Thank the Lord Jesus Christ for dying on the cross for you and your sins: Thank Him for rising from the dead in order to give you eternal life and ask Him to fill you with the Holy Spirit.

Example Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus,

I admit that I am a sinner and I am in need of You and Your forgiveness. I want to turn away from my sins and follow You completely. Jesus I want You to be my Lord and Master and I open my heart and my whole being and invite you into my life.

I believe that You are the Son of God who died on the cross for me and for all my sins; that You were buried, rose to life again and that You are coming back again. I accept the Father's gift of eternal life through faith and belief in You alone. I receive You as Lord and Saviour of every part and area of my life forever and ever. Now Lord, please fill me with Your Holy Spirit.

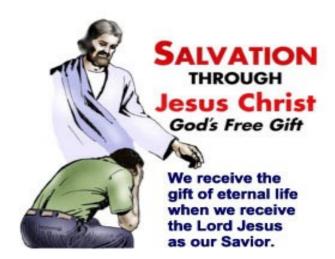
I pray this in Your precious name, Lord Jesus. Amen

John 1:12 says, "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

What does not save us

- 1. Belonging to the Roman Catholic Church or any other Church.
- 2. Parents are reborn Christians (God does not have grandchildren)
- 3. Praying to Mary or the Saints
- 4. Doing works of penance
- 5. Charity and helping others
- 6. Church traditions
- 7. Being religious and praying in public
- 8. Going to Church every Sunday
- 9. Try to keep the commandments
- 10. Believing in God (The devil does too and is not saved)
- 11. Pope and Saints
- 12. Sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church
- 13. Baptism and infant baptism
- 14. Doing more good than bad deeds

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What is Salvation?

by Matt Slick

Salvation is being saved from the righteous judgment of God upon the <u>sinner</u>.

A lot of people think that salvation means being saved from yourself or the devil. But that is not accurate. All who have sinned against <u>God</u> are under the judgment of God. This judgment is known as damnation where God condemns to eternal hell all those who have offended Him by breaking His Law.

This does not mean that God is unfair. It shows that God is <u>holy</u>. God must punish the sinner. But, He has provided a way of escape so that people will not face His righteous judgment. This means that God is both holy and loving. He must manifest each quality equally. So, being saved from the wrath of God is called salvation.

Salvation is found in <u>Jesus</u>, and only in Jesus, who is God in flesh (<u>John 1:1,14</u>), and who

died for our sins and rose from the dead. 1 Cor. 15:1-4 says...

"Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,"

This is how salvation works: All of us have sinned against God and deserve judgment. But Jesus never sinned (1 Pet. 2:22). He lived the Law of God perfectly. In this He has a perfectly righteous standing before God. When the corrupt Jewish leaders forced Rome's hand into crucifying Jesus, God used this crucifixion as the means to place the sins of the world upon Jesus (1 Pet. 2:24; 1 John 2:2). This is when Jesus became sin on our behalf. 2 Cor. 5:21 says,

"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the right-eousness of God in Him."

The crucifixion became the place where Jesus bore our sins in His body and suffered in our place. "But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed," (Isaiah 53:5). Remember, no sinner

could please God perfectly and no sinner could offer a perfect sacrifice to God. Only God in flesh, Jesus, could do that.

So, since there is nothing we can do that is righteous before God (Isaiah 64:6 says our righteous deeds are filthy rags), then we cannot please an infinitely holy and righteous God by anything we do. But, Jesus who is perfectly righteous before God the Father, died in our place. What we could not do, He did. If you want to escape the righteous judgment of God, then you need to trust in the sacrifice of God. You need to be made right before God, by God. This righteousness of Christ is given to you if you accept him, trust in Him, and believe in what Jesus did. This is why the Bible says that we are saved by grace through faith. "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God," (Eph. 2:8).

When you trust in what Christ has done on the cross, and in no works of your own (since they aren't good enough anyway), then the right-eousness of Christ is given to you -- even as your sins were "given" to Jesus. It's like a trade. He gets your sin. You get His right-eousness.

Once you have trusted in what Christ has done, then you possess eternal life and you will never face the judgment of God.

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give eternal life to

them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand," (John 10:27-28).

What must I do to be saved?

When we accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour we have to do certain things in a certain order. A lot of people don't understand what it means to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour

It means a real heart conviction that your present life is messed up, corrupted by sin and that you need a new start. It is like falling in a swamp; you can't pull yourself out; you need someone to help you. This person is Jesus Christ. He can and will rescue you if you call upon His name, confess that you are a sinner and ask Him to come into your heart. How can you do this?

Turn to the Lord in prayer. Tell Him that you want to believe in Him, and ask Him to forgive your sins. Repent from your old life and turn around towards the Lord. This means that you deeply regret what you have done in your life and that you will make a new start with Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour.

Invite Him into your life. Tell Him that you want Him to be your Lord and Master and that you want Him to take over the leadership of your life for the rest of your life.