

The Vocabulary of Salvation

Soteriology – the study of salvation (from *soterios* – logos).

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Adoption – believers are brought into God's family, made heirs of salvation, and given the rights and privileges in keeping with being sons and daughters of God.

- Ephesians 1:5
- Romans 8:15-17

Atonement – from the English words *at-one-ment*. Used to describe the twin ideas of substitution and satisfaction. The sinner is made to be *at one* with God through a substitute sacrifice which satisfies God's anger against sin.

- Leviticus 17:11
- Romans 3:25

Calling – God's drawing a sinner to repentance and faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ at the cross.

- Romans 8:30
- 2 Peter 1:10
- 2 Timothy 1:9

Conversion – the change of inclination and nature wrought by God in the repenting sinner.

- Acts 15:3
- Matthew 18:3

Election – God's sovereign act of choosing some for salvation.

- Ephesians 1:4
- Romans 8:33

Expiation – the removal of sin and guilt.

- Hebrews 9:26

Faith – trust in the finished work of Christ for salvation. Faith is a gift and includes intellect, affection, and volition.

- Ephesians 2:8

Glorification – final and irreversible conformity to the image of Christ which takes place for believers upon their entrance into heaven.

The Vocabulary of Salvation

- Romans 8:30
- 1 Corinthians 15:42-43

Grace – the unmerited favor of God.

- Titus 3:7
- Ephesians 2:8-10

Imputation – God credits to believing sinners the perfect righteousness of Christ, *and* God credits to Jesus at the cross all the unrighteousness of every believer.

- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Romans 4:4-6

Justification – God declares sinners *righteous* based on the finished work of Jesus Christ at the cross. Sinners are reckoned by God to have fulfilled *all* of God's righteous requirements, and to have never broken any of His commands.

- Romans 4:5
- Romans 3:28
- Romans 3:24

Perseverance – those whom God regenerates will persevere to the end and be glorified.

- Romans 8:28-30
- Philippians 1:6

Predestination – God's election of some to salvation before the world began.

- Ephesians 1:5,11
- Romans 8:29-30

Propitiation – satisfaction of divine wrath by a substitute.

- Romans 3:25
- 1 John 2:2

Mercy – the relinquishing of deserved punishment; pity upon those in a wretched state.

- Romans 9:15-16
- Titus 3:5

Reconciliation – the making of peace between parties at enmity with each other.

- Romans 5:1, 10
- Ephesians 2:12-18
- 2 Corinthians 2:18

The Vocabulary of Salvation

Redemption – the purchase of a slave for a price. God rescued sinners from their slavery to sin, corruption, and death by paying the price of His own Son.

- Romans 3:24

Regeneration – new birth accomplished by the Holy Spirit.

- John 3:3-8
- Titus 3:4-7

Repentance – literally, a change of mind; the turning from sin to Christ.

- 2 Peter 3:9

Salvation – rescue.

Past – believers *have been saved* from sin and its consequences.

- Ephesians 2:5

Present – believers *are being saved* from sin and from this world.

- 2 Corinthians 2:15

Future – believers *will be saved* ultimately when glorified.

- Romans 5:10

It can also be said that we have been saved from God, by God, and unto God.

Sanctification – being set apart.

Positional – believers are *even now* set apart unto God, seated in the heavenlies with Christ.

- Ephesians 2:6

Practical – believers *are being* set apart, progressively being conformed into the image of Christ by the Holy Spirit. We will in eternity be completely sanctified!

- Romans 6:6
- 2 Corinthians 3:18
- 2 Thessalonians 2:13
- Romans 8:29

Spirit Baptism – believers are placed by the Spirit into Christ and into the body of Christ.

- Matthew 3:11
- 1 Corinthians 12:13

Union with Christ – believers are united to Christ.

- Ephesians “in Christ” ie, 1:1,3,4,7,10,etc....
- Romans 6:5