

## *What We Believe*

# The Doctrine of Salvation

To be saved! It is the central truth of who we are in Christ and of our relationship with God. We can be far too trite with the phrase and the doctrine though. Only through understanding what occurs when we are saved and what we are saved from can we really understand the power of God, His grace and His marvelous mercy on our behalf. Only by understanding the real, eternal peril of our neighbors who don't know God can we have the passion and mercy for them that will help us engage with them and seek to bring them to the God we love.

**BRBC Doctrinal Statement on Salvation:** Salvation from the penalty and power of sin is obtainable exclusively through Jesus Christ.

Acts 4:12      There is no salvation outside of Jesus Christ

Acts 13:38,39 Through Christ, forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you

*The Means of our rescue (WHAT God has provided):*

Salvation is bound up in the Gospel (Good News) of Jesus Christ, that is His death, burial, and resurrection, which paid the penalty for our sins. The shed blood of Jesus Christ was necessary for the forgiveness of our sin.

John 3:16              God so loved the world...

1 Corinthians 15:1-4    The gospel by which you are saved: Christ died, was buried, rose again and appeared to Cephas

*The Method of our rescue (HOW a person is saved from sin):*

Salvation is a free gift of God and can never be earned by any amount of good works. Man is saved by faith in Jesus Christ which includes repentance of his sin and acceptance of the work of Christ on the cross for forgiveness of sin. Saving faith must include an understanding of who Jesus is and what he has done for us, belief of these facts, and trust in the Person and work of Christ. Salvation, once obtained, is eternally secure.

Romans 4:4,5            Our faith is counted as righteousness

Romans 5:1              We have been justified by faith and peace with God through Jesus Christ

Ephesians 2:8-9        We have been saved by grace through faith

Acts 16:31              Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, and your house.

Ephesians 1:4-5        He (God) chose us in Him (Christ) before the foundation of the world.

Romans 8:29-30        Whom He foreknew, he predestined...called...justified ...glorified

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### A Brief Outline of the Good News of God!

1. God is...Holy, just, righteous, perfect, wrath against sin, love, peace, good

Exodus 15:11 *Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?*

1 Samuel 2:2 *There is none holy like the LORD; there is none besides You; there is no rock like our God.*

2. Man is...The opposite! Sinful, deserving of the wrath of God against our sins.

Romans 3:23 *For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God.*

Romans 6:23a *For the wages of sin is death...*

3. Jesus is...The sinless God-man, the only One who ever lived the perfectly sinless life. He is also the sacrificial lamb, who came to die in our place to absorb and take away all of the sins of those who believe in and upon Him. God vindicated His sacrifice by raising Him from the dead.

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

John 14:6 *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the father but through Me."*

1 Corinthians 15:3-6 *Christ died for our sins...he was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred at one time."*

4. Faith is...Our response to all that God has done for us. Our belief will include with it a repentance and obedience to our new Lord and Master, 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.*