

What Every Christian Should Know



**Core Beliefs to Help You
Stand Strong in a Shifting World**

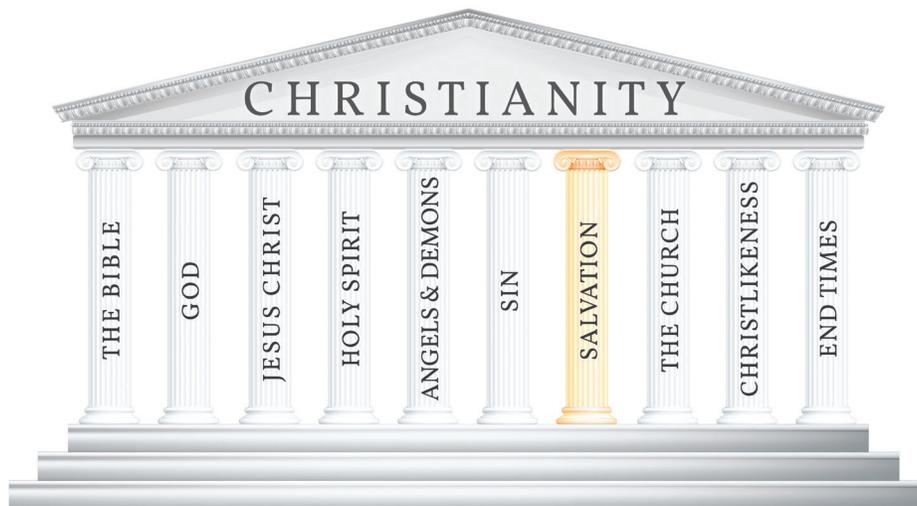
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SEPTEMBER 11, 2022**

“What Every Christian Should Know About Salvation”

JOHN 14:6

Introduction: God’s gracious offer of “salvation” is the heart of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Today, we are going to discover what we are saved from, what we are saved for, and what we are saved by.

10 PILLARS OF HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY



I. Understanding Salvation

A. The Definition of Salvation: To rescue from danger or to escape destruction.

B. The Three Aspects of Salvation

1. Justification: “I have been saved from the penalty of sin.”
(Ephesians 2:8)

Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God.”

2. Sanctification: “I am being saved from the power of sin.”
(1Corinthians 1:18)

1 Corinthians 1:18 “For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

3. Glorification: “I will be saved from the presence of sin.”
(Hebrews 9:28)

Hebrews 9:28 “So Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.”



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II. The Biblical Words Describing Salvation

A. **“Atonement”** (Genesis 3:21; Leviticus 16:15-22)

Genesis 3:21 “The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.”

B. **“Reconciliation”** (2 Corinthians 5:18-21)

2 Corinthians 5:20-21 ²⁰ “Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

²¹ He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

C. **“Redemption”** (Galatians 3:13; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

Galatians 3:13 “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, ‘CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE’—”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ¹⁹ “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰ for you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.”

Acts 4:12 “There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

III. The Exclusivity Of Salvation

A. **The Old Testament Pattern of Exclusivity**

Exodus 20:2-3 ^{2a} “I am the LORD your God... ³ You shall have no other gods before Me.”

Genesis 4:3-5 ³ “...Cain brought an offering to the LORD of the fruit of the ground. ⁴ Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering; ⁵ but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell.”

Hebrews 11:4 “By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks.”

Jude 11a “Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain...”



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Proverbs 14:12 “There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”

B. Four Objections to the Exclusivity of Salvation

Objection #1: Exclusivity Is Intolerant

Objection #2: How Can So Many People Be So Wrong?

Matthew 7:13-14 ¹³ “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴ For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

Matthew 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.”

Objection #3: All Religions Are Basically the Same

Romans 1:22-23 ²² “Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.”

Objection #4: It’s Unfair for God to Send People to Hell

Acts 17:26 “[God] made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation.”

Romans 1:18-20 ¹⁸ “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.”

C. Communicating the Exclusivity of Salvation

1. “Your argument is with the Bible, not with me.”
(John 14:6; Romans 10:9)

John 14:6 [Jesus said] “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”



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Acts 4:12 [Peter said] “There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

Romans 10:9 [Paul said] “If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

- 2. “God wants to save as many, not as few, people as possible.”**
(1 Timothy 2:3-4; Luke 19:10)

1 Timothy 2:3b-4 [Paul said] ^{3b}“...God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

2 Peter 3:9 [Peter said] “The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.”

Luke 19:10 [Jesus said] “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

- 3. “The fact that God has provided one way of salvation demonstrates His love, not His hatred.”** (Romans 5:8)

Romans 5:8 “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

IV. The Availability Of Salvation (1 John 2:1-2)

1 John 2:1-2 ¹“My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, ² and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.”

Romans 5:16-17 ¹⁶“The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification. ¹⁷ For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.”

John 1:12 “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.”

Conclusion