

Does salvation mean deliverance from the presence of sin (i.e., the removal of our innate tendency toward sinning itself)?

And is salvation simply deliverance from sin, or is it also deliverance to a right relationship to God and to life and to a prevailing tendency toward righteous behavior?

(3) What is "the righteousness of God"?

In the letter to the Romans there are actually four meanings of the term, "the righteousness of God."

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First, there is God's characteristic of righteousness, that quality or perfection of His nature that speaks of His uprightness of character and His actions, and also of His justice.

Second, there is God's standard of righteousness, His law, which defines righteousness and unrighteousness for human beings and reflects His characteristic of righteousness.

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Third, there is God's gift of a right relationship to Him and to His law.

Fourth, there is God's production of upright character and conduct in human beings.

(4) What is "faith"?

Verse 16 says that the gospel is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.

Verse 17 says that in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last.

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Sometimes the word "faith" simply means "belief" in someone or something.

*Sometimes "faith" means belief in God's existence or power.*

Sometimes "faith" means belief in the person or life or teachings of Jesus Christ.