
GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR SALVATION



Of all the questions one may ask, this one is of paramount importance. To be saved is the most urgent and important need anyone will ever have. We are in need of salvation because we are sinners. God has decreed, ***“all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God”*** (Romans 3:23). The consequence of our sinfulness is that it separates us from God. ***“Your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you ...”*** (Isaiah 59:2). The person who is separated from God is said to be lost and the person who is united with God is said to be saved. A person sins by disobeying Christ and is saved by obeying the gospel of Christ. A person cannot be united with God unless his sins are removed, and only the blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse sins. It is for this reason that He commanded the apostles, ***“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”*** (Mark 16:15-16). Obeying the gospel of Christ is the only way that a person can have her sins removed. Jesus is spoken of as ***“Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood”*** (Revelation 1:5).

In asking the question, “What must I do to be saved?” the inquirer is asking for the conditions laid down by Jesus Christ, which must be satisfied in order that Jesus will wash that person in His blood. That there are conditions to be met are quite evident. Of Jesus it is said, ***“and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him ”*** (Hebrews 5:9). To obey Jesus is to obey the commands He gave in His gospel.

Commands Laid Down In The Gospel Of Christ

1. Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Jesus said, ***“I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am [the one I claim to be], you will indeed die in your sins.”*** (John 8:24). From childhood we learned, ***“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life ”*** (John 3:16). To believe in Jesus is to have confidence in Him; to believe the things taught by Him and to believe that the promises made by Him will be fulfilled.

2. Repent of your sins. Repentance includes accepting the judgment of God that we are sinners; resolving in our hearts to stop doing the things that are displeasing to God; and determine to immediately begin doing the things that conform to His will. The will of Christ includes obeying the gospel. The urgency of repentance is stated in Acts 17:30 which reads, ***“In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent..”*** Furthermore Jesus said, ***“I tell you,***

no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.” (Luke 13:3).

3. Confess/Acknowledge Jesus as your Lord. The person who is ashamed of Jesus will not be saved by Him. Jesus said, ***“Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.”*** (Matthew 10:32). This confession is public and oral. It is confessing our faith in Christ, ***“...I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”*** (Acts 8:37). The necessity of this act is clearly stated in Romans 10:9-10: ***“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”***

4. Be baptized for the remission of your sins. Baptism is an act of faith. Without faith it is impossible for anyone to please God. ***“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him,*** (Hebrews 11:6). Faith in God comes from His word as it is written, ***“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. ”*** (Romans 10:17). Our faith in God is demonstrated by our obedience of the gospel of Christ. Without obedience, faith is considered by God to be dead, that is, useless.

“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38).

“In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead... You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.” (James 2:17, 24). Baptism for the remission of sins is an act of faith carried out by the sinner. This must be done when the person believes in Christ and wants to be saved by His blood. Jesus commanded, *“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”* (Mark 16:15-16). It is at the point of baptism that a person comes in contact with the saving blood of Jesus Christ. This is why Paul in his conversion process was commanded, *“And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.”* (Acts 22:16).

The Baptism Commanded By Christ

Baptism as commanded by Jesus requires **“plenty of water”** (John 3:23), into which the person is completely immersed. In this act of baptism the person is completely “buried” with Christ at which time her sins are removed by the blood of Christ and she is born again into the family of God. **“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”** (Rom. 6:3-4). Having obeyed the gospel of Christ, by belief, repentance, confession of Christ and baptism, you know you have been saved by His blood. Are you saved?

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Worship Opportunities:

Sundays:

Bible Class	9:30 A.M.
Worship Service	10:30 A.M.
<u>Mid-Week</u>	
Wednesday	7:00 P.M.

Lord, What Must We
Do To Be
Saved?



Turn the page for Heaven’s answer
to this all important question.