

SCRIPTURES

on Salvation

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Jesus' name means "he saves."

I can't think of a better description of God's compassionate character repeatedly expressed throughout the scriptures.

God is eager to rescue the humble and needy, not shame us in our hour of need.

This booklet helps us understand, from a biblical standpoint, what it means to be saved. What do we need to do to be saved? How are we saved? From what are we saved? How can we trust that we are saved?

Our hope is that as you understand the character of God and the act of his loving salvation through Jesus Christ, you will trust in the salvation he provides you and not in your ability or inability to live a "good" life.

May you walk away with a newfound faith in your salvation.

a prayer for salvation

Jesus,

I believe you are the Son of God. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins.

I confess that I am a sinner in need of your salvation. I recognize that my sins and self-sufficiency have separated me from God and that your grace offered to me is a free and generous gift that I could never deserve.

I repent and turn away from my sinful and independent ways. I ask for your forgiveness, even as I choose to forgive other people for the wrongs they've done to me.

Come into my life and be my Lord and Savior. Transform my life, my character, my desires and passions, my decisions, and my thoughts. I surrender them all to you. Build your kingdom of love through me.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

JOHN 14:6

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

ACTS 4:12

Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem.

LUKE 24:46-47

He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

ACTS 10:42-43

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

1 PETER 2:24

Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.

REVELATION 7:10

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in.

REVELATION 3:20

God desires to save you, not to punish you

For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:9

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

JOHN 3:16-18

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2 PETER 3:9

This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

1 TIMOTHY 2:3-4

"As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways!"

EZEKIEL 33:11

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 JOHN 4:9-10

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

ROMANS 5:8

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:35, 38-39

Mercy triumphs over judgment.

JAMES 2:13

we can be confident in God's patient love for us

He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the West, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

PSALM 103:10-12

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.

PSALM 103:2-3

The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

PSALM 145:9

God's desire is to do good to you and bless you.

All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful toward those who keep the demands of his covenant.

PSALM 25:10

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

JOHN 3:16-17

God's corrections prove he is parenting us and is raising us to be like him.

Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you.

DEUTERONOMY 8:5

God takes delight in his children.

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

1 JOHN 3:1

[See also Hebrews 12:4-11; Proverbs 3:11-12]

He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.

EPHESIANS 1:4

[See also Psalm 147:11; 2 Samuel 22:20; Psalm 36:8; Isaiah 42:1; Isaiah 65:19]

salvation is through repentance, grace, and belief in Jesus Christ

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:9

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

ROMANS 10:9, 13 quoting **JOEL 2:32**

“For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

JEREMIAH 31:34

Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

ACTS 2:38

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

JOHN 1:12

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes!

ROMANS 1:16

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

EPHESIANS 2:4-5

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— if you continue in your faith.

COLOSSIANS 1:22-23

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life.

JOHN 3:36

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."

JOHN 11:25

but how can i be sure i'm saved?

TRUTH 1. No one deserves salvation, and no one can earn God's gifts by being 'good enough.'

For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands (by doing good deeds).

ROMANS 3:20 (NLT)

But those who depend on the law (doing good deeds) to make them right with God are under a curse, for the Scriptures say, 'Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God's Book of the Law.' So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law (doing good). For the Scriptures say, 'It is through faith that a righteous person has life.' This way of faith is very different from the way of law (earning salvation), which says, 'It is through obeying the law that a person has life.'

GALATIANS 3:10-12 (NLT)

Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins.

ECCLESIASTES 7:20

...do not say to yourself, "The Lord has brought me here to take possession of this land because of my righteousness."

...It is not because of your righteousness or your integrity that you are going in to take possession of their land... It is not because of your righteousness that the Lord your God is giving you this good land to possess, for you are a stiff-necked people.

DEUTERONOMY 9:4, 5, 6

TRUTH 2. Salvation is based on Jesus' perfect payment for our mistakes (sins), not our failed attempts to become better people.

This righteousness is given by God through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

ROMANS 3:22

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.

COLOSSIANS 2:13-14 (NLT)

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 3:21-24

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

JOHN 1:29

TRUTH 3. Salvation is a free gift that we receive by choosing to trust in Jesus' payment for our sins.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 3:23-24

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 6:23

TRUTH 4. My old sin nature, and my record of sins, are both destroyed at the cross. There is no more debt that I owe or accusation that can be made against me.

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 8:1

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

COLOSSIANS 1:21-22

For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

COLOSSIANS 3:3

And if I say to a wicked person, 'You will surely die,' but they then turn away from their sin and do what is just and right...that person will surely live; they will not die.

None of the sins that person has committed will be remembered against them. They have done what is just and right; they will surely live.

EZEKIEL 33:14, 16

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

EPHESIANS 1:4, 7

i am now dead to self and alive in Christ

For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

MATTHEW 16:25

[see also Matthew 10:39; Mark 8:35; Luke 9:24]

Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

JOHN 12:25

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?

LUKE 9:25

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

MATTHEW 19:29

Crucifixion is the death of my sinful nature.

We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

ROMANS 6:2

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin.

ROMANS 6:6

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

GALATIANS 2:20

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

GALATIANS 6:14

Count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 6:11

The crucifixion of my sinful nature means the resurrection of life in a new spiritual nature.

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

ROMANS 6:4-5, 8

being born again in Jesus means living a new life through the Holy Spirit

Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."

JOHN 3:5-6

"Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

JOHN 7:38-39

The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.

JOHN 6:63

But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

ROMANS 8:10-11

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

ACTS 2:38

The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man is of heaven.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:47

we have victory over darkness through Jesus

You, however, are not controlled by sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. If Christ is in you, your body is dead to sin, but your spirit is alive because of righteousness.

ROMANS 8:9-10

You have been set free from sin and have become slaves of righteousness.

But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

ROMANS 6:18, 22

Because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

ROMANS 8:2

For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

ROMANS 8:13

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty

strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

EPHESIANS 1:18-23

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:57

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

LUKE 10:19

And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.

EPHESIANS 2:6

the spirit within us is the new law that transforms our hearts and minds

But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

ROMANS 7:6

Because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit set me free from the law of sin and death.

ROMANS 8:2

No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God.

ROMANS 2:29

For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

ROMANS 8:13

"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

JEREMIAH 31:33

The Lord your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

DEUTERONOMY 30:6

salvation is through obedience, not perfection

Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

TITUS 2:11-14

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

JAMES 2:17

The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

1 JOHN 2:4-6

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

1 JOHN 3:4-6

They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

JUDE 1:4

You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

ROMANS 6:18, 22

If I tell a righteous person that they will surely live, but then they trust in their righteousness and do evil, none of the righteous things that person has done will be remembered; they will die for the evil they have done. And if I say to a wicked person, 'You will surely die,' but they then turn away from their sin and do what is just and right... that person will surely live; they will not die.

None of the sins that person has committed will be remembered against them. They have done what is just and right; they will surely live.

If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and does evil, they will die for it. And if a wicked person turns away from their wickedness and does what is just and right, they will live by doing so.

EZEKIEL 33:13-14, 16, 18-19

other resources

Scriptures for Living in Freedom

Encouragement from God's Word

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