THE QUESTION

Did early Christian writers give a short definition of a saint?

Asked by a THF member on May 23, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 12 numbered quotations · the 23 early Christian passages and 237 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/did-early-christian-writers-give-a-short-definition-of-a-saint

The short answer *From the text: says what the passages say*

Yes. The clearest short definition comes from John Chrysostom: every believer is a saint because he believes. Other writers do not give a one-line definition, but they use the word the same way, for God's faithful, holy people who belong to Christ, while still urging them to grow in holy living.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 8

Every believer is a saint

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

This is the most direct definition in these passages. John Chrysostom says a person is a saint simply because he is a believer. He adds that this is true even of someone who lives an ordinary life in the world, not only monks. He sums it up by saying that faith is what makes a person a saint.

1 “For every believer is a saint in that he is a believer. Even if he is a person living in the world, he is a saint.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **John Chrysostom,** *Homilies on Hebrews* 10 (c. 386–407 AD) **Source 21, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

Paul called all the faithful saints

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Chrysostom notices that the apostle Paul greets whole churches as people called to be saints. He explains that the church in Rome held both rulers and poor people, yet Paul wrote to them all under one name. In this reading, saint is not a rank for a few. It is the shared name of everyone God has called.

2 “He also describes the faithful as called to be saints. But although they had been called in the sense that they had become believers, a different thing had also been entrusted to him, namely, the Apostleship.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **John Chrysostom,** *Homilies on Romans* (c. 386–407 AD) **Source 22, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

3 “For since it was likely that among the believers there were some consuls and rulers, as well as poor and ordinary people, he puts aside the differences of rank and writes to them all under one name.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **John Chrysostom,** *Homilies on Romans* (c. 386–407 AD) **Source 20, page 7** Read it in the library ›
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POINT 3 OF 8

Some are saints in faith and life

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Chrysostom does make one distinction. Some believers, like those who left the world for the mountains, are saints both by faith and by their way of life. Others are saints by faith, and many of them by life too. Clement of Alexandria likewise says all the faithful are good, yet some are more elect and stay humble about it.

4 “They are indeed saints both in manner of life and in faith. These others, however, are saints by their faith, and many of them also in manner of life.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **John Chrysostom,** *Homilies on Hebrews* 10 (c. 386–407 AD) **Source 21, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

5 “So all the faithful are good and godlike, and worthy of the title with which they are encircled as with a diadem.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Who Is the Rich Man That Shall Be Saved?* 36 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 10, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

Origen says the saints are the living

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Origen reads Jesus' words that God is the God of the living. Since God is also called the God of the saints, he reasons that the saints are the truly living. For Origen, being alive to God and being holy go together. He also says no one truly pleases God without entering the company of the saints.

6 “If, then, He is the God of the saints, and is called the God of the living, then the saints are the living, and the living are saints. There is no saint outside the living.”

later in the same passage

“No one pleases God well who has not entered the rank of the saints, or the place of the saints.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Commentary on John* 2 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 11, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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POINT 5 OF 8

A share among the saints for believers

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Polycarp prays that God will give his readers a portion among His saints. He extends that same hope to everyone under heaven who will believe in Jesus Christ and His Father. He does not define the word, but he links belonging with the saints to faith in Christ, not to some special status.

7

"But may the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ Himself, who is the Son of God, and our everlasting High Priest, build you up in faith and truth, and in all meekness, gentleness, patience, long-suffering, forbearance, and purity; and may He bestow on you a lot and portion among His saints, and on us with you, and on all that are under heaven, who shall believe in our Lord Jesus Christ, and in His Father, who "raised Him from the dead.""

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Polycarp,** *Epistle to the Philippians* (c. 100–155 AD)
THF's updated English

Source 6, page 7 Read it in the library ›

POINT 6 OF 8

The saints of old were saved by Christ

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Ignatius speaks of the prophets and other holy people before Christ came. He says they were saved by Christ because they hoped in Him and waited for Him. He calls them holy ones worthy of love. So for Ignatius, what makes a saint is holiness that comes through Christ, even for those who lived long before.

