

The *tion Words Explained: Adoption, Redemption, Salvation, Propitiation |
Rightly Dividing with David Reid

Introduction

Study on *tion words

~142 different “*tion” words

*tion is a suffix.

*tion words are nouns

Most commonly, *tion is added to a verb and converts it into a noun that refers to

- the act or process of doing something
- the result of that act
- the state or condition that follows

Of the 142 *tion words most are fairly easy to understand and their usage in the scripture is very similar to our common understanding of the word

Examples: addition, collection, description, destruction, direction, distraction, mention, nation, operation, pollution, question, situation, superstition, taxation, tradition, visitation, etc.

We are going to focus on 8 *tion words that have particular spiritual significance

adoption, justification, propitiation, reconciliation (atonement), redemption, regeneration, salvation, sanctification

Adoption

The chief obstacle to understanding this term is everyone thinks they already know what it means

Familiar with adoption meaning legal declaration that a nonbiological person is one's child

Rom 8:23 KJV - And not only [they], but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, [to wit], the redemption of our body.

Adoption can't be salvation b/c Paul says that he is waiting for it

Adoption = redemption of the body

Eph 1:5 KJV - Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Not predestinated to salvation

Predestinated to the Rapture

adoption = the redemption of our body

= the exchange of our sinful, corruptible, fleshly body for a sinless, incorruptible, spiritual body

Redemption

REDEMP'TION, *noun* [Latin *redemptio*. [See Redeem.](#)]

1. Repurchase of captured goods or prisoners; the act of procuring the deliverance of persons or things from the possession and power of captors by the payment of an equivalent; ransom; release; as the *redemption* of prisoners taken in war; the *redemption* of a ship and cargo.
2. Deliverance from bondage, distress, or from liability to any evil or forfeiture, either by money, labor or other means.
3. Repurchase, as of lands alienated. [Leviticus 25:24](#). [Jeremiah 32:7](#).
4. The liberation of an estate from a mortgage; or the purchase of the right to re-enter upon it by paying the principal sum for which it was mortgaged with interest and cost; also, the right of redeeming and re-entering.
5. Repurchase of notes, bills or other evidence of debt by paying their value in specie to their holders.
6. In theology, the purchase of God's favor by the death and sufferings of Christ; the ransom or deliverance of sinners from the bondage of sin and the penalties of God's violated law by the atonement of Christ.

In whom we have *redemption* through his blood. [Ephesians 1:7](#). [Colossians 1:14](#).

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/Redemption>

redemption of the body

Rom 8:18 KJV - For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time [are] not worthy [to be compared] with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Rom 8:19 KJV - For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Rom 8:20 KJV - For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected [the same] in hope,

Rom 8:21 KJV - Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Rom 8:22 KJV - For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

Rom 8:23 KJV - And not only [they], but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, [to wit], the redemption of our body.

“redemption of our body”

redemption = deliverance from the bondage of corruption

8:23 the adoption, [to wit], the redemption of our body

8:21 deliverance from the bondage of corruption

The physical body is continually corrupting

At the adoption, we receive an incorruptible body

1Co 15:50 KJV - Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

1Co 15:51 KJV - Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

1Co 15:52 KJV - In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

1Co 15:53 KJV - For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal [must] put on immortality.

1Co 15:54 KJV - So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

The *tion Words Explained: Adoption, Redemption, Salvation, Propitiation |
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Other verses on the redemption of the body

Eph 1:14 KJV - Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Eph 4:30 KJV - And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Rom 8:23 waiting for the adoption, [to wit], the redemption of our body
The redemption of the body is future

redemption of the soul

Rom 3:24 KJV - Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

We are justified freely through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus

Eph 1:7 KJV - In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Col 1:14 KJV - In whom we have redemption through his blood, [even] the forgiveness of sins:

Notice both verses say “we have redemption”
This is not redemption of the body, which is still in the future

In Eph 1 & Col 1, it says we have redemption
This is not redemption of the body
It is redemption of the soul

1Co 2:7 KJV - But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, [even] the hidden [wisdom], which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

mystery = hidden wisdom

Col 1:14 KJV - In whom we have redemption through his blood, [even] the forgiveness of sins:

redemption = the forgiveness of sins

Salvation

SALVA'TION, *noun* [Latin salvo, to save.]

