

WE
BELIEVE



A black and white photograph of a hammer, a chisel, and a pencil lying on a concrete surface. The hammer is on the right, with its head pointing towards the top right. The chisel and pencil are positioned diagonally across the center. The background is a textured concrete surface.

We Believe...

The salvation of people from penal consequences and the power of sin through the perfect obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ, His atoning death, His resurrection from the dead, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His unchanging Priesthood.



We Believe...

*The **Salvation** of people...*

(soteriology – The Doctrine of Salvation)

1. Salvation

General sense = *preserving or rescuing from harm or danger.*

Two main aspects in Scripture:

Physical salvation

- rescued from danger (*Matthew 8:25; 14:30*)
- rescued from illness (*Matthew 9:21-22; Mark 5:23*)
- rescued from demonic powers (*Luke 8:36*)

1. Salvation

General sense = *preserving or rescuing from harm or danger.*

Two main aspects in Scripture:

Physical salvation

Spiritual salvation

- saved from the penalty & power of sin (*Rom 3:23-26; 1 John 2:2*)
- restored relationship with God (*Titus 3:7; Eph 2:13; 2 Cor 5:19a*)
- given the gift of eternal life (*John 3:16; Eph 2:8*)

1. Salvation

1 Corinthians 15:1-3a (NLT)

*¹ Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. ² **It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe** the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place. ³ **I passed on to you what was most important** and what had also been passed on to me.*

1. Salvation

1 Corinthians 15:3b-8 (NLT)

³ Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵ He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

1. Salvation

Trinitarian in nature:

- we see all three persons (Father, Son, Spirit) at work in Salvation. (*cf. Ephesians 1:3-14*)

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Presented in three tenses:

- **Past:** saved from the **PENALTY** of sin (*Eph. 2:8; 2 Tim. 1:9; Titus 3:5*)
- **Present:** saved from the **POWER** of sin (*1 Cor. 1:18; 2 Cor. 2:15*)
- **Future:** saved from the **PRESENCE** of sin (*Heb 9:28; 1 Peter 1:5*)

1. Salvation

Trinitarian in nature:

- we see all three persons (Father, Son, Spirit) at work in Salvation. (*cf. Ephesians 1:3-14*)

Presented in three tenses:

- **Past:** saved from the **PENALTY** of sin (*Justification*)
- **Present:** saved from the **POWER** of sin (*Sanctification*)
- **Future:** saved from the **PRESENCE** of sin (*Glorification*)

1. Salvation

Salvation is **God's gift of grace to us** through faith in Jesus finished work at the cross!

Salvation is **NOT something we can earn** *(or ever deserve)!*

Salvation is **by grace** alone,
through Christ alone,
in faith alone!

A black and white photograph of a hammer and two chisels on a workbench. The hammer is on the right, and the two chisels are on the left. The background is a textured, light-colored surface.

We Believe...

*The Salvation of people **from penal consequences** and the power of sin through the **perfect obedience** of the Lord Jesus Christ...*

2. The PENALTY (consequences) of our sin

Sin affects **our standing** before God as **it renders us guilty**.

(Rom. 3:23; Ex. 32:33; Eph. 2:1-3; 2 Thess. 1:8-9)

Sin affects **our condition** as **it leaves us corrupt & enslaved**.

(Rom. 3:9-20; Prov. 5:22; 2 Thess. 2:10; Titus. 3:3)

Sin affects **our relationships** with one-another as **it brings us into conflict**.

(Titus. 3:3; Num. 32:23)

2. The PENALTY (consequences) of our sin

Sin affects our relationships with God as it separates us from Him.

(Gen. 3:8, 23; Isa. 59:1-2; Rom. 8:7; Eph. 4:18)

Sin affects our relationships with the natural world as it brings strife & struggle.

(Gen 3:14-19; Rom 2:9; 8:22)

Sin ultimately brings death (physical & spiritual) as a direct result of our sin.

(Rom 5:12; 6:23; Eph 2:1, 5; Isa 1:28).

2. The PENALTY (consequences) of our sin

1 John 1:5 - *God is light, in Him there is no darkness at all.*

Yet we are sinners by birth, by nature & by choice!

Our sin leaves us guilty & enslaved; we cannot save ourselves!

We need an advocate, a substitute, a saviour!

A black and white photograph of a hammer and chisel on a workbench. The hammer is on the right, and the chisel is on the left. The background is a textured surface, possibly concrete or stone.

We Believe...

*The Salvation of people from penal consequences and the power of sin through the **perfect obedience** of the Lord Jesus Christ, **His atoning death,***

3. Jesus IS our advocate, substitute & Saviour

Romans 3:23-26 (NIV)

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ **and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.** ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

3. Jesus IS our advocate, substitute & Saviour

Jesus is our **advocate** (*Romans 3:25; 1 John 2:2; cf. Lev. 16:34*)

Romans 3:25 (NIV)

²⁵ God presented Christ as *a sacrifice of atonement*, through the shedding of his blood

1 John 2:2 (NIV)

² He is *the atoning sacrifice for our sins*, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

3. Jesus IS our advocate, substitute & Saviour

Jesus is our **substitute** (Romans 5:17-19; Heb. 2:10-18)

Romans 5:17-19

¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! ¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

3. Jesus IS our advocate, substitute & Saviour

Jesus is our **substitute** (Romans 5:17-19; Heb. 2:10-18)

Hebrews 2:10-11 (NIV)

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ **Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family.** So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.

3. Jesus IS our advocate, substitute & Saviour

Jesus is our **substitute** (Romans 5:17-19; Heb. 2:10-18)

Hebrews 2:14-18 (NIV)

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.



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4. Jesus IS our mediator & high priest

Jesus is our **mediator** & **high priest** (Heb. 2:17; 4:15; 9:24-28)

Hebrews 9:24-27 (NLT)

24 For Christ did not enter into a holy place made with human hands, which was only a copy of the true one in heaven. **He entered into heaven itself to appear now before God on our behalf.** 25 And he did not enter heaven to offer himself again and again, like the high priest here on earth who enters the Most Holy Place year after year with the blood of an animal. 26 If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. **But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice.**

4. Jesus IS our mediator & high priest

Jesus is our **mediator & high priest** (*Heb. 2:17; 4:15; 9:24-28; Ps. 34:19*)

Hebrews 2:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

Hebrews 4:15 (NIV)

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.



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5. Jesus IS our sure & certain salvation

Jesus resurrection from the dead **guarantees** our salvation!

1 Corinthians 15:12-19 (NLT)

*¹² But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. ¹⁵ And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. ¹⁶ And **if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins.** ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.*

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The salvation of people from penal consequences and the power of sin through the perfect obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ, His atoning death, His resurrection from the dead, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His unchanging Priesthood.

What shall we do in response?

1. **Repent** / Turn away from your sin (*turn toward Jesus*).
2. **Believe** in Jesus / Trust in His gospel of Salvation.

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1. **Repent** / Turn away from your sin (*turn toward Jesus*).
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Ephesians 2:4-7 (NIV)

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

What shall we do in response?

1. **Repent** / Turn away from your sin (*turn toward Jesus*).
2. **Believe** in Jesus / Trust in His gospel of Salvation.

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.