8

"All the saints, therefore, were saved by Christ, hoping in Him, and waiting for Him; and they obtained salvation through Him, being holy ones, worthy of love and admiration, having testimony given to them by Jesus Christ, in the Gospel of our common hope."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (c. 98–117 AD)
THF's updated English

Source 3, page 6 Read it in the library ›

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POINT 7 OF 8

Holiness is a call to keep pursuing

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Clement of Rome urges believers to join themselves to holy people, whom he describes as innocent, righteous and chosen by God. An old church prayer invites the holy to come near to communion and tells anyone who is not holy to become so by repentance. Being a saint is a gift received by faith, and also a life to grow into.

9 “Let us join, therefore, to the innocent and righteous, since these are the elect of God.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Source 23, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

10 “If anyone is holy, let him come near. But if anyone is not, let him become so through repentance.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 18, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 8 OF 8

Saints were living believers to seek and help

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Early church rules speak of the saints as fellow believers here on earth. The Didache tells Christians to seek out the saints every day for encouragement from their words. The Apostolic Constitutions tells the faithful to support the saints, such as those in prison for Christ, from their own money and work.

11 “And day by day you shall seek out the faces of the saints, so that you may rest upon their words.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Didache,** *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 4 (c. 50–120 AD) **Source 1, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

12 “For this reason, all you who are faithful must, through your bishop, minister to the saints from your possessions and from your labor.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 15, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

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THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- Only John Chrysostom gives a plain one-sentence definition here; the other writers show the meaning by how they use the word.
- These passages do not explain the later practice of naming certain people as saints after their death.
- They also do not settle questions about asking the saints in heaven to pray for us.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 23 early Christian passages and 237 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–23, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 24–136, in Bible order), then 124 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF’s updated English unless marked “1885 English” (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). “… [continues online]” marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *23 passages from 10 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · sources 1–2*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 4 (1885 English) **Quote 11, page 5** “you shall seek out day by day the faces of the saints, in order that you may rest upon their words… [continues online] **read ›**

2 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 10 (1885 English; on point 7) “to the God (Son) of David! If any one is holy, let him come… [continues online] **read ›**

Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · sources 3–5*

3 *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (1885 English) **Quote 8, page 4** “they obtained through Him salvation, being holy ones, worthy of love and admiration, having testimony borne to them by Jesus Christ, in the Gospel of our common hope… [continues online] **read ›**

4 *Epistle to the Trallians* (on point 2) “from these, there is no elect Church, no congregation of holy ones, no assembly of saints… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (1885 English; on point 6) “whom also believing, they were saved, through union to Jesus Christ, being holy men, worthy of love and admiration, having had witness borne to them by Jesus Christ, and being… [continues online] **read ›**

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Polycarp, *c. 100–155 AD · source 6*

6 *Epistle to the Philippians* **Quote 7, page 4** “may He bestow on you a lot and portion among His saints, and on us with you, and on all that are under heaven, who shall believe in our Lord… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · source 7*

7 *Against Heresies: Book V* (1885 English; on point 3) “then, are the perfect who have had the Spirit of God remaining in them, and have preserved their souls and bodies blameless, holding fast the faith of God, that is… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 8–10*

8 *Instructor* 2.7 (on point 7) say to him a word of reproach.” Sirach 31:31 For if we are especially commanded to associate with saints, it is a sin to jibe at a saint. For… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Instructor* 2.6 (1885 English; on point 7) “to the good. Romans 12:9 For he who associates with the saints shall be sanctified… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Who Is the Rich Man That Shall Be Saved?* 36 (1885 English) **Quote 5, page 3** “All the faithful, then, are good and godlike, and worthy of the name by which they are encircled as with a diadem… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 11–13*

11 *Commentary on John* 2 **Quote 6, page 3** “name to His own title as God, as Paul says in Hebrews 11:16, "Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God." He is the God, therefore, of… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *De Principiis (On First Principles)* 3 (1885 English) “a share in the Holy Spirit we find possessed only by the saints… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *Commentary on John* 2 the Holy Spirit supplies to those who, through Him and through participation in Him, are called saints, the material of the gifts that come from God. So this material of… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · source 14*

14 *Treatises* (1885 English; on point 5) “are they numbered among the children of God, and their lot is among the saints… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 15–19*

