

# The Salvation of Humankind

**Doctrinal Statement:** *Humankind's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

**Conditions for Salvation.** *Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).*

**Evidence of Salvation.** *The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all people is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12).*

## A. Salvation through Atonement

“God’s covenant justice comes into operation through the faithfulness of Jesus the Messiah, for the benefit of all who have faith....They are freely declared to be in the right, to be members of the covenant, through the redemption which is found in the Messiah, Jesus. God put Jesus forth as the place of mercy, through faithfulness, by means of his blood.” — Romans 3:22,24-25, The Kingdom New Testament

1. Atonement = at-one-ment
  - The reuniting of humanity with God through Jesus Christ.
2. The saving work of Christ on the cross must be understood within the saving story of Scripture.
3. Salvation would come to God’s people through suffering.  
Isaiah 53:5  
But he was Pierced for Our transgressions, he was Crushed for Our Iniquities; The Punishment That Brought us Peace was Upon him, and by his Wounds we are Healed.
4. Christ’s death was a moment of liberation and victory.

## B. Results of Atonement

1. Regeneration - The Holy Spirit comes into a person's life at salvation and recreates that person. (Change of nature)
2. Reconciliation - To be reconciled with God is to change from enmity to friendship with God. (Change of relationship)
3. Redemption - "Freedom that was bought by the paying of a ransom". Redemption sets us free from the consequences of sin and the power of sin. (Change of order)
4. Justification - (1) removes the penalty for sin and (2) exchanges our guilt for God's righteousness. (Change of status)

### C. The Way of Salvation

*"It is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast"* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

1. Salvation comes from God, and we receive it by faith alone. We cannot earn it, we cannot buy it, and we cannot steal it.
2. Living, saving faith always has two companions: repentance and obedience.
3. The Assemblies of God position is that salvation involves God's sovereignty and a person's free-will.