

What do people in our world think about salvation?

- 1. Salvation is deliverance from social oppression. It is achieved by striving and revolution. (_____)
- 2. Salvation is reaching a higher consciousness, a nirvana. There are many roads to God. I seek oneness with God and this higher consciousness through stepping into authentic existence by abandoning selfish striving and ambition (_____)
- 3. Salvation is achieving full humanity – I achieve this by doing everything I can to better myself and evolving into a better person. Jesus Christ is a great example to follow and his moral teaching are worth studying (_____)
- 4. Salvation is going to heaven when I die. I can achieve this by believing, by doing good works and participating in sacraments (means of grace) that get me favor with God. (_____)
- 5. Salvation is being delivered from one sins and being assured of heaven by the grace of God through exercising faith in the finished work of Christ. (_____)

Ephesians 2:8–9 - *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

.....**You have been saved**.... – The Greek word is “sozo” – to deliver
We have been delivered from the _____ of sin.- **Romans 5:8–9** - *But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.*

We are being delivered from the _____ of sin.- **1 Corinthians 1:18** - *For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

We will be delivered from the _____ of sin.- **Romans 13:11** - *Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.*

.....**By Grace**..... – The Greek word is “charis” – The favor or good will of God

“Sola Gratia” - _____ - Grace is the unearned favor of God. It is sometimes described it as God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense

- 1. Grace alone that doesn’t stay alone -**Ephesians 2:10** - *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*
- 2. Grace alone because of His purpose - **2 Timothy 1:9** - *Who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began.*

Galatians 2:21 - *I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.*

..**Through Faith**....– The Greek word is “pistis” – to believe, to trust
“Sola Fide” - _____-Faith and believing come from the same root word that means “to entrust” and moves beyond mental assent to a commitment, an entrustment of the heart. It is the catalyst for our salvation.

- 1. Salvation by faith - **Galatians 2:16** - *Yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.*
- 2. Sanctification by faith -**Galatians 2:20** - *I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

The Christian experience starts and continues with the individual entrusting themselves to what God has provided in His plan for our salvation. My efforts or works don’t activate faith they are only an evidence of faith and as a result of faith.

Literally – “and not out of you” – Faith is not something we conjure up
Literally – “This is a gift”(Greek “doron”) of God – God’ gift
Literally – Not out of works in order that anyone can boast – This refers back to grace. Salvation is free not earned.

For..... Refers back to “in Christ Jesus” in verse 7

“Solus Christus” - _____

Acts 4:11–12 - *This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” See **John 14:6***

1. _____ in Christ - **Philippians 3:9** - *and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—*

The substitutionary work of Christ is at the heart of what God has provided for us. He did what He did in our place. No one else could do what Jesus Christ did for us. Nothing more needs to be done for us than what Jesus Christ has already done.

2. _____ in Christ - **1 Corinthians 1:30** - *And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption.*

Jesus Christ is the foundation of all that we have. He provided it in its totality. He is the fulfillment of all that God asks of us.

In Conclusion: We Believe in Salvation

1. “Sola Fide” - Faith Alone – Not faith plus anything else and the faith as well is a gift from God.
2. “Sola Gratia” - Grace Alone – Not grace plus works or sacraments because then our salvation would not be a gift but a reward.
3. “Solus Christus” - Christ Alone – Not Christ plus the Church or plus the philosophy of men. Jesus Christ is sufficient on His own.