15 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 12, page 5** “of the Most High, and a dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. Through that Spirit every one of the faithful has received the light of the glory of the holy… [continues online] **read ›**

16 *Apostolic Constitutions* “besides You alone. There is none holy besides You, the Lord, the God of knowledge, the God of the saints, holy above all holy beings, for they are sanctified by… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English; on point 2) because those which are now baptized are ordained priests, but as being Christians, or anointed, from Christ the Anointed, a royal priesthood, and an holy nation, the Church of God… [continues online] **read ›**

18 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 5** “if any one be not such, let him become such by repentance… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English; on point 3) “these are reckoned blessed by God, and are honoured by holy men, who were pure from all transgressions, immoveable when tempted to sin, or persuaded from good works, without dispute… [continues online] **read ›**

John Chrysostom, *c. 386–407 AD · sources 20–22*

20 *Homilies on Romans* (1885 English) **Quote 3, page 2** “saints he calls all the faithful. Grace unto you and peace… [continues online] **read ›**

21 *Homilies on Hebrews* 10 **Quotes 1, 4, pages 2, 3** “also is a saint and a brother… [continues online] **read ›**

22 *Homilies on Romans* (1885 English) **Quote 2, page 2** “the faithful, he styles, called to be saints, but while they had been called so far as to be believers, he had besides a different thing committed to his hands… [continues online] **read ›**

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Clement of Rome · *source 23*

23 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 5** "it is written, "Cleave to the holy, for those that cleave to them shall [themselves] be made holy." And again, in another place, [the Scripture] saith, "With a harmless man… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *113 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

24 **Exodus 30:29** You shall sanctify them, and they shall be most holy; whoever touches them shall be sanctified. **read ›**

25 **Leviticus 20:7** You shall be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy. **read ›**

26 **Leviticus 20:26** You shall be holy to me, for I, the Lord your God, am holy, who separated you from all the nations to be mine. **read ›**

27 **Leviticus 21:6** They shall be holy to their God and shall not profane the name of their God, for they offer the sacrifices of the Lord, the gifts of their God; and they shall be holy. **read ›**

28 **Leviticus 21:8** You shall sanctify him; he offers the gifts of the Lord your God. He shall be holy, for I, the Lord who sanctifies them, am holy. **read ›**

29 **Leviticus 21:22** He may eat the gifts of God, the most holy things, and of the holy things; **read ›**

30 **Deuteronomy 18:11** one who casts spells, one who is a medium, an observer of portents, or one who inquires of the dead. **read ›**

31 **2 Samuel 22:26** With the holy you will be holy, and with the perfect man you will be perfect; **read ›**

32 **Psalms 16:3** As for the saints who are in his land, he has made all his desires wonderful in them. (Septuagint Psalm 15:3 (Psalm 16:3 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

33 **Psalms 30:4** Sing praise to the Lord, you his holy ones, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. (Septuagint Psalm 29:5 (Psalm 30:4 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

34 **Psalms 34:9** Fear the Lord, all you his saints, for there is no lack for those who fear him. (Septuagint Psalm 33:10 (Psalm 34:9 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

35 **Psalms 50:5** Gather to him his holy ones, those who make his covenant upon sacrifices. (Septuagint Psalm 49:5 (Psalm 50:5 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

36 **Proverbs 2:8** to guard the ways of ordinances; and he will preserve the way of those who revere him. **read ›**

37 **Ecclesiastes 8:15** So I praised gladness, because there is no good for a man under the sun except to eat and to drink and to be glad; and this will go with him in his labor the days of his life, which God has given him under the sun. **read ›**

38 **Song of Solomon 2:11** For behold, the winter is past, the rain is over, it has gone its way. **read ›**

39 **Isaiah 4:3** And it shall be that what remains in Zion and what is left in Jerusalem shall be called holy, all who are written for life in Jerusalem. **read ›**

40 **Isaiah 7:7** thus says the Lord of hosts: This counsel shall by no means stand, nor shall it come to pass; **read ›**

41 **Isaiah 7:21** And it shall be in that day that a man shall rear a young cow and two sheep; **read ›**

42 **Isaiah 15:3** Wrap yourselves in sackcloth in her squares, and lament on her rooftops and in her lanes; all of you, wail with weeping. **read ›**