1. The act of saving; preservation from destruction, danger or great calamity.
 2. Appropriately in theology, the redemption of man from the bondage of sin and liability to eternal death, and the conferring on him everlasting happiness. This is the great *salvation* Godly sorrow worketh repentance to *salvation* [2 Corinthians 7:10](#).
 3. Deliverance from enemies; victory. [Exodus 14:13](#).
 4. Remission of sins, or saving graces. [Luke 19:9](#).
 5. The author of man's *salvation* [Psalms 27:1](#).
 6. A term of praise or benediction. [Revelation 19:1](#).
- <https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/salvation>

#2 salvation from eternal death is the most important salvation obviously.

#1 is the general definition of salvation

salvation is the act of saving; preservation from destruction, danger or great calamity.

There are obviously different dangers and different great calamities

It is obvious from the dictionary that there is more than one kind of salvation

There are different types of salvation b/c one can be saved from different kinds of danger

Key: When you see the word “saved” or “salvation”, the question is from what?

Salvation from hell and eternal judgment

Act 4:12 KJV - Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Rom 1:16 KJV - For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Eph 1:13 KJV - In whom ye also [trusted], after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

2Ti 3:15 KJV - And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

1Pe 1:9 KJV - Receiving the end of your faith, [even] the salvation of [your] souls.

Examples of other salvations

1Ti 2:14 KJV - And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

1Ti 2:15 KJV - Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

salvation from doctrinal deception

Exo 1:22 KJV - And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.

Deu 20:16 KJV - But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee [for] an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:

salvation of physical life

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1Sa 23:2 KJV - Therefore David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines?
And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.

David saved Keilah from physical destruction

salvation = preserving from danger, and the context tells you the specific danger

Propitiation

propitiation 3x in scriptures

1Jo 2:2 KJV - And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of] the whole world.

1Jo 4:10 KJV - Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins.

propitiation is twice said to be “for our sins”

PROPITIATION, *noun* propisia'shon.

1. The act of appeasing wrath and conciliating the favor of an offended person; the act of making propitious.

2. In theology, the atonement or atoning sacrifice offered to God to assuage his wrath and render him propitious to sinners. Christ is the *propitiation* for the sins of men. [Romans 3:25](#). [1 John 2:2](#).

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/Propitiation>

Rom 3:23 KJV - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom 3:24 KJV - Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom 3:25 KJV - Whom God hath set forth [to be] a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

God set forth Jesus Christ to be a satisfaction of his wrath through faith in Christ's shed blood

propitiation = the satisfaction of God's wrath by Christ's shed blood

Justification

JUSTIFICA'TION, *noun*

1. The act of justifying; a showing to be just or conformable to law, rectitude or propriety; vindication; defense. The court listened to the evidence and arguments in *justification* of the prisoner's conduct. Our disobedience to God's commands admits no *justification*

2. Absolution.

I hope, for my brother's *justification* he wrote this but as an essay of my virtue.

3. In law, the showing of a sufficient reason in court why a defendant did what he is called to answer. Pleas in *justification* must set forth some special matter.

4. In theology, remission of sin and absolution from guilt and punishment; or an act of free grace by which God pardons the sinner and accepts him as righteous, on account of the atonement of Christ.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/Justification>

Rom 5:16 KJV - And not as [it was] by one that sinned, [so is] the gift: for the judgment [was] by one to condemnation, but the free gift [is] of many offences unto justification.

