This assignment is really a preliminary part of a later assignment. It is an opportunity for you to articulate your own understanding of salvation (‘doctrine of reconciliation’) as it is at the beginning of our course. Imagine someone who knew you, but not very well, asked you the following questions. Then answer them, and hold onto your answers until the semester’s end.

Your grade will only be a ‘check’ (acceptable) or ‘U’ (unacceptable). This is the only assignment that will not ask you to draw substantively on the course materials. Enjoy it while it lasts!

1. What does it mean to be saved?

2. What does it mean not to be saved?

3. Who and what are saved from what?

4. On what basis do you make these claims?

5. What is the relationship between these beliefs and your other Christian beliefs, if any?

6. How would your life and our world be different if your answers were different? In other words, what is at stake in your particular answers to these questions?

7. How are your answers significantly different from the answers of two of the following groups: (a) Jews, (b) Muslims, (c) Mormons, (d) other Christians, (e) Deists, and/or (f) agnostics?