43 **Jeremiah 15:3** And I will punish them with four kinds, says the Lord: the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the wild beasts of the earth and the birds of heaven to devour and destroy. **read ›**

44 **Jeremiah 17:26** And they will come from the cities of Judah and from around Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the land of the plain, and from the hill country, and from the south, bringing whole burnt offerings and sacrifices and incense and grain offerings and frankincense, bringing praise to the house of the Lord. **read ›**

45 **Jeremiah 29:5** Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit; (Septuagint Jeremiah 36:5 (Jeremiah 29:5 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

46 **Jeremiah 30:24** The anger of the Lord's wrath shall by no means turn back until he has acted and until he has carried out the purpose of his heart; in the last days you shall know these things. (Septuagint Jeremiah 37:24 (Jeremiah 30:24 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

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47 **Jeremiah 33:10** Thus said the Lord: There shall yet be heard in this place, of which you say, ‘It is desolate, without man and cattle,’ in the cities of Judah and outside Jerusalem, which have been laid waste because there is no man and no cattle, (Septuagint Jeremiah 40:10 (Jeremiah 33:10 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

48 **Jeremiah 49:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

49 **Ezekiel 3:2** And he opened my mouth and fed me the scroll. **read ›**

50 **Daniel 9:10** and we have not listened to the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by the hands of his slaves the prophets. **read ›**

51 **Daniel 11:31** And seeds from him shall arise, and they shall profane the sanctuary of might, and remove the continual offering, and set up an abomination made desolate. **read ›**

52 **Amos 3:9** Proclaim it to the regions among the Assyrians, and to the regions of Egypt, and say, “Gather yourselves on the mountain of Samaria, and see the many marvels in her midst, and the oppression that is in her.” **read ›**

53 **Amos 4:10** I sent death among you by the way of Egypt, and killed your young men with the sword, together with your captured horses; and I brought up your camps in fire in your anger; yet not even so did you return to me, says the Lord. **read ›**

54 **Amos 5:5** But do not seek Bethel, and do not go into Gilgal, and do not cross over to the Well of the Oath; for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall be as though it were not. **read ›**

55 **Amos 6:10** and the rest shall be left behind; and their relatives shall take them, and shall press hard to carry their bones out of the house; and one shall say to those in charge of the house, “Is there still anyone with you?” And he shall say, “No one else.” And he shall say, “Be silent, so as not to name the name of the Lord.” **read ›**

56 **Tobit 12:15** I am Raphael, one of the seven holy angels who present the prayers of the holy ones and go in before the glory of the Holy One.” **read ›**

57 **Wisdom of Solomon 3:9** Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will stay with him in love, for grace and mercy are for his chosen ones. **read ›**

58 **Wisdom of Solomon 4:10** Being well-pleasing to God, he was loved, and while living among sinners he was taken up. **read ›**

59 **Wisdom of Solomon 5:5** How has he been counted among the sons of God, and how is his lot among the holy ones? **read ›**

60 **Wisdom of Solomon 6:10** For those who keep holy things in holiness will be made holy, and those who have been taught them will find a defense. **read ›**

61 **Wisdom of Solomon 18:1** But for your holy ones there was very great light; and the others, hearing their voice but not seeing their form, counted them blessed because they too had suffered, **read ›**

62 **Wisdom of Solomon 18:9** For the holy children of good men offered sacrifice in secret, and in full agreement they established the divine law, that the holy ones would share alike in the same good things and dangers, the fathers already leading the songs of praise. **read ›**

63 **Wisdom of Sirach 33:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

64 **Wisdom of Sirach 34:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

65 **Wisdom of Sirach 45:4** In his faithfulness and meekness he sanctified him; he chose him out of all flesh. **read ›**

66 **1 Maccabees 1:46** and to defile the sanctuary and the holy ones; **read ›**

67 **2 Maccabees 8:15** if not for their own sake, then for the sake of the covenants made with their fathers, and because his holy and glorious name had been called upon them. **read ›**

68 **2 Maccabees 14:36** So now, O holy Lord of all holiness, keep undefiled forever this house that has so recently been purified.” **read ›**

69 **3 Maccabees 2:11** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

70 **3 Maccabees 2:30** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

71 **4 Maccabees 7:7** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

72 **4 Maccabees 7:21** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

73 **4 Maccabees 15:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

74 **4 Maccabees 17:19** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

75 **4 Maccabees 17:20** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

76 **Luke 1:75** in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life. **read ›**

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77 **Luke 2:25** Behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. **read ›**

78 **John 10:36** do you say of him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You blaspheme,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? **read ›**

79 **John 17:17** Sanctify them in your truth. Your word is truth. **read ›**

80 **John 17:19** For their sakes I sanctify myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. **read ›**

81 **Acts 8:13** Simon himself also believed, and after being baptized he stayed with Philip. Seeing miracles and signs taking place, he was amazed. **read ›**

82 **Acts 11:24** for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faithfulness; and a considerable multitude was added to the Lord. **read ›**

83 **Acts 11:26** When he found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they gathered with the church and taught a considerable multitude. The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. **read ›**

84 **Romans 1:6** among whom you are also called to belong to Jesus Christ; **read ›**

85 **Romans 1:7** to all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

86 **Romans 8:27** He who searches the hearts knows what is on the Spirit's mind, because he makes intercession for the saints according to God's will. **read ›**

87 **Romans 15:31** that I may be delivered from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, **read ›**

88 **Romans 16:2** that you receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and that you assist her in whatever matter she may need your help, for she herself also has been a helper of many, and of my own self. **read ›**

89 **Romans 16:15** Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. **read ›**

90 **1 Corinthians 1:2** to the church of God at Corinth, those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place, both theirs and ours: **read ›**

91 **1 Corinthians 1:9** God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **read ›**

92 **1 Corinthians 6:1** Does any one of you dare, when he has a dispute with another, to go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? **read ›**

93 **1 Corinthians 6:2** Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? **read ›**

94 **1 Corinthians 6:11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and in the Spirit of our God. **read ›**

95 **1 Corinthians 7:14** For the unbelieving husband is sanctified in the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified in the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. **read ›**

96 **2 Corinthians 1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Timothy our brother, to the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia: **read ›**

97 **2 Corinthians 13:12** Greet one another with a holy kiss. **read ›**

98 **2 Corinthians 13:13** All the saints greet you. **read ›**

99 **Ephesians 1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus and the faithful in Christ Jesus: **read ›**

100 **Ephesians 2:19** So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God, **read ›**

101 **Ephesians 3:18** that, rooted and grounded in love, you may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height, **read ›**

102 **Philippians 1:1** Paul and Timothy, slaves of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: **read ›**

103 **Philippians 4:21** Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. **read ›**

104 **Philippians 4:22** All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. **read ›**

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105 **Colossians 1:2** to the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

106 **Colossians 1:4** having heard of your faithfulness in Christ Jesus and your love toward all the saints, **read ›**

107 **Colossians 1:12** giving thanks to the Father, who has made us fit to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. **read ›**

108 **1 Thessalonians 3:13** so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints. **read ›**

109 **1 Thessalonians 4:7** For God called us not for uncleanness, but in sanctification. **read ›**

110 **1 Thessalonians 5:24** He who calls you is faithful, and he will also do it. **read ›**

111 **2 Thessalonians 1:10** when he comes in that day to be glorified in his saints and to be admired among all those who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. **read ›**

112 **1 Timothy 1:15** The saying is trustworthy and worthy of full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am foremost. **read ›**

113 **1 Timothy 4:5** For it is sanctified through the word of God and prayer. **read ›**

114 **1 Timothy 6:12** Fight the good fight of faithfulness; take hold of eternal life, to which you were called, and you made the good confession before many witnesses. **read ›**

115 **2 Timothy 1:9** who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, **read ›**

116 **Philemon 1:5** hearing of your love and of the faithfulness which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, **read ›**

117 **Hebrews 2:11** For both he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one, for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brothers, **read ›**

118 **Hebrews 7:26** For such a high priest was fitting for us: holy, guiltless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; **read ›**

119 **Hebrews 12:14** Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man will see the Lord, **read ›**

120 **Hebrews 12:23** to a festal gathering and church of the firstborn enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of righteous people made perfect, **read ›**

