

# Salvation

## I. Man needs God's salvation

- A. God created man for His glory (Isa 43:7; Rev 4:11; Rom 1:21; 8:30; 2Thes 1:10-12). Due to God's aseity, God did not *need* man to glorify Him or for anything else. God, who is the greatest good, loves man and knows that man's greatest good is to glorify God.
- B. God has revealed Himself to man
1. Through creation (Psalm 19:1-4; Rom 1:20-21)
  2. Through His law
    - a. In the conscience of man (Rom 2:14-15)
    - b. In the Old Testament law of Moses (Gal 3:19-24)
    - c. In the New Testament law of Christ (Gal 6:2; James 2:8)
  3. Through the person of Christ (John 1:17-18; 14:9; Col 1:15; Heb 1:1-3)
  4. God does not give equal knowledge of Himself to all people (Matt 11:20-22; 25:14-30; Luke 12:35-48; Rom 1:19-21; 2:6-16; 3:1-2 with 9:1-4). God *withholds* more knowledge from those who are *unfaithful* with what they've been given (Matt 13:11-13; 25:28-29; Luke 16:30-31; Rom 1:21-24, 28; 2Thes 2:8-12) and *gives* more knowledge to those who *are faithful* with what they've been given (Matt 13:11-15; 25:28-29; John 7:17; James 1:22; Acts 10:4 with 11:14).
- C. Man has sinned and come short of God's glory (Isa 53:6; 64:6; Job 15:14-16; Luke 18:9-14; Rom 1:20-21; 2:15; 3:10-23; Gal 3:22). Natural man, outside of Christ is described as follows: shaped in iniquity, conceived in sin, he's altogether vanity at his best state, dead in trespasses and sins, children of disobedience, children of wrath, having no hope, without God, sinners, enemies of God, ungodly, servants of sin, evil, children of the wicked one (Psalm 51:5; 39:5; Eph 2:1-12; 2Cor 5:14; Rom 5:6-10; 6:17; Matt 7:11; 13:38). Some descriptions of sin:
1. Transgression of God's law is sin (1John 3:4)
  2. Unbelief in God's word is sin (Heb 3:12; 4:2)
  3. Unholy desire and anger is sin (Matt 5:22-30)
  4. Whatsoever is not of faith is sin (Rom 14:23)
  5. To knowingly offend a weaker brother is sin (1Cor 8:12)
  6. To show respect of persons is sin (James 2:9)
  7. To know to do good and do it not is sin (James 4:17)
  8. All unrighteousness is sin (1John 5:17)
  9. Not believing in Jesus is sin (John 16:9)
- D. God, being holy, hates sin and condemns it (Hab 1:12-13; Heb 1:9; Gen 2:17; Num 32:23; Ezek 18:20; Rom 6:23; 8:3)
1. Eternal death is the penalty that God's holiness requires for unsaved sinners (Gen 3:19; Ezek 18:4,20; Rom 6:23; Rev 20:14,15; 21:8).

