

# **The Nature of Salvation**

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# 1. Introduction

**Salvation involves a change in the relationship between God and a person.**

**Salvation includes God's adoption of believers into his family, His acceptance of them as righteous and His forgiveness of their sins.**

**Salvation also includes personal renewal and transformation through the work of the Holy Spirit.**

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### A. Access to God

Romans 5:1–2

1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### A. Access to God

There are 3 parts of justification:

- a. **Grace** is **God's part** and the *ground* of justification.
- b. **Blood** is **Christ's part** and the *means* of justification.
- c. **Faith** is **our part** and the *how* of justification.

1. What is the connection between grace and salvation?

## Ephesians 2:8

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

## 2. What is grace?

**Grace has two aspects:**

- 1. Unmerited favor**
- 2. Enabling power**

3. What scriptural support do we have for grace as enabling power?

## 1 Corinthians 15:10

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

3. What scriptural support do we have for grace as enabling power?

## Ephesians 3:6-7

6 *to be specific*, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

7 of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power.

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### 1. Access to God

When we speak of the grace of God in our lives, we mean:

1. Our inability to live a perfect life
2. God's compassion and mercy toward us
3. Our total dependence upon God
4. Our lives are fulfilled by God's unmerited favor

## **2. Salvation is a change in our status before God**

### **A. Access to God**

**Christians show the grace of God by being:**

- 1. Courteous**
- 2. Kind**
- 3. Gentle**
- 4. Tenderhearted**
- 5. Compassionate**
- 6. Loving**
- 7. Forgiving**

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### A. Access to God

**Ephesians 2:13**

13 But now in Christ Jesus you who  
formerly were far off have been brought  
near by the blood of Christ.

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### A. Access to God

Hebrews 4:16

16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the **throne of grace**, so that we may **receive mercy** and **find grace to help in time of need.**

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### B. Adoption into the family of God

John 1:12

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,

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### B. Adoption into the family of God

Romans 9:8

8 That is, it is not the children of the flesh  
who are children of God, but the children  
of the promise are regarded as  
descendants.

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### B. Adoption into the family of God

**Ephesians 1:5-6**

**5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,**

**6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.**

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### B. Adoption into the family of God

#### Galatians 4:4–7

4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,

5 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

7 Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### C. An inheritance from God

Romans 8:17

17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

## C. An inheritance from God

Colossians 1:12

12 giving thanks to the Father, who  
has qualified us to share in the  
inheritance of the saints in Light.

**2. Salvation is a change in our status before God**

**C. An inheritance from God**

**Revelation 21:7**

**7 “He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.”**

**2. Salvation is a change in our status before God**

**C. An inheritance from God**

**Our inheritance in Christ is imperishable.**

**1 Peter 1:23**

**23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is,* through the living and enduring word of God.**

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### C. An inheritance from God

#### Our inheritance in Christ is imperishable and undefiled .

##### 1 Peter 1:3-5

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

## 2. Salvation is a change in our status before God

### C. An inheritance from God

#### Our inheritance in Christ is reserved.

##### Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.