they couldn't touch the forbidden tree but "you shall not eat for in the day you eat from it you shall surely die".

In Gen 3:5 Satan told the woman that the day she eats she will "be like God knowing good from evil". This was a half-truth. Eve is faced with the choice to believe God's truth or Satan's lie.

Eve's eyes would be opened but she would not be like God. Satan is the master of deception. Deception is getting someone to believe something that is not really true.

Satan made it appear that God was withholding something good from Eve and therefore He was not a good God.

The fall of Eve and Adam

The woman fell into Satan's temptation through the lust of the eyes (get what your eyes desire), the lust of the flesh (get what brings pleasure to your body), and the pride of life (get what will give you wisdom and gain).

See 1 John 2:15-17.

After Eve ate from the forbidden tree she gave some to her husband Adam. Adam ate knowing that he would not "be like God" as Satan told the Woman. Eve was deceived but Adam sinned knowingly. Both were guilty but Adam as the leader and head was held most responsible (Rom 5:14, 1Cor 15:22).

We see that sin entered the world through the exercise of the free will of Adam and Eve. They were the first human sinners.

In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve disobeyed God when they took and ate fruit from the forbidden tree. They chose their will over God's. God told them what would happen if they did that.

When Adam, our great, great grandfather, sinned (Gen 2:16-17; Gen 3:6) he received a sin nature which corrupted his whole being (mind, will, emotion, conscience), the image of God in man was corrupted. He was no longer perfect. Due to the sin of Adam, the sin nature is genetically passed down to all mankind since all came from Adam.

What is the sin nature?

The sin nature is that nature we all are born with that tempts us to sin, serve self, rebel, and live life without God. It is that rebellious nature we all have at birth. We all are born wanting to rebel and sin.

The sin nature only tempts us to rebel and commit personal sins. We choose to sin and rebel. Personal sins that man chooses to commit come in 3 categories: **thought** (mental sins), **word** (sins of the tongue), and **action** (outward sin).

Sin (disobedience) separated man from God, and brought about God's judgment as He promised in Gen 2:16-17.

The result of Adam's fall was that all mankind became doomed for death, and destruction being in Adam. We are all born sinners because we all have the sin nature in our body from birth.

The Judgment of God

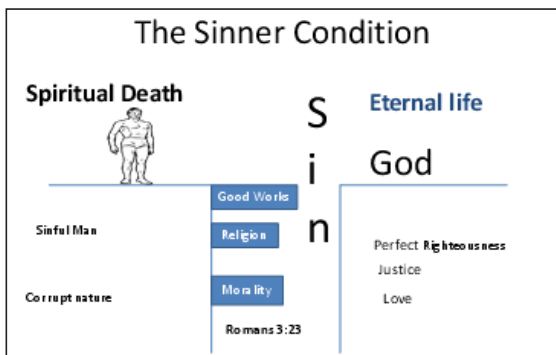
God is Righteous - He rejects sin.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Rom 3:23)

God is Just - He must judge sin.

For the wages [payment] of sin is death... (Rom 6:23a)

The moment Adam sinned he became separated from Holy God and doomed to the Lake of Fire. He needed to be rescued from that condition.



How does man get off the Path of destruction and death?

Do we get off the path by good works, religion, and morality?

Many believe that they can be saved by doing good deeds. They may have never broken a human law, never been to jail, and have given large sums of money to charities, and to the poor. Society may look at these individuals as wonderful people. But compared to God's righteous standard we all fall short of meeting His standards. The Bible teaches that no amount of human goodness, human works, human morality, or any religious activity can gain the acceptance of God and entrance into heaven.

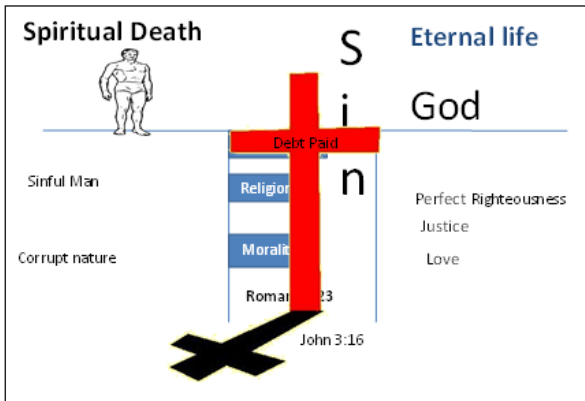
Because we all are born with the sin nature in our body, no man is perfect. Only God is perfect. Therefore nothing we do under the control of the sin nature is accepted by God (Isa 64:6; Rom 1:18-38; Rom 3:9-10).