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- a. The wrath of God abides on unsaved sinners (Psalm 7:11; John 3:18,36)
  - b. At death, the souls of unsaved sinners go immediately to hell to remain in torment until the final judgment at the great white throne (Luke 16:10-26; Rev 20:11-15)
  - c. At the final judgment, God will punish unsaved sinners with everlasting destruction, contempt, and damnation (1Cor 11:32; 1Pet 4:18; Rom 11:22; Heb 10:28; 2Pet 2:6; Dan 12:1-4; John 5:28-29; Matt 13:24-42; 18:8; 25:41-46; Mark 3:29; 2Thes 1:7-9; Rev 14:9-11; 20:11-15; 21:8)
  - d. God will judge people with justice and equity (Gen 18:25; Isa 59:14-15; Psalm 98:9; Eze 18:18-29). God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34; Rom 2:11; Eph 6:9; Col 3:25; 1Peter 1:17). He recompenses both good and evil (Luke 14:14; Heb 10:30; 2Tim 4:8). God's judgment considers the amount of knowledge people have (Num 15:24-31; Isa 5:1-7; Matt 11:20-22; 25:14-30; Luke 12:10, 35-48; Rom 1:19-32; 3:20 with 4:15, 5:13, and 7:9; Heb 6:4-8; 10:26-31; 12:15-17) or could have had (2Pet 3:5-7; Heb 5:12-6:6), the sinful works they have done (Matt 23:14; Jn 19:11; Rev 2:23; 20:11-15), and their motives (Ex 21:13-14; Deut 19:4-13; Jer 17:10; Rom 2:16; 14:14; Heb 4:12 with Jn 12:48).
2. God considers the knowledge of sinners in His extension of mercy to them (Num 15:24-31; Matt 11:20-22; 25:14-30; Luke 12:10, 35-48; 23:34; Acts 17:30; 1Tim 1:12-13; Heb 6:4-8; 10:26-31; 12:15-17). God does not overlook ignorance today as He did before the coming of Christ; today God commands all men everywhere to repent and believe the gospel (Matt 28:19-20; Mark 16:16; Acts 14:15-16; 17:22-23, 30).

## II. God saves sinners

- A. God purposed to save sinners before the world began
  1. Before the foundation of the world, God loved His Son, Jesus (John 17:24)
  2. Jesus, God's precious, chosen, elect One, was foreordained to be a lamb slain before the world began (1Pet 1:18-2:6; Rev 13:8)
  3. God chose the elect in Christ before the world began (Eph 1:4; 2Tim 1:9; Matt 25:34)
  4. Election is in accordance with God's foreknowledge of the elect/believers (Rom 8:29-33; 1Pet 1:2)

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God wanted many other children, who would be Jesus' brothers (Romans 8:29). God wanted these that would be His children to be saved by Jesus and to be like Jesus: holy and without blame before Him (Revelation 13:8; Ephesians 1:4,5).

- B. God founded and nurtured a nation, Israel, through which His Son would come (Galatians 3-4). Many promises in figures and explicit predictions were given to this nation, pointing to better things to come in Christ (Romans 15:8; Colossians 2:17; Hebrews 9:9, 23; 10:1).
- C. God so loved the world, He gave His only Son, Jesus (John 3:16; Gal 4:4; 1Tim 1:15). In the fullness of time, Jesus came to the world to save sinners by living a sinless life, dying for the sins of the world, and rising again from the dead (1Tim 1:15; Matt 18:11; Heb 4:15; Isa 53:4-6, 10-12; 1John 2:2; Heb 2:9; 2Pet 2:1; 1Tim 4:10; Rom 5:8; 2Cor 5:21; Gal 3:13; 1Pet 2:24; 1Cor 15:3-4; Rom 4:25)
- D. God sent the Holy Spirit to testify of Christ and build His church (John 15:26; Matt 16:18)
- E. God calls (1Pet 5:10), reproves (John 16:8), invites (Rev 22:17), draws (John 6:44; 12:32-33), leads (Rom 2:4), guides (Acts 8:31), reasons with (Isa 1:18), preaches to (Rom 10:13-15; 1Cor 1:21), exhorts (Acts 2:40), testifies (1John 4:14), teaches (Col 1:28), persuades (Acts 28:23; 2Cor 5:11), beseeches (2Cor 5:20), convinces (Titus 1:9), and warns (Ezek 3:18-19; 33:7-8; Col 1:28) sinners. God thus gives repentance and faith through His goodness, His word, His Spirit and His children, revealing who Jesus is, opening the sinner's heart to Christ (2Tim 2:25; Rev 2:21; Heb 12:2; Acts 14:27; 16:14; Matt 16:16-17; Acts 16:14).
- F. When sinners respond in faith to Jesus Christ, they are made spiritual children of God (John 1:12; Gal 3:26). They become one with Christ who is now in them by the Holy Spirit (John 14:18-24). Their purpose now is to allow Christ to live His life through them (2Corinthians 4:10,11; Galatians 2:20; 4:19). As they do so, their minds are continually renewed such that they more and more think, speak, and live like Jesus (Romans 12:1,2). God's purpose is to ultimately present them holy, unblameable, and unreprouvable in His sight (Colossians 1:21-23). The following list describes the spiritual fruit which believers should allow God to produce in their lives as they become more like Christ.
  - 1. Holy -- Separate from sin (1Pet 1:14-16)
  - 2. Just -- Impartial, upright, no respecter of persons (Titus 1:8)
  - 3. Loving -- Sacrificially giving of one's self for the benefit of others (John 3:16)
  - 4. Joyful -- Inwardly contented and happy based on trust in God (John 15:11)
  - 5. Kind -- Gentle, friendly, courteous, and encouraging (Eph 4:32)
  - 6. Courageous -- Willing to face harm or insult when necessary (Josh 23:6)
  - 7. Content -- Satisfied with what or who you have (Phil 4:11-13)
  - 8. Humble -- Not thinking too highly of one's self (Phil 2:3-8)
  - 9. Obedient -- Consistently following the instructions of those in authority (1Pet 1:14)

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10. Ready -- Prepared and willing to act immediately (1Pet 3:15)
11. Temperate -- Willing and able to deny self; self-discipline; self-restraint (Gal 5:23)
12. Cooperative -- Willing and able to work well with others (Eph 4:3)
13. Generous -- Cheerfully giving to others, even out of want (2Cor 9:7)
14. Faithful -- Trustworthy, dependable, full of faith in God and His word (Rev 2:10)
15. Pure -- Clean in thought, word, and actions (Mat 5:8)
16. Submissive -- Willing to yield to another's judgment, decision, or desire (Eph 5:21)
17. Thankful -- Giving thanks always for all things (Eph 5:20)
18. Patient -- Calm and peaceful under pressure; able to wait for others (James 5:8)
19. Diligent -- Hard working, doing all things heartily as unto the Lord (2Pet 3:14)
20. Hopeful -- Having confidence in God regarding things not yet seen (Rom 8:24)
21. Truthful -- Knowing, loving, living, and speaking the truth (3John 1:4)
22. Wise -- Knowledgeable, discerning, sensible, and insightful (Mat 10:16)
23. Compassionate -- Merciful, caring for and helping the needy (1Pet 3:8)
24. Meek -- Gentle, slow to speak, fearing the Lord, respecting others (Matthew 5:5)
25. Approachable -- Easily intreated, not easily offended, taking reproof gracefully (James 3:17)
26. Friendly -- Always reaching out to befriend others (Proverbs 18:24)

## III. God does not save all sinners

- A. Few sinners find eternal life--most will be punished with everlasting destruction (Matt 7:13-14; 22:13-14; Dan 7:10 with Rev 20:15; 2Thes 1:8-9)
- B. Sinners are eternally condemned because they sin and will not receive God's forgiveness. They love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil, do not receive the love of the truth, do not glorify or thank God, change the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man, change the truth of God into a lie, worship and serve the creature more than the Creator, do not like to retain God in their knowledge, commit vile and shameful acts worthy of death, and turn away from the Lord and His truth (John 3:19; 2Thes 2:10; Rom 1:18-32; Heb12:25; 2Tim 4:4).
- C. God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezek 18:30-32; Matt 22:37; 2Pet 3:9; 1Tim 2:1-6; Isa 5:3-4; Matt 23:37) but is righteous in His judgment of sinners who sin and will not receive His salvation (John 16:9; Rom 1:18-2:8; 3:3-18; 1Pet 4:17-18; 2Thes 1:4-9; 2:9-12; Heb 2:1-4; 3:7-13; 10:25-31)

## III. Man cannot save himself

- A. God is the only Savior (1Chron 16:23; Psalm 3:8; Jude 1:25; Isa 45:21; Hos 13:4; Titus 2:13)
- B. Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation (Matt 26:39-42; Mark 16:16; John 3:16, 18, 36; 10:1; 14:6; Eph 1:7; Gal 2:21; Acts 4:12; 1Jn 5:10-12; 1Tim 2:5).
- C. Man is incapable of saving himself
  1. Salvation is by Christ's death--eliminating all glorying of man except in the cross (Gal 6:14; Rom 4:2; 1Cor 1:23-29; 4:7)

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2. Spiritual birth is not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God (John 1:13)
  3. Man cannot be saved by works
    - a. Salvation is God's free gift received by faith--not by works lest any man should boast (Rom 3:26-28; 5:18; 6:23; Eph 2:8-9)
    - b. Salvation is by God's grace--not of God's indebtedness to man's works (Rom 4:2-5)
    - c. Salvation is by God's mercy--not by works of righteousness (Titus 3:5)
- Good works are the result, not the means, of salvation (Eph 2:8-10; Titus 3:5-8; 1Cor 15:58)

## IV. God uses means to save sinners

- A. God's goodness leads sinners to repentance (Rom 2:4)
- B. God's word produces faith in sinners (Rom 10:13-17; 2Tim 3:15)
- C. God's people, laboring and striving according to His working, can pray for (Col 1:29; Luke 23:34; Rom 10:1; 1Tim 2:1-6), guide (Acts 8:31), preach to (Rom 10:13-15; 1Cor 1:21), exhort (Acts 2:40), testify (1John 4:14), teach (Col 1:28), persuade (Acts 28:23; 2Cor 5:11), beseech (2Cor 5:20), convince (Titus 1:9), warn (Ezek 3:18-19; 33:7-8; Col 1:28), open the eyes of (Acts 26:18), turn (Acts 26:18), beget (1Cor 4:15), and save (Eze 3:18; Rom 11:14; 1Cor 9:22; Jude 1:23) sinners.

## V. Man must do something to be saved (Acts 16:31)

- A. Man must receive Jesus by repentance and faith (John 1:12; Acts 20:21)
  1. Man must hear the gospel in order to believe it (Rom 10:17; Acts 15:7; Gal 3:2; Eph 1:13)
  2. Man must repent (Luke 13:3; 18:9-14; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 11:21; 17:30; 20:21; 26:20; 1Thes 1:9)
  3. Man must believe in Jesus (**Faith**: Acts 15:9; Rom 3:22, 25, 28; 3:30; 4:5, 9, 11, 13, 16; 5:1, 2; 9:30 10:6; 11:20; Gal 2:16; 3:2, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14; 22, 24, 26; Eph 2:8; Phil 3:9; 2Tim 3:15; 1Pet 1:9; **Believe**: Luke 8:12; John 1:7, 12; 3:15, 16, 18, 36; 5:24; 6:35, 40, 47; 4:39, 41; 7:31, 38, 39; 8:24, 30; 10:42; 11:25, 26, 45; 12:37, 46; 20:31; Acts 8:37; 9:42; 10:43; 11:17; 13:39; 14:1; 16:31; 18:8; Rom 1:16; 3:22, 26; 4:3, 5, 11, 24; 10:9, 10; 1Cor 15:1-4; Gal 2:16; 3:6, 22; Eph 1:13; 2Thes 1:10; 2:12; 1Tim 1:16; Heb 10:39; 1Pet 2:6; 1John 5:1, 5, 10, 13; 20:31).

God hasn't communicated the message for receiving salvation in piece-meal fashion throughout scripture to be added together to formulate all the

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requirements. Instead, He has repeated the simple requirement over and over. For instance, Paul did not omit critical conditions for salvation when preaching to the Philippian jailer (Acts 16). Nor does the Apostle John do so in his writings when he emphasizes that through belief in Jesus a person receives eternal life. The condition for salvation is sometimes worded differently throughout scripture to give a fuller understanding of what it means to believe--for example, receive, repent, trust, call (Receive Christ: Jn 1:12; Obey the gospel: Rom 10:16; 2Thes 1:8; 1Pet 4:17; Trust Christ: Eph 1:12; Rom 15:12; Psalm 32:10). These words are not synonymous but are also not exclusive of each other. It would not be necessary or helpful to say that to be saved a person must receive + repent + believe + trust + submit + turn + come to + drink of + eat of + humble one's self + call + obey the gospel. These words are different ways of describing the same heart attitude which is most often referred to as *believing*. As hearing is antecedent to believing (one cannot believe without hearing so hearing therefore necessarily precedes saving faith), so confession and baptism are actions which follow saving faith.

Faith and belief are equated in scripture. To believe is to have faith (Matt 17:20; Mk 11:22; Jn 20:27; Acts 14:22; Rom 4:5, 11, 20; 9:30-10:4; 11:20; 2Cor 4:13; Heb 11:6). To not believe is to lack faith (Matt 17:20; Jn 20:27; Rom 9:30-10:4). Throughout scripture, the same Greek word in one of its various forms is used primarily for the noun 'faith' (πίστις transliterated 'pistis') and the corresponding verb 'believe' (πιστεύω transliterated 'pisteuo').

Faith, by definition, is not works; rather faith makes saving grace operative. In scripture, grace and faith are together placed in contradistinction with works (Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Rom 4:1-6, 16; 9:32; 11:6). Faith is the only acceptable response to God's grace. Repentant faith is the acknowledgment that Jesus alone saves and that man *cannot* save himself (Luke 18:9-14; Rom 4:1-5; 9:30-10:4; Eph 2:8-9). Saving faith is *trusting* in Jesus for salvation (Jn 3:16; Acts 8:37; Rom 4:4-5; 10:9-10; Eph 1:12-13). God does not force faith upon sinners (Gen 4:6,7; Joshua 24:15; 1Kings 18:21; Eze 18:20-32; Matt 23:37; Luke 7:30; 12:48; Acts 7:51; 17:30; Rev 22:17). God urges sinners to believe and is angry with them and condemns them for their lack of faith (Mk 11:22; 16:16; Jn 3:16, 18, 36; Jn 4:4-29; 16:9; Rom 1:18-2:8; 3:3-18; 9:30-33; 1Pet 4:17-18; 2Thes 1:4-9; 2:9-12; Heb 2:1-4; 3:7-13; 10:22-31). Faith is not the *ground* or *basis* of salvation; the grace of God exhibited in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ is. God ordained that the eternal benefits of Christ's gracious work be received by faith (2Thes 2:13). In accordance with this divine plan, God *gave* spiritual blessings to the believing elect in Christ *before the world began* (Eph 1:1-4; 2Tim 1:9). They *receive* these benefits and are saved *in time after* hearing and believing the gospel (Jn 5:24; Eph 1:13; 2:11-13; Col 1:21; Gal 3:26-28; Eph 1:13).

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Through faith/believing, Christians are raised with Christ (Col 2:12), their hearts are purified (Acts 15:9), they have access into His grace (Rom 4:16; 5:2; Eph 2:8), they have His imputed righteousness (Rom 4:4,5,11,24; 10:10; Phil 3:9), they have life through His name (John 20:31), they have eternal life (John 3:15, 16. 36; 5:24; 6:47), Christ indwells their hearts (Eph 3:17), they have received the remission of sins (Acts 10:43), they received the Holy Spirit (John 7:39), they have been saved (Acts 16:31; Rom 10:9-10; Eph 2:8), they have been justified (Acts 13:39; Rom 3:28; 5:1; Gal 2:16), they have become His children (Jn 1:12; Gal 3:26), and have been sealed by the Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption (Eph 1:13; 4:30). Believers also receive the assuring inner witness of the Holy Spirit (1Jn 5:10-13; Rom 8:9, 15-16; Gal 3:2; 26; 4:6; 1Cor 12:3,7; Jn 7:37; Acts 10:44-48 with Acts 11:1-14). When sinners believe in Jesus Christ, they receive all these spiritual blessings and more.<sup>1</sup>

4. Man must believe the gospel (i.e., good news) of Jesus to be saved (Rom 1:16; Eph 1:13). The two essential elements of the gospel are that Jesus died for our sins and that he rose bodily from the dead (1Cor 15:1-8; 12-19; 1Pet 1:18-21; 3:18; Acts 2:21-24; 10:37-43; 13:23-39; 26:22-23). [Note in 1Cor 15, Jesus' burial is given as evidence of his death; and his many post-mortem appearances to his disciples are given as evidence of his resurrection]. These two basic elements of the gospel serve to essentially define the Jesus a sinner must trust. The object of saving faith is the historical Jesus of Nazareth who died for the sins of the world and rose physically from the dead, not another Jesus (1Cor 15:1-8; 2Cor 11:4; Gal 1:6-9). The atoning death of Christ is an essential part of the content of the gospel (Matt 26:28; 1Cor 1:17-18, 23; 1Cor 2:2; 15:1-8; Rom 3:25; 5:6-10; 1Pet 1:18-21; 3:18; Acts 2:21-24). The resurrection of Christ is also an essential part of the content of the gospel (1Cor 15:1-8; 12-19; 1Thes 4:14; Rom 10:9-10; 1Pet 1:21; 3:18; Acts 2:21-24; 3:15; 4:10; 10:40-41; 13:30-31; 17:31; 26:22-23).

Some beliefs would be necessary, antecedent beliefs to believing in Jesus, but do not appear to be a part of the explicit gospel message itself. These basic worldview tenets are assumed to be background beliefs already held by the sinner upon hearing the gospel—beliefs such as God exists, God is one, miracles are possible, Jesus really lived, etc. Other important truths and aspects of Christ's work (e.g., the Trinity, virgin birth, sinless life, miraculous works, or ascension of Christ) are ontologically essential to our salvation (we could not have been saved without these realities), but they are not epistemologically essential for our salvation (we are not required to *know* these truths to be saved), though some of these truths could be logically entailed from the essential gospel declaration. This allowance for ignorance is not the same as saying a person could be saved while *denying* these truths. (A rejection of these truths is heretical and is antithetical to saving faith in the true Jesus of history.) Whereas, the apostles constantly emphasized the atoning death and bodily resurrection of Jesus as the core and essential content of the gospel that a

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sinner must intellectually believe and trust in order to be reconciled to God. A person cannot be saved and be ignorant of these two truths.

5. Confessing Jesus Christ as Lord will of necessity follow saving faith (Luke 12:8-9; Rom 10:9-11; 1Cor 12:3)

6. Water baptism is not essential to salvation (Acts 10:43-48 with 11:17-9; 1Cor 1:17) but typifies salvation (Acts 22:16) and is commanded of all believers (Matt 28:19-20; Acts 8:37) and should soon follow after one's conversion (Acts 2:38; 8:36; 9:18; 10:47; 16:30-33; 19:5).

Salvation has always been appropriated by faith. The required response to receive salvation is the same for those under the New Covenant as it was for those before and during the Mosaic Law. Abraham (before the law) and David (during the law) are presented as examples of being justified by faith (Rom 4:1-7; 9:32; Heb 4:2). Salvation is of faith, that it might be by grace (Rom 4:16; 11:6; Gen. 6:8; Ex 33:13). Salvation has never been by works (Rom 4:1-6; 9:32; Gal 2:16; 3:21) or by ritual (Rom 2:28-29; Gal 6:15). Water baptism was not essential for salvation before or during Christ's earthly ministry either (Mark 2:5; Luke 7:48; 18:9-14, 42; 23:39-43); nor did Jesus, the Savior, ever baptized anyone with water (John 4:2). Water baptism was not essential for salvation after Christ's ascension. Many conversions are recorded in the book of Acts with no mention of water baptism (4:4; 5:14; 11:21; 13:12; 13:48; 14:1; 16:1; 17:1-4; 17:10-12; 17:34; 19:17, 18). Very plainly, Cornelius received the Holy Spirit by faith *before* water baptism (Acts 10:43-48; 15:17-9; Gal 3:14).

