

Paul, in the epistle to the Romans, attempts to portray God's plan of salvation in a concise and clear manner. In doing so, he uses Greek words whose meanings are not widely known today. Here is a brief glossary of the key terms of salvation in this book:

English Term	Greek Term	References	Meaning
Faith	pistis	(1:17;4:9;12:6)	"Belief, trust"; faith is the means by which sinful people can experience and enjoy all the blessings of salvation. It is a complete trust in Jesus for salvation from sin and the coming judgement.
Gospel	euangelion	(1:16; 11:28)	"Good News"; Paul uses this word to refer to the wonderful message of forgiveness and eternal life in Christ.
Grace	charis	(1:5; 5:2;12:3)	"The unmerited favor of God"; this term refers to God's inexplicable giving of good things (especially salvation) to undeserving people who could never earn it. Salvation is a free gift made possible by Christ's death on our behalf.
Justification	dikaiosis	(4:25: 5:18)	"The act of being declared righteous"; a legal term used by Paul to describe the spiritual transaction whereby God (the Judge) declares those who trust in Christ and what He has done for them on the Cross, to be acceptable before Him. Such a verdict is possible only because Christ has settled all the claims of the law against sinners.
Law	Nomos	(2:12; 4:13; 7:12; 10:4; 13:8)	"The commandments given by God"; Paul emphasizes both the holy character of the Law and the inability of sinful people to live according to it. The law becomes a burden and a curse, until we allow it to point us to Christ, who perfectly fulfills all its requirements.
Propitiation	hilasterion	(3:25)	"The satisfaction of God's holy wrath against sin"; rebellion against God results in the wrath of God and must met with judgement. By dying in our place and taking our sins upon Himself, Jesus satisfies God's righteous anger against all who believe.
Redemption	apolutrosis	(3:24; 8:23)	"The act of freeing someone by paying a purchase price"; this economic term is used by Paul in a theological sense to describe how Christ paid the penalty required by God for our sins (that is, death) by giving His own life on the Cross. When we believe, Jesus frees us from sin.
Righteousness	Dikaiosune	(3:5; 5:17; 9:30)	"God's standard of purity"; or "God's own truthfulness and faithfulness"; God is holy, therefore He cannot tolerate sin. It is through Jesus Christ that we can find righteousness that is acceptable to God. Christ not only takes away our sins, but grants us His perfect purity.
Salvation	soteria	(1:16; 10:10)	"Deliverance"; this word is often used in the Bible to describe someone being rescued from physical harm. The word is used by Paul chiefly to denote deliverance from sin and its deadly consequences.
Sin	Hamartia; hamartema	(3:9; 5:12; 7:11; 8:2; 14:23)	"Missing the mark" or "disobedience to God's law"; several different Greek words are used by Paul to describe the tendency of humans to rebel against God. Sin can be broadly defined as any attitude or action that opposes the character and the will of God. Sin is what brings death - that is, separation from God.