

Jesus and Salvation

1. **What** is the role of Jesus in salvation?
2. **How** does the role of Jesus in salvation work?
3. **Why** is the role of Jesus in salvation important?

1. **What** is the role of Jesus in salvation?

Jesus's role in salvation is to facilitate atonement, which is the process by which the relationship between God and human beings is restored. For Christians, Jesus's sacrifice on the cross makes forgiveness possible, which, in this case, refers to being pardoned by God for sinful behaviour. Write definitions for "atonement", and "forgiveness".

Atonement

Forgiveness

Debate rages about precisely how atonement happens; in other words, there is much disagreement over the mechanics. Crudely put, Christians agree that the crucifixion is something that produces human salvation but disagree about how exactly it works. Make a note about three different Christian theories.

What the Role of Jesus in Salvation Is

Ransom Theory

Satisfaction Theory

Scapegoat Theory

2. **How** does the role of Jesus in salvation work?

In the most famous formulation of ransom theory, proponents argue that Adam and Eve sold humanity into bondage to Satan and eternal death by sinning in the Garden of Eden. In order to save humanity from Satan, God the Father gave his son, Jesus, as a ransom payment. A more popular hypothesis since the first half of the second millennium is satisfaction theory. According to its proponents, God requires satisfaction for human disobedience, which is why the just punishment he metes out for it is death. Make a note about how ransom theory and satisfaction theory work.

How the Role of Jesus in Salvation Works	
Ransom Theory	Satisfaction Theory

3. **Why** is the role of Jesus in salvation important?

How Christians conceive of Jesus's role in salvation reveals a lot about the nature of God the Father. They learn from his apparent desire to absolve humanity from the consequences of sin by sacrificing his only son that he is both benevolent and forgiving. Likewise, Christians infer that God the Father wants a personal relationship with them like the one he had with Adam and Eve. Christians claim that God wants to restore this relationship and that his sacrifice of Jesus demonstrates how important it is. Make a note about why the the role of Jesus in salvation is important.

Why the Role of Jesus in Salvation Is Important