

# SALVATION

Surely this is the most important concern in anyone's life! It is not enough to HOPE to be saved. It is not even enough to WANT to be saved. We are told that many will be LOST while wanting to be SAVED!

WHY?

Because they do not go beyond WANTING and WISHING!

They do not actively CHOOSE to be saved. The LORD tells us in John 3 that to enter heaven one must be BORN AGAIN.

This is NOT a 'mystical', abstract experience– it is as REAL as the very furniture in your home. In fact, the things of God are more real than the things of earth. The things of earth will soon pass away– but the Truths of God are ETERNAL.

"For this is Life Eternal, that they might KNOW THEE the only True God and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent!"

Being BORN AGAIN is something YOU must CHOOSE to experience. When it takes place you will KNOW it. Only God can cause us to be BORN AGAIN. Only the LIFE and DEATH and INTERCEDING MINISTRY of JESUS makes it possible.

The Keys:

1. We must realize that SALVATION is an individual, personal matter between our soul and God. No church records, no organizations, no committees can save us!
2. To begin the process of seeking to be truly SAVED, it is important to put away ALL reading material except the King James Bible and the Book STEPS TO CHRIST. Turn off TV and RADIO and dedicate the time to reading the Gospels and Steps to Christ prayerfully, pleading with the Lord in the Name of Jesus to send the Holy Spirit to TEACH YOU! He will be your personal Tutor– Jesus has PROMISED this– Jesus NEVER breaks His Word. Do NOT consult with ministers, counselors or friends– they can't do it for you– this is a matter between your SOUL and GOD personally!!
3. We must realize we ARE guilty sinners; that in our natural natures is no good thing at all. Even our best deeds, done by the natural heart, are disgusting to a Holy God.
4. We must come before God in the Name of Jesus, claiming His promises and confessing that there is NOTHING we can do or offer to save our wretched souls. "Nothing in my hand I bring– Simply to Thy cross I cling!"
5. We MUST be willing to repent of all sin and sins. We must be willing to surrender ALL to JESUS– if we are NOT willing, then we must PLEAD with the LORD to make us willing!! Without a TOTAL surrender to God, a total acceptance of His RIGHT to RULE completely in our lives, a total CHOOSING to put away everything displeasing to HIM and Through HIS ENPOWERING GRACE live a life of humble obedience, the New Birth will not happen.

No matter what our age or status, we must CHOOSE to become God's Little Child, to walk humbly and obediently with Him from henceforth.

6. We must confess and forsake every sin and plead for forgiveness, claiming only the merits of Jesus' Precious Blood. If we know that we have done wrong to any person, we must do all in our power to confess that wrong to them and make restitution if at all possible. If not possible (i.e. the person cannot be found or is dead) then repentance and restitution can be made with God, in the way He impresses you to do it.

7. It is essential to continue to plead with the Lord, claiming His promises UNTIL He responds!! Your faith will be tested, but I can assure you that when He responds, YOU will KNOW IT!

8. As you approach the LORD, determined to be saved, determined and choosing to have Him fulfill His gracious promises in YOUR life, the HOLY SPIRIT will draw close and will begin to IMPRESS upon your mind practices and habits that are not pleasing to the LORD. He may, and probably WILL bring things to your mind from the distant past that you need to repent of, maybe even things that you need to apologize to others for.

9. IT IS ESSENTIAL when this happens that you do not explain or excuse away these things!! It is a matter of LIFE OR DEATH that you do not just run to a pastor or friend and have them soothe your troubled feelings!! If you dismiss these promptings, you will grieve away the Holy Spirit and suffer eternal loss!!

10. Deep heart searching is essential!! Every thought and attitude must be examined in the light of God's Holy Word. Are there things you watch or read that you are not SURE are right? Are there habits or items on your table that you know the Lord has advised are not the best for our health? Explaining or excusing any questionable behavior will drive the Holy Spirit away and you will not experience the Wonderful Rebirth into the Family of God!

11. Friend, What God offers is better than any earthly advantage. The JOY of His presence is greater than any pleasurable indulgence you may need to put out of your life! A life in Paradise that measures with the Life of God is worth sacrificing every wrong thought or action for. Don't miss out on the Eternal Home!

12. I want to assure you that YOU can have this BORN AGAIN experience! Jesus longs to give it to YOU! Jesus NEVER refuses any who truly come to Him in repentance and humility. He will give you power to overcome every wrong thought or habit, if you but CHOOSE to have it and CHOOSE to obey. ALL HIS COMMANDS ARE ENABLINGS!

13. To continue to merely wish and want, without surrendering totally and without CHOOSING to seek Jesus for salvation UNTIL you KNOW He has given you this precious treasure, will not take you safely through!

14. Faith IS the Victory- take God at His Word- claim the promises in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy AS YOURS and make a complete surrender. Nothing less will do. Jesus will have all, or He will have none. Dying to SELF is the only way to be re-born and Live to Christ!

15. Once having secured this 'BORN AGAIN' experience, then each day, with the very first waking thought, renew the covenant with Him for that day. Keep the mind and heart uplifted to God during the day, seeking His leading at every step. Every time any

temptation presents itself, actively choose to reject it, and calling to Jesus for power to do so, turn immediately from it. We walk with God in the same way we first come to Him.

16. The Holy Spirit will be speaking to you as you are gathering, reading, learning, treasuring up every ray of precious light, it will be like honey to your mouth! The Holy Spirit is our own dear Comforter sent to us to teach us of our Savior. Through the Holy Spirit we are closer to Jesus than even the disciples were when He walked and talked with them!! Isn't it wonderful? Why would anyone choose to cling to sin when they could have such a life in the very presence of the Godhead?

17. A sincere warning. Do not mistake a spirit of busy-ness in church activities for the true service of the Lord. Many upon starting to learn of the Lord decide they are going to do some great thing for the Lord and not having any true foundation, commence to walk in the sparks of their own kindling with such zeal that many are deceived. It is only when we really come to the understanding that we can do NOTHING for God, but rather God MUST do EVERYTHING for us or we perish without hope, it is only then that the Lord may be able to use us in some way.

Many think they are called to have some 'ministry' or other 'for the Lord', and oftentimes what they are engaged in is not at all the Lord's will for them but their own way of exalting self, often to the neglect of the humbler duties which the Lord has placed in their hand to do, such as the care of children or homemaking.

All who can truly be used by the Lord will be found by Him face down at the foot of the cross! They will have such a low opinion of themselves that when the Lord does lay it on their heart to do something in His work, their first response will be, "Oh, no Lord! I cannot do this, find someone better than me for this work, I know not how to come in or go out!"

Then when in great humility and self distrust they tremblingly take hold of the hand of Jesus and walk day by day, hour by hour, led as a little child, then the power of the Lord will be seen. As soon, however that even such a one as this turns and begins to look to self and exalt over what God has wrought through him, just so soon will he stumble and fall, and unless he immediately repents, loose the Holy Spirit and the Lord will no longer be able to use him. He will change masters and not know it.

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