Justification forgives many offenses

Rom 5:9 KJV - Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

justification is by Christ's blood

Rom 3:28 KJV - Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. justification is by faith without the deeds of the law

Rom 3:24 KJV - Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: justification is freely by God's grace

Rom 4:25 KJV - Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

Christ was resurrected for our justification

The resurrection shows that God was satisfied with Christ's payment for sin

justification = God counting a man as forgiven of all sin and righteous on the basis of Christ's shed blood

Regeneration

Regen* 2x in scripture

regeneration, n.

1.a. The action of coming or bringing into renewed existence; recreation; rebirth; restoration.

2.a. The process or fact of being **spiritually reborn**; the state resulting from this.

REGENERA'TION, noun

1. Reproduction; the act of producing anew.

2. In theology, new birth by the grace of God; that change by which the will and natural enmity of man to God and his law are subdued, and a principle of supreme love to God and his law, or holy affections, are implanted in the heart.

He saved us by the washing of *regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Spirit. [Titus 3:5](#).

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/Regeneration>

Mat 19:28 KJV - And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

This is the first regeneration verse

This is a reference either to (1) the new earth or (2) the millennium

DW: likely it is the millennium

Mat 19:28 KJV - And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

If Matt 19:28 refers to the millennium, then regeneration is used in the sense of restoration

Tit 3:5 KJV - Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

This is the second appearance of regeneration

This is the appearance of regeneration that I want to focus on

Eph 2:1 KJV - And you [hath he quickened], who were dead in trespasses and sins;

QUICK'ENED, participle passive

1. Made alive; revived; vivified; reinvigorated.

2. Accelerated; hastened.

3. Stimulated; incited.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/quickened>

quickened = made alive who were dead

A lost person is spiritually dead in trespasses and sins

When they come to faith, they are quickened,

made spiritually alive

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Eph 2:5 KJV - Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

same idea

Col 2:13 KJV - And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Same idea of being dead in sin

When some believes, they are quickened and at the same time they are forgiven of all sins

Gal 4:28 KJV - Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

Gal 4:29 KJV - But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him [that was born] after the Spirit, even so [it is] now.

When you get saved and are made spiritually alive = born after the Spirit

Summary: when someone believes the gospel

they are quickened – they change from being spiritually dead in trespasses and sins to being spiritually alive

They receive the forgiveness of all trespasses

they are born after the Spirit

Tit 3:5 KJV - Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

regeneration = spiritual birth

“washing of regeneration” = at the moment of faith, the believer is forgiven of all their sins and spiritually reborn

Reconciliation

RECONCILIATION, *noun* [Latin reconciliatio.]

1. The act of reconciling parties at variance; renewal of friendship after disagreement or enmity. Reconciliation and friendship with God, really form the basis of all rational and true enjoyment.

2. In Scripture, the means by which sinners are reconciled and brought into a state of favor with God, after natural estrangement or enmity; the atonement; expiation.

Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression and to make an end of sin, and to make *reconciliation* for iniquity. [Daniel 9:24](#). [Hebrews 2:17](#).

3. Agreement of things seemingly opposite, different or inconsistent.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/Reconciliation>

Col 1:20 KJV - And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, [I say], whether [they be] things in earth, or things in heaven.

reconciliation = making peace

Col 1:21 KJV - And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in [your] mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

man's wicked works made him an enemy of God

Rom 5:10 KJV - For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

man is reconciled to God by the death of Jesus Christ

2Co 5:18 KJV - And all things [are] of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

2Co 5:19 KJV - To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 KJV - Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech [you] by us: we pray [you] in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

reconciliation = man's wicked works made him an enemy of God, but God has given us peace through the death of Jesus Christ

ministry of reconciliation = preaching that men who are the enemies of God can have peace with him

Atonement

ATO'NEMENT, *noun*

1. Agreement; concord; reconciliation, after enmity or controversy. [Romans 5:11](#).
Between the Duke of Glo'ster and your brothers.

2. Expiation; satisfaction or reparation made by giving an equivalent for an injury, or by doing or suffering that which is received in satisfaction for an offense or injury; with for.