No matter how many good deeds we do, it will not cancel the debt we owe God for our sin. We are helpless to bridge the gap that separates us from God's perfect Holiness and Righteousness. Therefore, we need a Savior—someone to purchase our freedom from the penalty of sin.

God's Solution for Man's problem: The Cross

God is Love - He provides a way of escape from His justice or His wrath.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten [uniquely born] Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.
(Joh 3:16)



God sent his son Jesus Christ into the world born of a virgin without any trace of the sin nature to die as the perfect sacrifice for sin.

As Jesus Christ hung between heaven and earth, God the Father put the blame for our sins on Him and judged them.

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the Cross (1Pet 2:24)

Jesus paid the penalty of sin. He became our substitute.

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf [as our substitute], that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2Cor 5:21)

Because of the work of Jesus Christ, salvation is available to everyone.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten [uniquely born] Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life (Joh 3:16)

“Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved” (Act 16:31a)

Salvation was provided by Jesus Christ. He was born of a virgin. He lived a perfect, sinless life and therefore was qualified to be the Savior of the world.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners.

Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8)

“At the acceptable time I listened to you, and on the day of salvation I helped you. Behold, now is the acceptable time, behold now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor 6:2)

God loves you and wants to share His eternal life with you. Eternal life and heaven (spending eternity with God) is available to you right now. In the privacy and freedom of your soul, you can tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, as your Savior.

Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures... 1 Cor 15:1-4:

We learn from Scripture that:

1. Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
2. Jesus Christ died for our sins.
3. Jesus Christ was buried in the grave.
4. Jesus Christ rose from the grave. The fact that Christ rose from the dead proves that He is the Savior – and that the Father accepted His payment for our sins.

Will you tell God in privacy that you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior?

Will you tell Him:

- I am a sinner and deserve death.
- I believe scripture concerning your son Jesus Christ.
- He died for my sins on the cross. He paid my debt.
- I believe He was buried in the grave.
- I believe He rose from the grave.
- I accept by faith Jesus Christ's work on the cross for salvation and deliverance from sin's penalty is enough to save me.

Result of Faith in Jesus Christ for salvation:

At that moment of simple faith you are rescued from the lake of fire and receive forgiveness of sins committed past, present, and future. You receive eternal life (1Jo 5:11-12). God provided everything you need for salvation: the Father sent the Son, the Son went to the Cross. Now it is up to you to do your part. You accept the grace of God for salvation through faith in Christ. Nothing else is required. It is, simply, *faith alone in Christ alone*.

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.

(Eph 2:8-9)

Your works are not the means of salvation. Works are the result of being saved.

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (Titus 3:5-7)

You see my friend you are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Grace is undeserved favor. Grace is all that God is free to do for mankind on the basis of the saving work of Jesus Christ on the Cross. Faith gives all the credit to God. It does not depend on you. Faith is based totally on confidence in the authority, character, and the ability of God to provide salvation. Salvation is the free gift of grace; faith is the means of salvation. The object of faith, our Lord Jesus Christ, He has done all the work. There is nothing left for you to do but believe in Him.

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. (Gal 3:26)

Your attitude towards Jesus Christ determines your eternal future. You can either believe in Christ for eternal life or reject Him for eternal condemnation. God gives you free will. The choice is yours! Will you believe in Him now?

He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey [believe] the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him (JOH 3:16)

¹ All Scripture references are taken from the New American Standard Bible.



“I thank Christ Jesus our Lord,
who strengthen me, because
he considered me faithful,
putting me into service...It is a
trustworthy statement, deserving
full acceptance that Christ Jesus
came into the world to save
sinners, among whom I am
foremost of all”.

(1 Timothy 1:12, 15)



If you have trusted in Jesus Christ as your personal savior and would like for us to send you material to help you grow in your faith and spiritual life.

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