

## God's Simple Plan for Salvation

Do you know the answer to the greatest and most important question of life? Your joy or your sorrow, for all of eternity, depends upon your answer to this question

The question is:

Are you saved? This is not a question about how good of a person you are, but are you saved? Do you know 100% sure that Heaven will be your home in eternity when you die?

God says in order to go to Heaven, you must be born again. In John 3:7, Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again." In the Bible God gives us the plan of how to be born again which means to be saved. His plan is simple! You can be saved today, but how?

First you must realize you are a sinner. "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) and because you are a sinner, you are condemned to death. "For the wages [payment] of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). This includes eternal separation from God in Hell. "... it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

But God loved you so much He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus, to bear your sin and die in your place.

"... He hath made Him [Jesus, Who knew no sin] to be sin for us ... that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Jesus had to shed His blood and die.



"For the life of the flesh is in the blood" (Lev. 17:11).

"... without shedding of blood is no remission [pardon]" (Hebrews 9:22).

"... God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8).

Although we cannot understand how, God said my sins and your sins were laid upon Jesus when He died on the cross, how He died in our place, and how He became our substitute; we know this is true because God cannot lie.

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;" (Titus 1:2)

"That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie..." (Hebrews 6:18)

But what should you do with this? "God . . . commandeth all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30). This repentance is a change of mind that agrees with God that one is a sinner, and agrees with what Jesus did for us on the Cross.

In Acts 16:30-31, the Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas: "... 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' And they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved . . . '"

Simply believe on Jesus as the one who bore your sin, died in your place, was buried, and whom God resurrected. His resurrection powerfully assures us that the believer can claim everlasting life when Jesus is received as their personal Lord and Savior.

"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name" (John 1:12). "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13). Whosoever includes you. Shall be saved means not maybe, nor can, but shall be saved.

If you realize you are a sinner, right now, wherever you are, repent by lifting your heart to God in prayer.

In Luke 18:13, the sinner prayed: "God be merciful to me a sinner." This was an acknowledgment of faith spoke in prayer.



You can pray to the Lord in faith as well, acknowledging your sin and confessing your faith in Jesus as well.

The following is not a magic prayer. It is a prayer that will help you express your faith in Jesus, but it must be prayed with a true heart, truly meaning what you are asking God to do for you.

PRAYER: "Dear God, I know I am a sinner. I believe Jesus was my substitute when He died on the Cross. I believe His shed blood, death, burial, and resurrection were for me. I now receive Him as my Lord and Savior. I thank You for the forgiveness of my sins, for the gift of salvation, and for everlasting life. Thank you for loving me and help me to grow closer to you. Amen."

Take God at His word and claim His salvation by faith. Believe, and you will be saved. No church attendance, no baptism, and no amount of good works can save you. Remember, God is the one who does the saving. All of it!

God's simple plan of salvation is this: You are a sinner. Therefore, unless you believe on Jesus Who died in your place, you will spend eternity separated from Him and His goodness in Hell. If you believe on Him as your crucified, buried, and risen Savior, you receive forgiveness for all of your sins and His gift of eternal salvation by faith.

You say, "Surely, it cannot be that simple." but YES! It is that simple! God's plan for salvation is that He does all the work for us, we just come to Him in faith. My friend, believe on Jesus and receive Him as Savior today.

Once you have received Christ as your Saviour, then God's power will not only save you, but it will keep you saved, and enable you to live a victorious Christian life. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Do not trust your feelings because feelings can change. Stand on God's promises because they never change. After you are saved, there are three things to practice daily for spiritual growth:

You can remember these by remembering the acronym to GROW.



**G** = Go to church. Find a good Bible believing church to attend. If you need help to find one in your area, you can call our office and we will direct you to one close to you. (Hebrews 10:25)

**R** = Read your Bible and Pray daily. As you read your Bible, God will speak to you and you will grow closer to Him as you learn more about Him. When you pray, you are talking to God. Talk to God daily about ALL of your needs. Don't forget to thank Him daily for the good things He gives to you as well. (James 4:8)

O = Obey God's Word and try to live for Him. This will demonstrate a change to others and help them to want to know how to be saved as well. (John 14:15 - John 15:10 - I John 5:3)

**W** = Witness to others and share with them how they can believe in Jesus, too! (Matthew 28:19-20)

When you truly believe in the Lord Jesus, the gift of salvation can only be received once. You will never lose your salvation. He will never leave you, but you do need to confess your sins daily to God so you can have a right relationship with Him.

"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:28-29)

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9)

You should also be baptized in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ as a public testimony of your salvation. "Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord . . ." (2 Timothy 1:8)

"Whosoever therefore shall confess [testify of] Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).

Please call our office if you have any questions about what you just read and if you would like for us to pray for you!



