

Understanding Salvation

John 1 vs 12, "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."

Question: Do you know for sure where you will go after death?

You are either going to be with God in heaven for eternity, or you are going to hell where there is torment and gnashing of teeth. The Bible tells us how you can be sure that you have eternal life: 1 John 5 vs 13 says, "These things have I written unto you that you may know that ye have eternal life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God."

1) HEAVEN IS A FREE GIFT

Romans 6 vs 23 says, "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." And because heaven is a gift just like any other genuine gift, it is not earned or deserved, no amount of personal effort, good works or religious deeds can earn a place in heaven for you. Ephesians 2 vs 8-9 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith and not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast."

QUESTION:

WHY IS IT THAT NO ONE CAN EARN HIS WAY TO HEAVEN?

2) Because MAN IS A SINNER. In Romans 3 vs 23 the Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Sin is unbelief manifested by transgressing God's laws and includes such things as lying, lust, cheating, deceit, anger, evil thought, immoral behaviour, adultery, fornication, drunkenness and such like.

And because of this: **MAN CANNOT SAVE HIMSELF.** Matthew 5 vs 48, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly father is perfect." And with such a high standard of life that's required, no one can save himself.

However in spite of this:

3) GOD IS MERCIFUL AND DOES NOT WANT TO PUNISH US. This is because 1 John 4 vs 8 says, "...God is Love..." and Jeremiah 31 vs 3 says, "I have loved you with an everlasting love, therefore with loving kindness I have drawn thee." But the same Bible which tells us that God loves us, also tells us that: **GOD IS JUST**, and therefore **HE MUST PUNISH SIN.** Exodus 34 vs 7b says, "...He does not leave the guilty unpunished." Ezekiel 18 vs 20 says, "The Soul that sinneth, shall surely die." WE HAVE A PROBLEM, God loves us and does not want to punish us but he is JUST and must punish SIN. God solved this problem for us in the Person of Jesus Christ.

4) JESUS CHRIST- Who is Jesus Christ? The Bible tells us clearly that He is the infinite God manifested in the flesh just as John says, "In the beginning was the word... and the word became flesh and dwelled among us." Jesus came to earth and lived a sinless life, but while on earth He died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and to purchase a place in heaven for us. Isaiah 53 vs 6 says, "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

This gift is received by - **FAITH**. This is the key that opens the door to heaven. Ephesians 2 vs 8 - "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith." Saving Faith is trusting Jesus Christ alone for eternal life. The Bible says, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." Acts 16 vs 31

You maybe asking a question:

HOW CAN I BE SAVED?

1. Believe and Accept Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour who died for your sins, because John 6 vs 7 says, "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."

2. Repent and turn from anything that is not pleasing to God, and to follow him as He reveals his will to you in His Word. Acts 3 vs 19 says, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..."

3. Confess with your mouth all of your sins in the past and ask for forgiveness from Jesus Christ. Romans 10 vs 9-13 "That if thou confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shall be saved."

4. Be baptized in water by emersion in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, Who will guide you unto all truth. Acts 2 vs 38-39.
5. Worship God by regularly attending a Bible Believing Church that honours Jesus Christ. Read your Bible and pray everyday. There are many forms of religion which do not bring salvation. One named Cornelius prayed and fasted seeking the favour of God, and was told by an angel to send for one named Peter to show him the way of salvation. God has sent us in this age a messenger to bring us back to the Original Word and to the true pattern of worship as it was during the Apostolic age. Fellowship with Christians who will help you grow spiritually and witness to others about the Saving Grace of our Lord Jesus, observing all the commandments and doing his will according to the revealed word in this **END-TIME.**

We hope this has been a blessing to you. For more information about this truth there are many taped sermons preached by the End Time Messenger on cassette and in book form that can be available to you freely on request.

Contact:

Br R. Njanji

Cell: 0715 316 899

0772 221 505

Br P. Maviva

Cell: 0715 318 637

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SUNDAY's 9:30am—1pm

WEDNESDAY's 5:15pm—7:15pm

FRIDAY's 5:15pm—7:15pm