

HOW TO BE SAVED

(20 March 2009)

We live in very troublesome and uncertain times. With all the worldwide disasters and wars most people see a dark and fearful future and have no idea of their eternal destiny. There are so many religions in the world that people don't know which way to turn. The question of what is beyond the grave has always been on man's mind. The Bible says that God has set eternity in the hearts of men. Life after death is a mystery to many but God has made it clear that each of us will stand before Him one day. The decisions you make in this life will determine where you spend eternity. Please take the time to read this to see how the Bible reveals God's love toward you and all of mankind. The Bible reveals God's way for mankind to receive forgiveness of sins and be saved from His anger. You can be born again into a new life, leaving your old, sinful life behind and live a life pleasing to God. Before you die, you can be certain that heaven is your eternal destiny.

When God made the first man and woman, He gave them one command. He said they could eat from any tree in the garden except for one. They defied Him and ate from that tree. This rebellion is called sin and is common to all mankind. This sin caused God to remove Adam and Eve from the garden of Eden, and His presence, and sin continues to separate mankind from God. Sin is a deliberate choice to do what we know is clearly wrong. God's laws, not to lie, steal, hate, lust, blaspheme etc are clearly written on our hearts yet we go against our good conscience and do whatever we think we can get away with.

The Bible says, *"all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23). It also says, *"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."* (Hebrews 4:13). Your life is an open book before God. He sees all your sin as though it just happened and you must give an account of your life to Him one day. The day is coming when each of us will stand before the Judge of all the earth. If your sin is not dealt with, before this day, then you will face death because the Bible says, *"the wages of sin is death"* (Romans 6:23). This death is called the second death and is an eternal separation from God, in hell.

In His love, God has made a way for you to be forgiven and get right with Him. The Bible says, *"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). God sent Jesus to die in your place, to take the punishment you deserve so that you can get right with Him. The Bible says that, *"we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (Romans 5:1).

To make peace with God, you must turn from your sinful life and turn to Jesus for forgiveness and new life. When you come to Jesus, He will forgive you your past sins and become part of your life to give you power to live a new life, one that is pleasing to God. Our natural desire to sin is too strong and in our own strength, without Jesus, we are unable to live in a manner that will please God. We all need Jesus to keep us from continuing in sin. In the same way that Jesus died and rose from the dead, you too can die to your old, sinful ways and rise to new life. This is what is meant by being born again ... you start life again and have Jesus to help you to walk in holiness. The Bible says, *"if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come."* (2 Corinthians 5:17). Go to <http://www.christianissues.biz/bornagain.html> to see what 'born again' means.

Jesus is the only way to get right with God. He said, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"* (John 14:6). Religion will not get you to heaven nor can you work your way there by doing good things, *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -- not by works, so that no one can*

boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). If you refuse to accept God's free and only offer of salvation then, by choice, you will spend eternity in hell. God has done all He can to save you. It's now up to you to accept the gift of eternal life that Jesus paid for on the cross. Just before He died, Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). God has shown His love and says, "Repent and be baptised every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38).

To be saved go to God with a repentant heart, willing to turn away from all sin and wanting to be changed. Confess your sins and ask Him to forgive you and receive (ask) Jesus into your life as your Lord and Saviour. The Bible says, *"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...everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"* (Romans 10:9-10 & 13). The words you use are not important. God looks at your heart and, if He sees a heart willing to turn from sin, you will be saved the moment you ask and Jesus will become part of your life to strengthen, guide and enable you to live the life He wants for you.

Today is the day for your salvation!

Don't put it off as you have no guarantee of another day on earth.

Praying is simply talking to God. If you want to be saved:

1) You must be willing to repent. This means that you want to turn away from your sinful life and start a new life.

If you are willing to do this then ...

2) Tell Jesus you are sorry for your sins and that you want to repent and live a life that pleases Him. Then ...

3) Ask Jesus to forgive you and to come into your life as your Lord. Tell Him that you want Him to take charge of your life, to strengthen and guide you to walk in holiness.

If you do this, you will be saved.

If you have asked Jesus to forgive you and to be your Lord:

Find a good Christian church that preaches holiness in the Lord.

Read your Bible daily and do what it says.

Talk to God about everything.

Trust Him in every detail of your life.

Obey Him moment by moment.

Tell your friends about Jesus.

For a Free Bible Course, write to leeandmick@gmail.com

The Calvary Road, by Roy Hession, very simply shows believers how the Holy Spirit guides and strengthens them to live a life that is pleasing to God. This is not another self help book but a most humbling revelation of the sin we fail (or refuse) to see and which keeps us from an intimate walk with Jesus. This free little book reveals a life changing principle which can and will bring a Christian into a very close walk with our Lord, if it is diligently applied to his/her life on a daily basis. ... download this book from www.christianissues.biz/revival.html

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