

## The "5 Truths" of the Gospel

**Truth #1: Already Forgiven** – all of your sins were forgiven on the Cross of Christ, except the sin of unbelief. Mark 3:28; Romans 5:10a; John 16:8-9

**Truth #2: Made Clean** – when you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God takes out your old sinful spirit (heart) and gives you a brand, new clean heart. Romans 6:6; Romans 6:17-18; John 3:3,7

**Truth #3: Made Righteous** – as a Christian, you are now righteous in your spirit because Jesus, in the form of the Holy Spirit, lives in you. 2 Peter 1:4

**Truth #4: In Union** – you are "in Christ" because Jesus joins as one with you in your spirit. John 14:20; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Colossians 1:27

**Truth #5: By Faith** – you are righteous on the inside but your body is still dead to sin. Follow by faith the inner life of Christ so that you can live a righteous life. Romans 8:10; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 3:3b

## The "5 Keys" to Understanding the New Testament

**Key #1: Teaching of the Holy Spirit** - only the Holy Spirit can make the Bible come alive since your human mind is incapable of understanding God's spiritual truths. 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

**Key #2: Proper Context** - the New Testament must be understood in its proper Jewish context. Otherwise, the message gets misinterpreted and is dramatically changed. Romans 9:4; John 4:22b

**Key #3: Spiritual Beings** - all people have an inner spirit and an outer mortal body. Christians have a "born again" spirit that is righteous, but they still live in their not-yet-redeemed mortal bodies. 2 Corinthians 4:16, 5:1-6; Ephesians 4:24

**Key #4: Jesus Emptied Himself** - Jesus lived by the power of the Holy Spirit that He received at His baptism. Jesus lived by faith and not by His own power. Therefore, He is your model for a life of faith. John 14:10b; Matthew 12:28; Matthew 12:18

**Key #5: Hebrew Law** - God gave the Law only to the Jews; the Gentiles have never been under the Law. Romans 2:14; Hebrews 7:18, 28; Hebrews 8:13

John 1:29 The next day he {John the Baptist} saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God **who takes away the sin of the world!**"



2 Corinthians 5:19a namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, **not counting their trespasses against them,...**



Colossians 1:20 and through Him to **reconcile all things** to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, **whether things on earth or things in heaven.**



1 John 2:2 He is the sacrifice for our sins. He takes away not only our sins but the **sins of all the world.** (NLT)

## True Gospel Ministries, Inc.

P.O. Box 11222  
Spring, TX 77391-1222



[www.TrueGospelOfJesusChrist.org](http://www.TrueGospelOfJesusChrist.org)



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## True Tracts

# Do You Understand "Salvation"?

Being "Born again" means the same thing as being "saved." The forgiveness of sins was necessary before you could be born again, but you are not "saved" until you are spiritually "born from above."



John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.**"



1 Peter 1:23 **for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is,** through the living and enduring word of God.



1 Peter 1:3b ... 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,**

## New Testament Misinterpreted

If you ask the average Christian what it means to be saved, most will say that it means your sins are forgiven. But, that is not what the Bible teaches. Jesus said that in order to see the Kingdom of God, "You must be born again."

Early church leaders made several mistakes in their understanding of the New Testament. The most damaging was they tried to interpret Scripture with their own human understanding instead of relying on the "illuminating revelation" of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:12-13a Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, **but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God**, [13] which things we also speak, **not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit**,

Church leaders also interpreted the New Testament from a Gentile perspective and neglected its proper Jewish context.

Do you study what scholars have written or do you ask God in faith to teach you His truth? God will teach you and transform your mind.

1 Corinthians 2:5 so that **your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God**.

## What is Salvation?

Being "saved" is the same thing as being "born again." It is not forgiveness that saves you although forgiveness was necessary **before** you could be born again. But, forgiveness is **not** the same thing as being "saved."

The Bible teaches that all sins except unbelief were forgiven **on** the Cross. You probably weren't taught that in church; yet, Scripture says ...

Mark 3:28 Truly I say to you, **all sins shall be forgiven the sons of men** (Jesus said this before this Cross)

Romans 5:10a For if while we **were enemies**, we **were reconciled** {forgiven} to God through the death of His Son,

How can you confess, believe, repent or be baptized while you are still the enemy of God? It is the **gift of righteousness**, not the gift of forgiveness, that is conditioned on faith. (See back panel.)

Romans 5:17b ... much more **those who receive** the abundance of grace and of **the gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

Universal forgiveness is **not** teaching universal salvation. You must be made new and righteous in your spirit before you can be saved. Faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to be born again and, therefore, the only way to be "saved."

## Why You Cannot Lose Your Salvation

The often taught idea that you can lose your salvation is doing great harm to Christians; those who teach this do not understand what it means to be saved.

There is no possibility that you can ever lose your salvation because you have a new, clean spirit and you have the Holy Spirit living in you.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that **the Spirit of God dwells in you?** [17] ... **for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.**

(Saying "the Holy Spirit lives in you" is saying the very same thing as "Jesus lives in you.") If Jesus is always acceptable to God (and He is), then you are always acceptable to God because Jesus lives in you.

Romans 5:10b ... much more, having been reconciled, **we shall be saved by His** {indwelling} **life**. (Also see Galatians 2:20)

Only your inner spirit was redeemed and "saved" when you trusted Christ. That is why your not-yet-redeemed physical body goes to the grave when you die; it will not be redeemed until sometime in the future.

Romans 8:23b ... waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, **the redemption of our body**.