

Jude 1:1 - 3 (NASB)

¹Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James,

To those who are the **called**, beloved in God the Father, and **kept** for Jesus Christ:

²May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.

³Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you **contend** earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

Called: The calling of God is the privilege, the challenge and the inspiration of the Christian life.

Christians are those who are called by God. The Greek for to call is *kalein*; and *kalein* has three great areas of use:

(a) It is the word for summoning a man to office, to duty, and to responsibility. **The Christian is summoned to a task, to duty, to responsibility in the service of Jesus.**

(b) It is the word for summoning a man to a celebration or a festival. It is the word for an invitation to a happy occasion. **The Christian is one who is summoned to the joy of being the guest of God.**

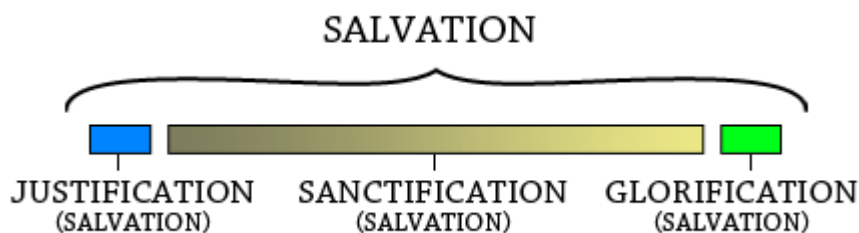
(c) It is the word for summoning a man to judgment. It is the word for calling one to court that he may give account of himself. **The Christian is in the end summoned to appear before the judgment seat of Christ.**

Q. what is salvation? (i.e. what does it mean to be saved?)

A. The words salvation and saved mean to be rescued, delivered or protected from something.

- Salvation is deliverance from danger or suffering.
- To save is to deliver or protect. The word carries the idea of victory, health, or preservation.
- Biblical salvation refers to our deliverance from the consequence of sin and therefore involves the removal of sin. "The deliverance, by the grace of God, from eternal punishment for sin which is granted to those who accept by faith God's conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus."
- Salvation is available in Jesus alone and is dependent on God alone for provision, assurance, and security.

Acts 4:12 (NLT) ¹²There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved."



MONDAY MORNING MOMENT: Action Step

"Refuse to be an average Christian. Totally reject mediocrity in your life!"

Philippians 2:12 (NLT)

¹²Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear.

Past: *justification*

(Pre-historic past)

Eph 1:4 (NLT)

⁴Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. (also 2 Tim. 1:9)

(Historic past)

Rom 5:9 (NASB)

⁹Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

Present: *sanctification*

Heb 7:25 (NLT)

²⁵Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.

Rom 13:11 - 12 (NLT)

¹¹This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

¹²The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living.

Future: *glorification*

Heb 9:27 - 28 (NLT)

²⁷And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment,

²⁸so also Christ died once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him. (also 1 John 3:1-3)

Q. Is it possible for people who are saved to lose their salvation?

A. The Bible says, "No!" One who is saved cannot be "un-saved" but, has everlasting life and is passed from death unto life".

- **John 5:24 (NLT)**

²⁴"I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

Eternal life by definition cannot be temporary. It is the present possession of all those who have truly accepted Jesus.

Romans 8:28-39 reveals clearly that there is nothing in the universe that can separate true believers from the love of God. The One who chose to save you "is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy"

- **Jude 1:24 (NLT)**
24Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault.
- **Eph 1:13 - 14 (NASB)**
13In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,
14who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own possession*, to the praise of His glory.

Q. But what about so-called backsliders? Weren't they saved at one time?

A. According to Scripture, people who profess to know Jesus at one time but later deny Him were never really saved to begin with.

- **1 John 2:19 (NLT)**
19These people left our churches, but they never really belonged with us; otherwise they would have stayed with us. When they left, it proved that they did not belong with us.

Examples:

John 6:64; 66 - 67 (NASB) 64"But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. 66As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore. 67So Jesus said to the twelve, "You do not want to go away also, do you?" (also *Matt. 7:21-23*)

A true believer will never depart from the faith, so those who do so are revealing that they were never truly saved.

- **John 8:31 (NLT)**
31Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain (*continue*) faithful to my teachings.
- **Heb 3:14 (NLT)**
14For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.
- **Phil 1:6 (NLT)**
6And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.