

What about salvation and the Bible today?

Short answer:

The simple answer is by faith. (*Heb 11:1*) “*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, being convinced of what we do not see.*” The question is: ‘what is the object of our faith?’ (*Rom 10:17*) “*Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.*”

Biblical order is Biblical Facts > Faith > Feelings. Feelings do not come first. Feelings are the responders of the soul or heart. Feelings are to follow and respond to our understanding of Scripture, but they are never a safe guide to what we should believe or of the state of our salvation. Christianity is the only religion that has an assurance of salvation.

Long answer:

The standard:

(*Matt 5:48*) “So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

The problem:

(*Rom 3:23*) “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

(*Rom 5:12*) “...So then, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all people because all sinned”

(*Rom 3:10-12*) “...There is no one righteous, not even one, there is no one who understands, there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, together they have become worthless; there is no one who shows kindness, not even one.” (*Ps 14:1-3*)

The inevitable outcome without God’s intercession:

(*Rom 6:23a*) “For the payoff of sin is death...”

(*Ex 34:7*) “...but He by no means leaves the guilty unpunished...”

(*Ezek 18:4*) “Indeed! All lives are mine - the life of the father as well as the life of the son is mine. The one who sins will die.”

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(Col 3:6b) "...the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience."

However, God is love, does love us, and did intercede:

(Ex 34:6-7) "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, and abounding in loyal love and faithfulness, keeping loyal love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin..."

(Jer 31:3) In a far-off land the Lord will manifest himself to them. He will say to them, I have loved you with an everlasting love. That is why I have continued to be faithful to you.

(Rom 5:8) "But God demonstrates his own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

(Rom 6:23b) "...the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

(Rom 1:16-17) "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is God's power for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For the righteousness of God is revealed in the gospel from faith to faith, just as it is written, The righteous by faith will live."

(Eph 2:8-9) "For by grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; it is not from a works, so that no one can boast."

(Acts 16:31) "...believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved..."

(Rom 8:1a, 4b) "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."

(Rom 10:9-13) "because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and thus has righteousness and with the mouth one confesses and thus has salvation. For the scripture says, Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame. For there is no distinction between the Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord is Lord of all, who richly blesses all who call on him. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

(1John 1:9) "But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous, forgiving us our sins and cleansing us from all unrighteousness."

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(1John 5:11-12) “And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. The one who has the Son has this eternal life; the one who does not have the Son of God does not have this eternal life.”

(Acts 4:11-12) “This Jesus ‘is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, that has become the cornerstone.’ And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among people by which we must be saved.”

(John 1:12-13) “But to all who have received him- those who believe in his name - He has given the right to become God’s children - children not born by human parents or by human desire or a husband’s decision, but by God.”

(Rom 8:14-17) “For all who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery leading again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit himself bears witness to our spirit that we are God’s children. And if children, then heirs (namely, heirs of God and also fellow heirs with Christ) - if indeed we suffer with him so we may also be glorified with him.”

(1John 2:1-2) “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous One, and He himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for our sins but also for the whole world.”

(1John 5:13) “ And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. The one who has the Son has this eternal life; the one who does not have the Son of God does not have this eternal life. I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.”

(John 17:20) “I am not praying only on their (*his disciples*) behalf, but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their testimony, that they will all be one, just as you, Father, are in me and I am in you. I pray that they will be in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me. The glory you gave to me I have given to them, that they may be one just as we are one - I in them and you in me - that they may be completely one, so that the world will know that you sent me, and you have loved them just as you have loved me.”

(Rev 3:20) Listen! I am standing at the door and knocking! If anyone hears my voice and opens the door I will come into his home and share a meal with him, and he with me.”

(Heb 13:8) Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever!