

# Salvation Through Christ

What Must I Do To Be Saved?



D O N G E R R I T Y

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By Don E. Gerrity

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### **BIBLES CITED...**

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## *Gospel Of Grace*

*“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 KJV)*

Many people believe that the Bible is not true and that Jesus is not God. Many who do not believe though are simply seeing the irony, hypocrisy and corruption in Christian religious organizations and denominations. They see Christians in general as *pious*, pointing their noses down at unbelievers and people who *think they are better* and they attribute that with the Word of God. But is that the truth? No. It is the Christian RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS pushing the negativity. Telling others to BE GOOD or GOD WILL GET YOU! Yet, all the while we hear of child molestation in the church, preachers caught in indecent and unlawful acts, coveting for monetary riches and worse. Do not get me wrong. I am not talking about ALL priests and pastors who are truly serving God. **GOD BLESS THEM!!** But to the unsaved people out there, this is all they hear on the news. It is all they see and it makes them angry. Heck, it makes ME ANGRY!

The real problem here is that the vast majority of Christian religious organizations and denominations are not teaching the Biblical *Gospel of Grace* that Apostle Paul taught. Most of these organizations teach false gospel messages such as the rampant prosperity gospel (God wants to make you rich) of TV evangelists, the extreme coveting of works based salvation gospel (It is what you DO that matters. Do more good than bad and then MAYBE you will make it to heaven.), the word of faith movement false gospel (just say the right words with ENOUGH faith) and the list goes on and on.

Salvation and Justification with God are not based on any of these false Gospels and if members of these organizations would read their Bible to see if the teachings of their pulpit lines up, they will quickly come to the truth. I say, Let the Word Of God be true. And every man a liar.

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## *Does God Exist? Is The Bible His Word?*

*“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man...”*  
(Romans 1:20 KJV)

Can we prove with evidence that God does exist? Notice that in this verse of Scripture it states that we can see evidence of God in creation. With all the extreme complexities in the universe there is still a harmony that can only be explained by believing that a designer created them.

If we look at nature we can know that God does exist. Just because we cannot physically see God does not in any way mean that He does not exist. Look at such laws of nature as gravity, or even the wind. We can see, and feel, ***the effects*** of them even though we do not know where they originate from. Can you see the wind, or just the *effects* of the wind? We see trees and grass moving *because of* the wind but we do not actually *see the wind* do we? So if you cannot see the wind, do you think the wind does not exist? Or do you *believe and have faith* that the wind does exist because you see and feel the effects of the wind? Though we cannot physically see the wind, or gravity even, we know that they exist. In the same way, although we may not physically see God as a being, we can know that He exists by the effect He has in the physical world.

## HOW CAN GOD MAKE HIS EXISTENCE KNOWN TO US PERSONALLY?

Suppose that God did create these physical laws of nature. If God created them how much harder would it be to show who He is to each of us on *a personal level*? God would have to be infinite if he created every living being (after all, God started everything out of nothing. God even created time itself). It would be extremely difficult for us to understand God, let alone relate to Him. We can see that He exists through what he created but He seems impersonal and *'far off'* because we do not know how to relate to him. What if God talked to you audibly? How would you know for certain that it was God and not some advanced technology? What if He came as a man with extraordinary powers that were used for miracles in order to relate to us? Who would believe that he was God? (We must ask this even of Christ Himself if we are to serve Him. We must know for sure that He is the true Son of God otherwise we would be serving under a false pretense.)

Just imagine if modern day man built a time machine and went back in time 4000 years. What would the people of that time think about one of us dressed in a pure white and silver space suit having the ability to fly (with the use of a jet pack)? They could very well have thought that we were gods. If this is true, could not a man having a more advanced technology appear to perform miracles to us? This is an important question to think about.

Another very important question to ask is, if God does exist which, if any, of the world's religions and sacred books were inspired from the true God of the universe? Which were man made theories? How can our mortal minds know God and which world religion is the one that truly serves him? The fact is, by ourselves we cannot. If God exists He would have to find a way to relate to us personally, in

such a manner that it would leave no doubt in our minds that it is God trying to relate to us. So how is God doing this?

## DISCERNING THE TRUTH OF WORLD SACRED WRITINGS

For many this is a tough question to answer but we must ask this of every religion; *How do I know that it is the truth from the real God?* Many religions claim that their sacred writings are from the real true God. It is the answer to this question that sets Biblical Christianity apart from all other religions. Bible Prophecy FULFILLED is what sets the Bible apart from all other sacred writings. And not just some Bible Prophecies fulfilled with a large average percentage but instead with 100% accuracy.

### REASON 1: THE BIBLE IS COMPRISED OF PROPHECIES FULFILLED WITH GREAT ACCURACY.

In fact, one out of every three Scripture verses in the Bible is related to Bible Prophecy and Bible Prophecy fulfilled. Many other sacred writings contain prophecies but only the Bible has such an accurate record of Prophecy fulfilled, and with great detail. It seems that God wants us to take this into account when deciding on what sacred writings are inspired from Him. This is the one proof that I found which was a large deciding factor in determining that the Bible is the inspired word from God Himself. It is the most significant proof that the Bible is the word of God and it is also the simplest. It is the easiest for us to understand and helps us know that what the Bible says is true. It is the **fulfilment** of Bible Prophecy. Many sacred writings contain prophecy but **prophecy fulfilled** in great detail and accuracy is missing from all other sacred writings except the Bible.



In Isaiah, it reads,

*“Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:” (Isaiah 46:9-10 KJV)*

*“I have even from the beginning declared it to thee; before it came to pass I shewed it thee: lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them, and my graven image, and my molten image, hath commanded them. ” (Isaiah 48:5 KJV)*

The God of the Bible tells us clearly that not only is He the true God, but that He has **proof** that no other can claim! He says this to us so that we will know that He is the true God. To paraphrase the above Scripture; 'BEFORE it came to pass I showed it to you so that you would not believe in false gods' (or idols, and graven images). God reaches out toward us and reveals Himself as the true God with absolute proof! Can any other sacred writings actually prove so? Of course, this all is contingent on the statement being correct and that the said proof exists in the Bible. And it does exist; very much so! All prophecies, except those to still be fulfilled, have a 100% accuracy rate thus far.

God wants us to know about Bible prophecy fulfilled and Bible prophecy for the times in which we live. Many Bible believing Christians do not realize the importance of Bible Prophecy but the fact that it comprises a whopping 30% of the Bible should send a strong signal to all of us. It is both a proof that the Bible is the inspired word of the one true God and also a light shining on the times in which we live.

How can we know that the prophecies of the future from the Bible are true and will occur? If we look at the prophecies from the past that have already been

fulfilled we can see just how accurate God's prophecies are. If we look at the Old Testament it is clear that the Jewish people (God's Chosen People) looked toward the Messiah's first coming and his death on the cross. This is because of the prophecies about His first coming found in the Old Testament. We now look back at Christ's first coming and death on the cross because of the precision with which the Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled.

## **Prophecies Fulfilled: The First Coming Of The Messiah**

The list of the Old Testament (the Torah) prophecies fulfilled regarding the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ is an overwhelming proof that the Bible is the true word of the true God. Here are just some of the amazing prophecies fulfilled in Jesus' life and death:

**He would be born of a virgin.**

*Old Testament: Isaiah 7:14, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 1:18-23*

**He would come from the tribe of Judah, one of the 12 tribes descended from Jacob.**

*Old Testament: Genesis 49:10, New Testament fulfillment: Luke 3:23-24*

**He would be born in Bethlehem.**

*Old Testament: Micah 5:2, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 2:1*

**He would be preceded by a messenger.**

*Old Testament: Isaiah 40:3, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 3:1-2*

**He would enter Jerusalem riding on a colt.**

*Old Testament: Zechariah 9:9, New Testament fulfillment: Luke 19:35-37*

**He would be betrayed by a friend.**

*Old Testament: Psalm 41:9, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 26:47-50*

**He would be sold for 30 pieces of silver.**

*Old Testament: Zechariah 11:12, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 26:15*

**He would be beaten and spit upon.**

*Old Testament: Isaiah 50:6, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 26:67*

**He would be wounded and whipped by his enemies.**

*Old Testament: Isaiah 53:5, New testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:26*

**His hands and feet would be pierced.**

*Old Testament: Psalm 22:16, New testament fulfillment: Luke 23:33*

**He would be crucified with thieves.**

*Old Testament: Isaiah 53:12, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:38*

**Men would cast lots for his clothing.**

*Old Testament: Psalm 34:20, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:35*

**He would not answer, or speak, to His accusers.**

*Old Testament: Isaiah 53:7, New Testament fulfillment: Matthew 27:12-14*

**He would live again after dying.**

*Old Testament: Job 19:25, New Testament fulfillment: John 2:19, Matthew 12:39, 16:3*

This is just a very small example! In fact, there are 250+ Prophecies that Christ fulfilled from Old Testament Prophecies! That this is true is NOT BY CHANCE! The statistical odds are astronomical and too great to dismiss the truth of God's prophecies concerning the first coming of Christ. Some sceptics say that Christ simply read the Old Testament prophecies and then did what they said. But how could anyone predict where He would be born and under what circumstance He was born? How could anyone predict that exactly two thieves would be crucified with Him, or that men would cast lots for his clothing? And why would any man actually want to die such a horrible excruciating death on a cross?

## Bible Prophecy Fulfilled:

### Rebuilding of the First Temple Prophecy Fulfilled

During the First Temple Period of Jerusalem there was a Prophet named Isaiah. Isaiah prophesied doom for a sinful Judah and for all the nations of the world that oppose God. He warned Israel to turn back to God as there had been a falling away.

Isaiah states, *“That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.”* (Isaiah 44:28 KJV)

A look at the history of Jerusalem shows that the First Temple was not built by anyone by the name of Cyrus.

*“According to Hebrew scripture, King David reigned until 970 BCE. He was succeeded by his son Solomon, who built the Holy Temple on Mount Moriah. Solomon’s Temple (later known as the First Temple), went on to play a pivotal role in Jewish history as the repository of the Ark of the Covenant.”* (Source Wikipedia.org, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple\\_periods](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple_periods) July/2014)

We know that at the time of Isaiah writing this the temple in Jerusalem was already in place. So this is Isaiah writing what God told him to write and is a Bible Prophecy of a future event.

*“For over 450 years, until the Babylonian conquest in 587 BCE, Jerusalem was the political capital of firstly the united Kingdom of Israel and then the Kingdom of Judah and the Temple was the religious center of the Israelites. This period is known in history as the First Temple Period. Upon Solomon’s death (c. 930 BCE), the ten northern tribes split off to form the*

*Kingdom of Israel. Under the leadership of the House of David and Solomon, Jerusalem remained the capital of the Kingdom of Judah. The Tower of David as seen from the Hinnom Valley when the Assyrians conquered the Kingdom of Israel in 722 BCE, Jerusalem was strengthened by a great influx of refugees from the northern kingdom. The First Temple period ended around 586 BCE, as the Babylonians conquered Judah and Jerusalem, and laid waste to Solomon's Temple." (Source Wikipedia.org, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple\\_periods](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple_periods) July/2014)*

It is historical fact that when the Babylonian's took control of Jerusalem they laid waste to Solomon's Temple. It was destroyed. Looking a little further into the history of this line of events we can see the fulfillment of the prophecy Isaiah had given. In 538 BCE, after fifty years of Babylonian captivity, the Persian King Cyrus the Great invited the Jews to return to Judah to rebuild the Temple. (Source Wikipedia.org, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple\\_periods](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem#Temple_periods) July/2014)

We see this prophecy was fulfilled just as written over 100 years after Isaiah wrote the words given to him by God. And 150 years before Cyrus was even born! Dr. Hugh Ross from the website Reasons.org calculated the statistical probability of chance of this being fulfilled and it equates to 1 in 10 to the power of 15. That is a chance of 1 in 1,000,000,000,000,000 for this one Bible Prophecy alone! (Source Dr. Hugh Ross, <http://www.reasons.org/articles/articles/fulfilled-prophecy-evidence-for-the-reliability-of-the-bible> July 28/2014. I encourage you to visit his article. It is an amazing read!)

It is well known that the Bible has more than 1000 Prophecies already fulfilled with 100% accuracy. Such specific accuracy proves without a shadow of a doubt that the Bible is the word of the true God. God uses *prophecy fulfilled* to let us discern the truth from the fallacy. To let us know without doubting that the Bible is the one true word of the one true God. And there are also many Bible Prophecies concerning the time period in which we live that are of great importance. (I will leave that for another ebook)

## **REASON 2: THE UNITY OF THE BIBLE IS CONSISTENT FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION**

To this statement some might say, of course it is, it was written by a person. However, the truth is the Bible was not written by a single person. In fact, the Bible consists of 66 books, written by approximately 40 different men (most that did not know each other) at different times periods in history, education and social backgrounds spanning thousands of years. Yet, it is consistent and unified from Genesis to Revelation and reads as one book, with each book of the Bible in complete agreement with the other books. So much so, that Scriptures relating to Prophecy can be interpreted by using other Scriptures from a completely different time period, written by a different person, to help us understand the Prophecy.

The Bible is the best selling book and most widely distributed ever created. This is no coincidence. It is the inspired word of the one true God of the Universe and all who study it and learn the truths contained in it are blessed beyond measure. Contrary to what some may tell you, it is more about our relationship to God than it is about religion. It is the Revelation of Jesus Christ to the entire world and the truth about everything pertaining to life, death and our relationship to God Almighty.

## **REASON 3: PROOF THREE: HISTORICAL ACCURACY OF THE BIBLE**

The books of the Bible are not just stories told by these writers. They are also historically accurate. The Bible is comprised of historical facts. There is much evidence from archaeology that confirm the Biblical accounts as historical facts.

Even the school system (where God is not valid and prayer is prohibited) recognizes Biblical accounts as historical truth! The historical accuracy of the Bible has been vindicated many times over as have no other religious writings. Archaeology in our modern times continues to prove that what the Bible says happened... actually happened exactly as the Bible depicts events.

## **REASON 4: EYE WITNESS ACCOUNTS**

The Bible was written by people who actually witnessed the events it tells us about. And given that so many were martyred and killed, yet never changed their belief and story of the account of events, it makes us wonder why they would die for something they knew was untrue?

I mean, look at the Apostle Paul. Before his conversion to belief in Christ as the Son of God, he sought after and killed Christians. Yet after his road to Damascus incident, from there onward he became the complete opposite. He was completely convinced of the truth because it was PROVEN to him.

Right after Jesus' Crucifixion and death, the Apostles were terrified, dismayed and thoroughly distraught and disappointed. However, after Christ appeared to them they went on preaching the good news and ultimately changed the world for Christ with passion and belief unto death! That is quite a change of direction don't you think? What made them so convinced that they were willing to give up their lives for Christ's message of Salvation to the World? It was because they witnessed Jesus live, die, resurrect and then ascend! That's why!

# What Must I Do To Be Saved

*"...whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal 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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:15-17 KJV)*

Believing that the Bible is the word of God, the very next question you need an answer to is what is God really like? Starting with knowing about God and His perfect ways gives you a solid foundation upon which to build better understanding when reading the Word of God. Let us quickly look at some of God's characteristics from the Bible.

- **God is eternal.** He is not a created being. He has always existed. God never changes. He is the same today as He has always been. (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8 , James 1:17, Deuteronomy 33:27, Psalms 90:2)
- **God cannot do anything against His own perfect character.** God keeps His promises to us. (Psalms 12:6-7, Mark 13:31)
- **God is perfect in every way:**
  - + Perfect in love. (1 John 4:8, 1 John 4:16, 1 John 4 :7)
  - + Perfectly Holy and perfect in justice.(Revelation 4:8, 1 Peter 1:15-16)
  - + Perfect in mercy. (Hebrews 13:5, Romans 3:23-24, Psalms 111:9)

*NOTE: The list continues because He is truly perfect in every way. I have a more complete article on what the Bible has to say about God's characteristics and His ways that you can read here . For the purpose of this article we will focus on the above attributes of God.*



## GOD IS LOVE. THEN, ALL IS GOOD RIGHT?

Perfect love is the trait of God that we want to hear about the most right? If God loves us than what have we to fear? In fact, many pulpits focus on this aspect of God yet deny the other attributes of God. We must also remember that God is also perfectly JUST and Holy. And that is the problem that we humans need to address and face head on. If we compare our goodness to others who have done greater sins than we have, that is not a fair assessment of our true sinfulness. The Bible tells us that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23 KJV) and that "*...we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;*" (Isaiah 53:6 KJV). The very best thing we do in goodness is as filthy rags to God. You see, we all have a SIN NATURE in us. And God is so Holy that even just ONE sin is enough to cause Him to punish us with His perfect justice.

To make matters worse, the punishment for even ONE SIN is eternal death in a place of torment that was prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). God is THAT HOLY! And when we compare ourselves to God, believe me when I say that we fail miserably. God gave us the Ten Commandments as His Absolute Truth to show us just how sinful we really are (Romans 3:20). No normally born human has kept the Ten Commandments perfectly (James 2:10).

Some say, I have not committed murder or adultery! However, Jesus said that if you have hate toward another in your heart you have committed murder. If you lust after the opposite sex you have committed adultery in your heart. (Matthew 5). And have you really loved God with ALL YOUR HEART AND MIND? Honestly, none of us have. You see our heart, our inner being is where the problem is. We all were born with a SIN NATURE and a 'bent' toward sinning since the fall of Adam and Eve. Born with a fallen spirit at enmity with God.

So we have all sinned. What does that make us? It makes us sinners! And what does the Bible say happens to sinners? They are headed for God's judgment and condemnation in a real place called the lake of fire and hell.

*"For the wages of sin is death;..." (Romans 6:23 KJV)*

A look at this verse in Strongs Greek concordance defines this death as *'with the implied idea of future misery in hell'*. This is an eternal death. That is not good news right? So, what about God's love you keep hearing about? Isn't God perfect in love and mercy? Yes, He is! But not in a *wishy washy sense*. What I mean is that God is not going to just tell you in the court room of God, *"ok. You did more good deeds than bad, so I will allow you eternal life in heaven"*. **NEVER**. God CANNOT do anything against His perfect Holiness! Just one sin and you broke all the Law (James 2:10). To be given entrance to Heaven a person **must be perfect** and **without any sin debt**.

## HERE IS THE GOOD NEWS! THE WONDERFUL NEWS!

God is also perfect in love and mercy and so He must also abide by these character traits perfectly. You see God loves you and me more than any being in the universe. He does not want anyone to end up in Hell. No! He loves the sinner but hates the sin. He wants all to be in heaven with Him forever and ever.

*"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish**, but that all **should come to repentance**." (2 Peter 3:9 KJV)*

But this thing called SIN (a noun in the book of Romans) is in the way because He must judge it. The penalty MUST be paid. So what is God to do in this predicament?

This is what Salvation is all about. The Bible tells us that God is a Trinity of Father, Son and the Holy Spirit (1 John 5:7). The Bible is clear that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins (Hebrews 9:22). God in His perfect love and mercy decides to commit to the single greatest act of love in the universe for all of time. God decides to take the punishment for our sins **upon Himself** so that our penalty for sins can be **paid in full**. To do this, He would have to become a human but also still be God. This God-man is Jesus, the Christ.

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:20) and born of the Virgin Mary and was not born into the sin nature as we were. He is God after all. He could be *tempted to sin but never sinned* in His entire life in deed, nor in the mind. Why? Because He is God become flesh. God had to become flesh and live as one of us so His blood could be shed for us. It was the only way that we could be forgiven our sins because they have to be paid for.

When Jesus died on the cross and shed His blood, God took upon Himself all the sins of the whole world (past/present/future) and paid for them so that we could be freed from our sin debt against the Holy God Almighty. So you see, yes God is love. Amazing love! But His love that saves us was not in a *wishy washy* way. Jesus became the perfect sacrifice for our sins (Hebrews 10) and in doing so kept all His perfect traits and characteristics intact. He loves us perfectly. He judged our sins in His perfect justice and Holiness. He was perfectly merciful toward us in paying the penalty for our sins. THAT is the true love of God from the Bible. THAT is the love of God that you hear so much about. It far surpasses any love we have for each other here on Earth.

