

Salvation

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek” (Romans 1:16).

This lesson is written under the assumption that you, the disciple, have been *saved or born again*. If you have not had this experience then it is our prayer that this lesson will be used of God to bring you to salvation.

I. What Is Salvation?

A. Passing from death to life

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life” (John 5:24).

B. Escaping hell (and the lake of fire) and gaining heaven

“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:15).

C. Turning from a life devoted to serving self to a life devoted to serving God according to the teachings of His Son Jesus Christ

“And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me” (Matthew 10:38).

D. Adoption into the family of God

“To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father” (Galatians 4:5–6).

II. How Does a Person Get Saved?

A. By believing the gospel of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ

“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures”
(1 Corinthians 15:1–4).

B. By submitting to God’s command to repent

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19).

C. By making a determination that from this moment on, I will attempt to live my life in the way most pleasing to God

“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God” (Colossians 1:10).

D. By calling upon the Lord, asking Him to save you

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).

III. Scriptural Steps to Salvation: Things You Should Understand

A. Ye must be born again

“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again” (John 3:3–7).

“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever” (1 Peter 1:23).

B. Jesus is the only way

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5).

1. Recognize your sinful nature

“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned” (Romans 5:12).

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

2. Recognize the “wages of sin”

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27).

“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” (Mark 8:36).

3. Salvation is by grace (unmerited mercy)

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Ephesians 2:8–9).

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost” (Titus 3:5).

4. Salvation is through the blood of Jesus

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ” (Ephesians 1:3).

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace” (Ephesians 1:7).

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission” (Hebrews 9:22).

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).

5. Accept salvation on faith

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief” (1 Timothy 1:15).

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

6. The condition of repentance (turning away from sin)

*“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death”
(2 Corinthians 7:10).*

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19).

“Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity” (2 Timothy 2:19).

7. Ask God to save you based on Jesus’ atoning death on the cross

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Romans 10:9–10).

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).

“All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out” (John 6:37).

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me” (Revelation 3:20).

8. If you understand what you have just been studying and realize that you have never truly made a commitment to God of this nature, and if you want to make that commitment now, you should do so by praying a simple prayer such as the following one:

Dear God,

I realize now that I am a sinner headed for eternity in hell. I know that because Jesus paid for my sins on Calvary's cross, I can be forgiven and purified, and have peace with you. I now renounce my life of serving sin and self and ask You to grant me the gift of eternal life. I thank You that You have said whosoever will may come and that includes me. I thank You for saving me based solely on what Jesus did on the cross,

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

IV. What Happened to Me When I Got Saved?

A. You became a “new creature” and a “new man”

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

“And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Ephesians 4:24).

B. You received new desires

“Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart” (Psalms 37:4).

C. You received new purpose and new goals

“Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord” (Acts 11:23).

D. Your sins were washed away by the blood of Jesus Christ

“And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood” (Revelation 1:5).

E. You were justified in the eyes of God. You may prefer to state it like this: “I was made ‘just as if I’d’ never sinned.”

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him” (Romans 5:8–9).

V. God Gets Me, What Do I Get Out of It?

A. Everlasting life

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that beareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life” (John 5:24).

B. Peace with God

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1).

C. A life with purpose and meaning

“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again” (2 Corinthians 5:15).

D. A concerned and loving Father

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (1 John 2:1).

E. Forgiveness for all past sins and also for all future sins

“Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God” (Romans 3:25).

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

F. The ministry of the Holy Ghost

“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you” (John 14:16–17).

“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” (John 14:26).

G. A new body for eternity

“So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: . . . It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body” (1 Corinthians 15:42, 44).

H. Access to the throne of God’s grace through prayer

“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:15–16).

“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16).

I. Grace to live day-by-day

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it” (1 Corinthians 10:13).

VI. What Does God Expect From Me Now?

Meditate on the following verses. Let God speak to you through the ministry of the Holy Ghost.

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works” (Titus 2:11–14).

“This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men” (Titus 3:8).

“He must increase, but I must decrease” (John 3:30).

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen” (Matthew 28:19–20).

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Ephesians 6:10–18).