

SALVATION

A New Start

Once we were God's enemies. But we have been brought back to him because his Son has died for us. Now that God has brought us back, we are even more secure. We know that we will be saved because Christ lives.

ROMANS 5:10

WORDS from the WORD

HEAVEN

*a place full of love and joy
where we can be with God
forever*

HELL

*a place of torment; a fiery
furnace; a place with the full
wrath of God*

SALVATION

*to be saved or rescued
from something*



Any thought, word, attitude, behavior, or action that hurts God, whether we think it's small or big, is called sin. Sin is doing things our way instead of God's way.



Imagine that you did something bad to your best friend and because of it, you became enemies. Would you want to be enemies forever or become best friends again, as if you did not do anything bad? God wants to have a very close friendship with us. In fact, He wants to be our best friend. But our friendship with Him was destroyed because of one big problem. **Do you know what that problem is?**



Romans 3:23

Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory.

The Bible says all of us are sinners. Those who do bad things, like criminals, and those who do good things, like teachers, dads and moms, boys and girls, you and I—all of us have sinned against God. It means all of us have disobeyed God. Any time we have lied, stolen, cheated, hurt others, or done something that the Bible says is sin, we destroy our relationship with God, who is holy. Being holy means He is perfect and has done nothing wrong.

Isaiah 59:2 (ERV)

It is your sins that separate you from your God. He turns away from you when he sees them.

Sin creates a space that separates us from God. That space is so huge it cannot be measured. This means that sin separates us from God forever. Because He is holy and we are not, we cannot be with Him. Sin also makes us earn something. Have you ever experienced getting paid by your parents for doing house chores? You earned something because you did something. So when we do our chores, our parents pay us. We deserve to get it because we earned it. The Bible says that when we sin, the pay we earn is death. Death is what we deserve to get. Death means being separated from God forever in hell.

Romans 6:23

When you sin, the pay you get is death.

Some people who feel far away from God think that if they do good things—go to church, read the Bible, give to the poor, or obey their parents—they will be closer to God. They think they can “earn” their friendship with God by doing good things. The Bible says that because of our sin, the only thing we earn is death, and there is nothing we can do to change it.

The good news is that God loves us so much. He doesn't want us to be separated from Him forever. Since there is nothing we can do to solve the problem, God is the one who made the solution. He made a way to bring us close to Him.

THE SOLUTION: JESUS

... but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **ROMANS 6:23 (ESV)**



God is a God who does only what is right. Because of this, He had to punish sin. But because He is loving and compassionate, He also does not want all people to be separated from Him forever. To bring us close to God, there is only one way: Jesus.

Jesus, God's only Son, is the only solution. He never sinned. He doesn't deserve death because He never disobeyed God. That is why only Jesus can pay the penalty for our sin and remove the space that separates us from God. God sent Jesus to receive the punishment we earned. He became the sacrifice and paid the price for our sin by dying on the cross. He was willing to do this for us.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Christ didn't have any sin. But God made him become sin for us. So we can be made right with God because of what Christ has done for us.

What exactly happened on the cross?

Jesus did two things through His death on the cross. First, He received the punishment that should have been for us. Second, He exchanged His sinless and perfect life for our sinful life. He took the punishment that was for us and He gave us His blessings. Can you imagine that He did that simply because He loves us so much?



THE RESULT:
SALVATION

When Jesus died on the cross, He cancelled our sin. Jesus died on the cross so that we could receive forgiveness for our sins, our relationship with God would be restored, and we could live with Him forever. That's how good our God is!

Because of His sinless life, Jesus did not stay dead. On the third day, He became alive again. Jesus won against death. That's how powerful He is!

John 3:16 (ESV)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Remember

In Jesus, we are given a
great and precious gift
— to live a new life!

THE RESPONSE: **FAITH**

To have faith in God is to believe in Him. We receive salvation when we stop trusting in the good things that we do and put our trust in what Christ did for us on the cross.

We receive God's gift of salvation by faith. It is a free gift! Even if we don't deserve to get the gift, He gives it to us because He is good. Receiving something from God that we don't deserve is called grace.



JUSTICE

Getting punished for doing something bad

MERCY

Not getting punished for doing something bad

GRACE

Not getting punished for doing something bad and even getting something good that you don't deserve

We receive God's grace when we realize our need for Him to save us, turn away from sin, and receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, putting our trust in Him alone for salvation.

Romans 10:9,10

⁹Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord." Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved. ¹⁰With your heart you believe and are made right with God. With your mouth you say what you believe. And so you are saved.

Ephesians 2:8,9

⁸God's grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn't come from anything you do. It is God's gift. ⁹It is not based on anything you have done. No one can brag about earning it.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

- Do you want to have a personal relationship with God?
- Do you understand what sin is, and do you want to stop doing things that hurt God?
- Will you let Jesus lead you, and will you obey Him for the rest of your life?

If your answer is YES, pray and believe this prayer with me!

PRAYER FOR SALVATION

Heavenly Father,

I admit that I have sinned and that my sin separates me from You.

I am sorry for my sin.

I believe Jesus died on the cross for me so my sin can be forgiven.

I believe Jesus rose from the dead and is alive.

I receive Jesus as the Lord and Savior of my life. I will obey You and live for You for the rest of my life.

In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

The Salvation Plan from the Book of Romans

Romans 3:23,24

²³Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory. ²⁴The free gift of God's grace makes us right with him. Christ Jesus paid the price to set us free.

Romans 5:8

But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 6:23

When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done.

Romans 10:9

Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord." Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved.

Romans 10:10

With your heart you believe and are made right with God. With your mouth you say what you believe. And so you are saved.

Romans 10:13

Scripture says, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Remember

Jesus' death on the cross saved us from sin and gave us a new start.

A NEW START

Congratulations on getting the most wonderful gift that any person could ever receive! You now have a new start because of what Jesus did. The next six lessons will introduce you to some of the new things that have come.



For Study Purposes



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