And Moses said to Aaron, go to the altar, and offer thy sin-offering, and thy burnt-offering, and make an *atonement* for thyself and for the people. [Leviticus 9:7](#).

When a man has been guilty of any vice, the best *atonement* he can make for it is, to warn others not to fall into the like.

The *tion Words Explained: Adoption, Redemption, Salvation, Propitiation |
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The Phocians behaved with so much gallantry, that they were thought to have made a sufficient *atonement* for their former offense.

3. In theology, the expiation of sin made by the obedience and personal sufferings of Christ.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/atonement>

Notice that the 1st definition of atonement = reconciliation

G2643 *katallagē* cot-a-la-gay

Rom 11:15 KJV - For if the casting away of them [be] the reconciling[G2643] of the world, what [shall] the receiving [of them be], but life from the dead?

2Co 5:18 KJV - And all things [are] of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation:[G2643]

2Co 5:19 KJV - To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.[G2643]

G2643 is translated reconciling 1x
 reconciliation 2x

Rom 5:10 KJV - For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled [G2644], we shall be saved by his life.

G2644 *katallassō* cat-a-loss-o

Rom 5:11 KJV - And not only [so], but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.[G2643]

Rom 5:11 is the only time that atonement appears in the NT

Just based upon the context, you can tell that atonement means reconciled

Exo 30:10 KJV - And Aaron shall make an atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: it [is] most holy unto the LORD.

Exo 30:15 KJV - The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less than half a shekel, when [they] give an offering unto the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls.

atonement = blood offering for the soul to make payment for sin

2Ch 29:24 KJV - And the priests killed them, and they made reconciliation with their blood upon the altar, to make an atonement for all Israel: for the king commanded [that] the burnt offering and the sin offering [should be made] for all Israel.

It is reconciliation with blood that makes atonement for sin

Atonement = reconciliation = man's wicked works made him an enemy of God, but God has given us peace through the death of Jesus Christ

Sanctification

SANCTIFICA'TION, *noun* [[See Sanctify.](#)]

1. The act of making holy. In an evangelical sense, the act of God's grace by which the affections of men are purified or alienated from sin and the world, and exalted to a supreme love to God.

God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation, through *sanctification* of the Spirit and belief of the truth. [2 Thessalonians 2:13](#). [1 Peter 1:2](#).

2. The act of consecrating or of setting apart for a sacred purpose; consecration.

<https://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/Sanctification>

sanctification = setting apart for a sacred purpose

2Ti 2:16 KJV - But shun profane [and] vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

2Ti 2:20 KJV - But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

Different types of vessels

Some vessels to honour and some to dishonour

Some vessels are set apart for a higher purpose

2Ti 2:21 KJV - If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, [and] prepared unto every good work.

By shunning profane and vain babblings, one is a vessel unto honour

Lev 8:11 KJV - And he sprinkled thereof upon the altar seven times, and anointed the altar and all his vessels, both the laver and his foot, to sanctify them.

The altar and vessels are made of normal physical substances

They are not magical or supernatural

But they are sanctified / set apart for God's purposes

God sanctifies the believer at salvation

1Co 6:11 KJV - And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

1Co 1:2 KJV - Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called [to be] saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

The Corinthians were sanctified at salvation

This was not based on their personal behavior

It is a positional sanctification based on them being put in Christ

Notice "sanctified IN Christ Jesus"

Every believer has been sanctified by God at the moment of salvation

1Ch 23:13 KJV - The sons of Amram; Aaron and Moses: and Aaron was separated, that he should sanctify the most holy things, he and his sons for ever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister unto him, and to bless in his name for ever.

sanctify = to set apart for God's purposes

1Th 4:3 KJV - For this is the will of God, [even] your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

1Th 4:4 KJV - That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;

A different aspect of sanctification is the believer choosing to set himself apart from sin

sanctification = setting apart for a sacred purpose