121 **1 Peter 1:2** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with his blood: Grace to you and peace be multiplied. **read ›**

122 **1 Peter 1:5** who by the power of God are guarded through faithfulness for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **read ›**

123 **1 Peter 1:11** searching for the person or what kind of time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he testified beforehand to the sufferings of Christ and the glories after them. **read ›**

124 **1 Peter 1:15** but just as he who called you is holy, you yourselves also be holy in all of your behavior, **read ›**

125 **1 Peter 1:16** because it is written: Be holy, for I am holy. **read ›**

126 **1 Peter 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. **read ›**

127 **1 Peter 3:15** but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, always ready to give an answer to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope in you, with meekness and fear, **read ›**

128 **1 Peter 5:12** Through Silvanus, the faithful brother as I consider him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand. **read ›**

129 **Jude 1:1** Jude, a slave of Jesus Christ and brother of James, to the called, sanctified in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ: **read ›**

130 **Jude 1:3** Beloved, while making every effort to write to you about the common salvation, I found it necessary to write and urge you to contend earnestly for the faith delivered once for all to the saints. **read ›**

131 **Jude 1:14** And Enoch, the seventh from Adam, also prophesied about these, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with his holy tens of thousands **read ›**

132 **Revelation 8:3** Another angel came and stood over the altar, having a golden censer. Much incense was given to him, that he should add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. **read ›**

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133 **Revelation 8:4** The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand. **read ›**

134 **Revelation 14:12** Here is the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and faithfulness to Jesus." **read ›**

135 **Revelation 19:8** It was given to her that she would array herself in bright, pure, fine linen, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. **read ›**

136 **Revelation 20:6** Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over these, the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and will reign with him one thousand years. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *124 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Genesis 1:1 · 9:18

Exodus 23:14 · 25:11

Leviticus 19:15

Psalms 4:4 · 33:6 · 145:15

Proverbs 22:6 · 31:20

Isaiah 1:15 · 1:17

Zechariah 2:6

Malachi 1:11

Matthew 2:20 · 4:10 · 5:9 · 5:13 · 5:16 · 5:21 · 5:22 · 5:44 · 6:10 · 6:24 · 9:29 · 10:20 · 10:32 · 12:32 · 12:50 · 16:6 · 18:6 · 18:10 · 19:30 · 20:16 · 21:9 · 22:13 · 22:21 · 24:31 · 25:34 · 26:24 · 27:46

Mark 3:28 · 9:42 · 11:10 · 13:32

Luke 1:46 · 3:11 · 6:46 · 11:23 · 15:22 · 17:2

John 1:9 · 1:14 · 1:32 · 3:5 · 5:30 · 8:41 · 8:50 · 8:52 · 11:47 · 12:13 · 13:20 · 13:22 · 13:33 · 15:15 · 15:26 · 20:22

Acts 1:8 · 2:37 · 4:32 · 8:9 · 8:17 · 10:28

Romans 1:1 · 8:6 · 12:5 · 12:9 · 15:27

1 Corinthians 1:10 · 2:6 · 3:3 · 7:31 · 11:10 · 12:3 · 12:4 · 12:11 · 12:26 · 14:29 · 16:22

2 Corinthians 11:2 · 11:29

Galatians 1:1 · 2:8

Ephesians 4:1 · 4:3 · 4:4 · 4:5 · 4:6 · 4:26 · 5:4 · 5:6 · 6:5 · 6:9

Philippians 3:14

Colossians 3:22 · 4:1

1 Thessalonians 5:12 · 5:23

2 Thessalonians 1:9

1 Timothy 2:2 · 3:15 · 4:4 · 4:16

2 Timothy 1:10

Hebrews 11:16 · 13:7 · 13:20

James 4:1 · 5:16

1 Peter 2:23 · 3:20

Revelation 5:8 · 22:17 · 22:18

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Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “Did early Christian writers give a short definition of a saint?” on May 23, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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How to cite this study. The Historic Faith, “Did early Christian writers give a short definition of a saint?” Early Church Questions, published November 9, 2026, https://thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/did-early-christian-writers-give-a-short-definition-of-a-saint. To cite one quotation, add its number and source, for example “quote 1, source 21.”

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THE END OF THIS STUDY