

SALVATION VOCABULARY

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(Scripture employs some of these terminologies in multiple senses. Our focus here is restricted to its soteriological sense as applied to the salvation of individuals).

1. Election: It is the eternal, pretemporal (before the foundation of the world), unconditional, and unmerited act of God, whereby He, in His sovereign will and good pleasure, chose individuals for salvation in Christ.

2. Foreknowledge: God's perfectly purposed, intimate, intentional, and relational knowledge of everyone who is in his redemptive plan before they exist in time and space.

3. Predestination: God's eternal predetermination and preplanning of the present position and future destiny of the saved.

4. Calling: The effective, effectual and efficacious call of God in time, whereby God summons people to salvation.

5. Justification: God's announcement of a favorable verdict and judicial declaration that the person who has trusted in Jesus Christ has been restored to a state of righteousness. He/she is declared righteous.

6. Sanctification: God setting apart believers in Christ at the point of initial salvation, then to progressively growing in practical holiness and Christlikeness, ultimately to perfect sanctification or sinless perfection, at the point of glorification.

7. Glorification: Glorification is the final divine act in the application of redemption when the whole person is perfected to holiness at the rapture, when even the body of humiliation will be glorified, and the people of God will be conformed to the image of the risen, exalted, and glorified Redeemer.

8. Total Depravity: The total and pervasive corruption of sin passed down from Adam which extends to every facet of man's nature and faculties. It is the abysmal dark state of unredeemed humanity, dead in trespasses and sins, with nothing in anyone to commend him to a righteous God, unable to save himself, and totally dependent on God's grace in Christ.

9. Repentance: A genuine change of mind, leading to a resolve to turn away from sin, resulting in a change of behavior.

10. Grace: The inexhaustible goodness of God which He freely bestows upon believing sinners, which is totally free, unmerited, undeserved, unearned, and unable to be repaid.

11. Faith: Faith is the absolute reliance and confident trust that Jesus Christ is the only Savior, that He can save from the guilt and penalty of sin, and grant eternal life. Salvation is always *through* faith, not *because* of faith. Faith is the channel through which we receive God's gift of eternal life.

12. Eternal Life: The never ending spiritual life given to the believer; a life with heavenly quality, extends beyond this life to eternity. It begins the moment one trusts in Christ.

13. Regeneration: The sovereign work of God which gives new life to the one who believes in Christ.

14. "Born again": Means "reborn from above"; a spiritual birth resulting in spiritual life. The spiritual birth is in contrast to our physical birth, and that new birth comes only from heaven through the sovereign and mysterious work of the Holy Spirit.

15. Adoption: Placing the believer in God's family as an adult son with full privileges in the family.

16. Redemption: To release, buy back and deliver through the payment of a price.

17. Reconciliation: The restoration of a broken relationship; removing the hostility between two parties, and restoring peace and harmony in a relationship.

18. Substitution (Substitutionary/Vicarious Atonement): Christ's sacrificial death was a substitution for us, in our place, and instead of us, to satisfy the righteous demands of God for the payment of sin.

19. Propitiation: Placating or satisfying the wrath of God by the atoning sacrifice of Christ.

20. Imputation (of Christ's Righteousness): God's act of crediting or attributing the righteousness of Christ to sinners who trust in Him for salvation.