Water baptism is a separate response which follows faith (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 8:37) and is therefore not normally the occasion of initial saving faith. Faith is a response of the mind and heart that does not require physical effort, water, or a human baptizer. The fact that baptism is a separate response from believing is obvious by the time difference between initial faith and water baptism as recorded in Acts (Acts 2:41; 8:12-13; 8:38; 9:18; 10:48; 16:15, 33; 18:8; 19:5) and in most personal experiences. It is also evident by the fact that people exhibited faith before the New Covenant began, when baptism was not required. There is no case recorded in scripture in which people are standing in baptismal waters being baptized by someone the exact moment they hear and initially believe the gospel. Normally, a person who is an alienated unbelieving enemy of God has no desire to go into the baptismal waters. In proper baptism, those who go into the baptismal waters have a desire to obey the Lord because they are believers already, whose hearts have already been purified (Acts 15:9), and whose consciences have already been purged of dead works to serve the living God (Heb 4:19). Water baptism is thus described as the answer of a *good* conscience toward God (1Pet 3:21).

7. Those who believe in Jesus receive eternal life (John 3:15-18, 36; 5:24; 6:40, 47; 1John 5:11-20)



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8. Those who do not believe in Jesus receive eternal condemnation (Mark16:16; John 3:18-20, 36; 8:24; 15:22; 1Cor 16:22; 2Thes 1:4-9; 2:9-12; 1Pet 4:17-18; Heb 2:1-4; 3:7-13; 10:25-31; Rev 20:11-15)

Believing on Jesus Christ is to believe that he died for your sins and that He rose from the dead (1Cor 15:3-5). Believing on Jesus Christ is trusting in Him with all your heart (Eph 1:12; Rom 10:9,10; Acts 8:37; Luke 24:25; Rom 6:17; Rom 15:12; 2Cor 3:4; Psalm 32:10). It is to rely on Him alone to save you from your sins. True belief in Christ involves repentance--a change of mind about sin and Christ (Luke 13:3; 18:9-14; Acts 17:30). This type belief requires an humbling of one's self, approaching God as a child who utterly depends on his father's provision (Matt 18:3-4; 23:12).

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<sup>1</sup>**Blessings received by faith (by believing).** The overwhelming number of verses presented below highlight the important and pivotal role of faith in the operation of God's grace.

## Faith

1. God purifies our hearts by faith (Acts 15:9)
2. God has manifested his righteousness which is by faith (Rom 3:21-22, 4:13; 9:30; 10:6)
3. God has set forth Christ to be a propitiation through faith (Rom 3:25)
4. A man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law (Rom 3:28)
5. God justifies the circumcision and the uncircumcision by faith (Rom 3:30)
6. To him who works not, his faith is counted for righteousness (Rom 4:5, 11)
7. It is of faith that it might be by grace, the promise is sure to all the seed of Abraham (Rom 4:16)
8. Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 5:1; Gal 2:16)
9. We have access by faith into God's grace (Rom 5:2)
10. We stand by faith (Rom 11:20)
11. By the hearing of faith, we received the Spirit (Gal 3:2)
12. Those of faith are the children of Abraham (Gal 3:7)
13. God justifies the heathen through faith (Gal 3:8)
14. They who are of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham (Gal 3:9)
15. The just shall live by faith (Gal 3:11)
16. We Gentiles received the promise of the Spirit through faith, the blessing of Abraham (Gal 3:14)
17. The promise by faith of Jesus Christ is given to us who believe (Gal 3:22)
18. After faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster (Gal 3:25)
19. We are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus (Gal 3:26)
20. By grace we are saved, through faith (Eph 2:8)
21. Christ dwells in our hearts by faith (Eph 3:17)
22. We have the righteousness which is of God by faith (Phil 3:9)
23. The holy scriptures are able to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus (2Tim 3:15)
24. We are risen with Christ through the faith of the operation of God, who has raised him (Col 2:12)
25. The end of our faith is the salvation of our souls (1Pet 1:9)

