

## How to “Be Saved”

In Acts 16:30, the Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas, “Sirs, what must I do to **be saved**?” That’s what we aim to answer in this lesson. Let’s look at the phrase “be saved,” in the New Testament and notice several of the passages that mention that exact phrase (in the original language). Then let’s combine all of them and get the complete picture of what it takes to “be saved.”



Let’s define the term “be saved.” This phrase comes from one Greek word in the original. It is the word **σώζω** (sode’-zo, 4982 in Strong’s Concordance) and is defined as: “1) to save, to rescue from danger or destruction 2) to deliver from the penalties of the Messianic judgment.” (Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon). This is not an obscure word, for it is used over 100 times in the Greek New Testament. It is translated in our English Bibles as: “save,” “saved,” “shall save,” “be saved,” “being saved,” “to save,” “has saved,” “will save,” “shall be whole,” “make whole,” “made whole,” and “be healed.” **Note: every verse used and referenced in this article has the Greek word sode’-zo somewhere in it.** The quotes that follow are from the New King James Version and the underlined words are the Greek word sode’zo.

So, let’s see what the Bible says about what it takes to be saved. **We are saved through...**

- 1) **God’s Grace** - “But we believe that through the **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall **be saved** in the same manner as they.” (Acts 15:11, see also Eph. 2:4-10; 2 Tim. 1:8-9; Titus 3:5).
- 2) **Jesus’ Sacrifice** - “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world **through Him might be saved.**” (John 3:17, see also John 10:9; Acts 4:12; Rom. 5:9-10; Heb. 7:25)
- 3) **Hearing the Gospel** - “For the **message of the cross** is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are **being saved** it is the power of God...through...the **message preached to save** those who believe.” (1 Cor. 1:18-21, see also John 5:34; Acts 11:13-14)
- 4) **Believing in Jesus and His Word** - “Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should **believe and be saved**” (Luke 8:12, see also Acts 16:31; Rom. 10:9; 1 Cor. 15:1-4)
- 5) **Receiving the Truth** - “...receive with meekness **the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.**” (Jas. 1:21, see also 2 Thess. 2:10; 1 Tim. 4:16)
- 6) **Repenting of past sins** - “Therefore **lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.**” (Jas. 1:21, see also Jas. 5:20)
- 7) **Confessing Jesus** - “that if you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus...you will **be saved.**” (Rom. 10:9; see also Acts 4:12)
- 8) **Baptism** - “He who believes and **is baptized will be saved...**” (Mark 16:16, see also Titus 3:5; 1 Pet. 3:21)
- 9) **Faithful Living** - “Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. **Continue in them, for in doing this you will save...yourself...**” (1 Tim. 4:16, see also 1 Cor. 15:2)
- 10) **Enduring to the End** - “But he who **endures to the end will be saved.**” (Matt. 10:22, see also Luke 9:23-25; Rom. 8:23-25)

In Acts 2:21 we read, “And it shall come to pass That whoever **calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.**” It is obvious that numbers 3 through 8 in this list are how we call upon the Lord for salvation.

God wants you to be saved. In 1 Tim. 2:4 we read that God “desires all men to **be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” **Are you saved per God’s formula?** If so, God has added you to His church: “...and the Lord added to the church daily those who were **being saved.**” (Acts 2:47)