

Jn. 5:23b He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.

1Jn. 2:23 No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

Jn. 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."

Jn. 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Ac. 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

2Co. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Christian

Ac. 26:28-29 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?"

Paul replied, "Short time or long – I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains."

1Pt. 4:16-17 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

Ac. 11:26 ...The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

saved

1Co. 1:21 ...God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

Ac. 16:31 They [Paul and Silas] replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household."

Ro. 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

born again

1Pt. 1:23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

Jn. 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.

Jn. 3:7 [Jesus speaking to Nicodemus] You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

child of God / child of the Devil

Jn. 1:12-13 Yet to all who received him [Jesus], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Ro. 8:16-17 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Heb. 12:5-7a And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: “My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son.”
Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons.

Mt. 6:9 [Jesus speaking to his followers] “This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Jn. 8:44a You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire.

will be in heaven / will be in hell

Jn. 14:2-3 [Jesus speaking to his followers] In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

2Co. 5:1-5 [the apostle Paul writing to believers] ¹Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.

⁴For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

Pp. 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Mt. 6:20 [Jesus speaking] But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Mt. 23:33 [Jesus speaking] “You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell?”

Mt. 13:49-50 [Jesus speaking] This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace [hell], where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Lk. 16:22b-23 The rich man also died and was buried. In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.

Mt. 18:9 [Jesus speaking] And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

QUOTE We all need to be very careful not to take our wishful thinking and adopt it as though it were reality.

forgiven by God / under God's wrath

Ro. 4:4-8 Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him."

Eph. 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ac. 2:38 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.

Jn. 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."

Ro. 2:8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

righteous before God

Ro. 10:4 Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

2Co. 5:21 God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

redeemed

1Pt. 1:18-19 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Tit. 2:13-14 ...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.

Col. 1:13-14 For he [the Father] has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

justified

Ro. 4:5 However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

Gal. 2:16a Know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.

Ac. 13:39 Through him [Jesus] everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses.

1Co. 6:11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

kingdom of light / kingdom of darkness

Col. 1:12-13 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

Eph. 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light

Ac. 26:18 [God speaking to Paul] ...to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

2Co. 6:14 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

Jn. 12:46 [Jesus speaking] I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

Jn. 8:12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

eternal life

Jn. 3:16 "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.

Jn. 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."

Jn. 5:24 [Jesus speaking] "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.

Jn. 17:3 [Jesus praying] Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Lk. 18:30 [Jesus speaking] ...will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life."

1Jn. 5:11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

in Christ / of the world

2Co. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

1Co. 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

Eph 1:13a And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

Jn. 15:19 [Jesus speaking] If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.

Jn. 17:14 [Jesus is praying] I have given them [Jesus' followers] your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.

1Co. 2:12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

1. the message of salvation

2Pt. 3:9 ...He [the Lord] is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

1Ti. 2:3-4 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

God's relationship to us as Creator

Rev. 4:11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Col. 1:16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Ro. 1:18-20 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Dt. 32:6 Is this the way you repay the LORD, O foolish and unwise people? Is he not your Father, your Creator, who made you and formed you?

God's great love for us

Jn. 3:16 “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.

1Jn. 4:16a And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.
God is love.

1Jn. 3:16a This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

Ro. 5:6-8 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

QUOTE The God of the universe loves us so much that he'd rather die than live without us.

God's great justice, holiness, and righteousness

2Th. 1:6a God is just:

1Pt. 1:15-16 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

Ps. 7:11 God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath every day.

our identity as sinners, separated from God, unable to save ourselves

Ro. 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Ro. 3:10 As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one;

Ps. 5:4 You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil; with you the wicked cannot dwell.

Is. 59:1-2 Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

sin's consequences

Ro. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ez. 18:20a The soul who sins is the one who will die.

Jesus Christ paying the penalty for our sin, making possible our reconciliation w God

Ro. 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Jn. 1:29 The next day John [the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

asking for God's forgiveness, repenting

1Jn. 1:8-9 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Ho. 14:2 Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to him: "Forgive all our sins..."

Ac. 17:30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

believing in Jesus Christ

Ro. 10:9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Ac. 10:43 All the prophets testify about him [Jesus] that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Eph. 2:8-9 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.

living to please God

2Co. 5:8-9 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

1Th. 2:4 On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.

1Jn. 3:22 ...and receive from him [God] anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.

2. great security in / great assurance of God's salvation

Jn. 10:27-29 [Jesus speaking] My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

2Ti. 2:12 ...If we disown him, he will also disown us;

Jn. 15:1-6 [Jesus speaking] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

Heb. 10:26-31 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Rev. 3:5 He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels.

Mk. 4:3-6 [Jesus speaking] "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

verses 14-17 The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

QUOTE "In view of the biblical teaching that the security of the believer depends on a living relationship with Christ (John 15:6); in view of the Bible's call to a life of holiness (1 Peter 1:16; Hebrews 12:14); in view of the clear teaching that a man may have his part taken out of the Book of Life (Revelation 22:19); and in view of the fact that one who believes for a while can

fall away (Luke 8:13); [we] disapprove of the unconditional security position which holds that it is impossible for a person once saved to be lost.”

Jde. 24 To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy –

Ro. 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.”

Ps. 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?

I Jn. 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Jn. 1:12 Yet to all who received him [Jesus], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God –

2Co. 1:21a Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ.

3. use of the word “salvation” in Scripture

Eph. 2:8-9 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.

Eph. 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

Mk. 16:15-16 He [Jesus] said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Ac. 2:47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Ac. 16:30-31 He brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”
They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved – you and your household.”

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1Co. 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

2Co. 2:15 For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

1Pt. 1:9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Pp. 2:12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,

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1Pt. 1:5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Ro. 13:11 And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

Heb. 9:28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Ro. 5:9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

STORY What happens to someone who searches for truth, never hears about Christ, and then dies? Ever asked that question? Here is a true story from Iran which sheds some light on this question.

There was a man living in Tehran who always wanted to find the truth. He never had any contact with committed Christians. He never heard the gospel.

Old age approached and he had a very serious stroke. He was rushed to the hospital and was semi-conscious for three days. His family were by his bedside most of the time – and his son was there day and night. The son longed for his father to say a few words. The father never spoke, and after three days he died.

A few days later the son had a vivid dream. His father came to him and spoke about those last days in the hospital. “When I was in the hospital I saw Jesus. He told me that He was the one I'd always been looking for. He told me He was the truth, and the only way to meet God was to believe in Him.” So there, semi-conscious, this old man became a believer: Jesus didn't let him enter eternity alone.

In the dream, the father went on to apologize to his son for not talking to him. He said, “But for those three days, I was all the time with Jesus – that's why I couldn't talk to you.” The father's final words were, “Go and tell all the family about Jesus.”

The next morning the son was very excited, but very nervous. What would the rest of the family say if he asked them to believe in Christ? With apprehension he sat down at the breakfast table. He noticed his younger sister wasn't there. When he asked where she was, they said she was upset.

So he went to get her. She was sitting on her bed, knees up, head down, and crying. He sat down and gently took her hand – “What's the matter?” he asked. “I've had a dream, but you'll be upset...” She looked at her brother, a little frightened.

“Don't worry, I won't get angry,” he replied. So she told him her story. They had both had the same dream! All thirteen members of this family are now believers.