## Believe

26. By believing the word, we are saved (Luke 8:12)
27. John the Baptist bore witness of the light that all men might believe (John 1:7)
28. To them who believe on his name, God gave the power to become the sons of God (John 1:12)
29. They who believe on Jesus receive the Holy Spirit (John 7:39)
30. By believing that Jesus is the Christ, we will not die in our sins (John 8:24)
31. Jesus acknowledged His Father hearing Him, so those standing by may believe that God sent Him (Jn 11:42)
32. Jesus prayed that believers would be one, that the world may believe God sent Him (John 17:21)
33. The record of Jesus' death is true, that we might believe (John 19:35)
34. Scriptures were written that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (John 20:31)
35. Scriptures were written that believing we might have life through His name (John 20:31)
36. If we believe with all our hearts, we may be baptized (Acts 8:37)
37. By him, all who believe are justified from all things (Acts 13:39)
38. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved (Acts 16:31)
39. John the Baptist preached that they should believe on Jesus Christ (Acts 19:4)
40. The righteousness of God is unto and upon all them who believe (Rom 3:22)
41. Abraham is the father of all them who believe (Rom 4:11)
42. God imputes righteousness to us, if we believe on Him who raised up Jesus (Rom 4:24)
43. If we confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and will be saved (Rom 10:9-10)
44. The promise of faith of Jesus Christ is given to us who believe (Gal 3:22)
45. Christ will be admired by us who believe when He comes to be glorified in His saints (2Thes 1:10)

# Salvation

46. We believe on Him to life everlasting (1Tim 1:16)
47. We believe to the saving of the soul (Heb 10:39)
48. Scriptures were written to those who believe that we may know that we have eternal life (1John 5:13)
49. Whoever believes in the Son of God, we will not perish, but have eternal life (John 3:15)
50. Whoever believes in the Son of God, we will not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16)
51. He who believes on the Son of God, we are not condemned (John 3:18)
52. He who believes on the Son has everlasting life (John 3:36; 6:47)
53. He who hears and believes on Him who sent Jesus, has everlasting life, and will not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life (John 5:24)
54. He that believes on Jesus, we will never thirst (John 6:35)
55. Everyone who believes on Jesus, he will raise up at the last day (John 6:40)
56. He who believes on Jesus, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water (John 7:38)
57. He who believes in Jesus, though he were dead, yet shall he live (John 11:25)
58. Whoever lives and believes in Jesus, will never die (John 11:26)
59. Whoever believes on Jesus, should not abide in darkness (John 12:46)
60. He who believes on Jesus, greater works than Jesus' he will do (John 14:12)
61. Whoever believes in Jesus, will receive remission of sins (Acts 10:43)
62. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes (Rom 1:16)
63. God is just and the justifier of him who believes in Jesus (Rom 3:26)
64. To him who believes on Him, his faith is counted for righteousness (Rom 4:5)
65. Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes (Rom 10:4)
66. With the heart, we believe unto righteousness (Rom 10:10)
67. He who believes on Jesus will not be confounded (1Pet 2:6)
68. Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God (1John 5:1)
69. He who overcomes the world is he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God (1John 5:5)
70. He who believes on the Son of God, has the witness in himself (1John 5:10)
71. Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness (Rom 4:3; Gal 3:6)
72. Scriptures were written that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (John 20:31)
73. Scriptures were written that believing we might have life through His name (John 20:31)
74. Many of the Samaritans of the city believed on Him for the saying of the woman (John 4:39)
75. Many more believed because of His own word (John 4:41)
76. And many of the people believed on Him (John 7:31)
77. As He spoke these words, many believed on Him (John 8:30)
78. And many believed on Him there (John 10:42)
79. Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on Him (John 11:45)
80. By reason of Lazarus, many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus (John 12:11)
81. Among the chief rulers, many believed on Him (John 12:42)
82. In Joppa many believed in the Lord (Acts 9:42)
83. God gave the gift of the Spirit to those who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 11:17)
84. A great multitude of the Jews and Greeks believed (Acts 14:1)
85. Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house (Acts 18:8)
86. Apollos helped them much who had believed through grace (Acts 18:27)
87. After we believed, we were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise (Eph 1:13)
88. God has from the beginning chosen us to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth (2Thes 2:13)