## THE FREE GIFT OF THE GRACE OF GOD

*“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 KJV)*

The Bible is clear that the cross of Christ, this perfect act of love towards us, is a FREE GIFT to be received. That is, it is not us working our way to heaven by performing good deeds and good works, being a good person nor by religious rituals. It is a Grace GIFT from God. An UNMERITED favour from God to humankind. God did not create us as robots. Instead God gave us *a free will* so that we could have a real relationship with Him. And so God offers the **free gift of Salvation** to all who believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, who atoned for our sins on the cross, died and rose again on the third day (1 Cor. 15:1-4). Jesus on the cross cried out, *“It is finished”* and if we look at the Greek that the New Testament was written, it actually was an accounting term meaning, *“PAID IN FULL!”* This is why the Gospel of Jesus Christ is called the good news!

## WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Only one thing, which is not of your own self righteous efforts in any way; **BELIEVE the Gospel of Jesus Christ.** Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who is God (John 1), who paid your penalty for the sins you have committed in death on that cross and that He rose again. When a person believes this they are from that very moment sealed in salvation eternally, even without saying a prayer, The Holy Spirit of God indwells the person and they are SEALED and saved for all eternity!

*“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, **the gospel of your salvation**: in whom also **after that ye BELIEVED, ye were SEALED with that holy Spirit of PROMISE**, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:13-16 KJV)*

The Scripture below shows just how much God has saved such a person for all eternity. To be with God in Heaven we must be without sin debt. In belief, the person actually becomes *the very righteousness of God, in Christ*. An amazing truth to be so thankful for, yet many believers have not grasped how powerful our Salvation is!

*“For he hath made HIM [Christ] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be **MADE the righteousness of God IN HIM**.” (2 Corinthians 5:21 KJV, [] brackets for clarification)*

Because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins and has imputed the righteousness of God to us, in God's eyes He sees us through the filter of Christ! To Him we are Holy, righteous and redeemed for all eternity. To God, all your sins (past/present/future) have all been fully paid for and so there is now no condemnation for them that believe on Christ alone in faith and belief.

*“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” (Romans 8:1 KJV)*

*“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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that*

*the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”*  
(John 3:16-18 KJV)

## IS JUST BELIEVING ENOUGH TO SAVE US? WHAT ABOUT REPENTANCE?

The New Testament was first penned in the Greek. The Greek word for the English word 'REPENT' is *'metanoia'* and is defined as "...a change of mind". It is not defined as *'turn from sin'* as many pulpits teaching works based Salvation are telling their church members. That is the modern day dictionary definition but not the Biblical definition of *'repentance'*. In fact, we see in the Word of God that God Himself repents many times, yet God has no sin to repent of! To repent is to *'change your mind'*. It is a word with a definition and we need to use the proper definition.

You can see clearly now that the Biblical meaning of the word REPENT is nothing like the dictionary definition (*change one's life for the better; be penitent.*) True repentance is not a work that WE DO to gain God's acceptance and favor after Salvation. God reached out to us first and provided a way for us sinners to be forgiven completely, but it is not from our own efforts. God gives Salvation to us as **a free gift to be received**. The Bible tells us that before God created the Earth He established the one and only way for us to be forgiven our sins and that way is by faith in the act of atonement provided by Jesus The Christ on the cross.

Repentance is changing our mind and thinking about how to be saved. We are not saved by our works, which is what the every religion in the world teaches. Repentance and belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (which is Salvation by faith alone in the atonement for our sins through Christ crucified) is two sides of the

same coin. That is, if you repent about how to deal with your sins (change your mind about how to get forgiveness for your sins) and believe that this is accomplished only through faith and belief in the finished work of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, and the atonement for our sins on the cross, and His rising from the dead, you HAVE ALREADY repented.

Repenting is the change in your mind from the world's way of dealing with sin (good works, being a good person) and changing to God's way of dealing with sin which is believing on Christ for Salvation apart from works of any kind (Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 3, 5:4-5).

*Stopping the practice of a particular sin is a result of repenting and changing your mind. That is, it is not the repenting itself.*

## THE MAIN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE ON HOW TO BE SAVED PROVE THIS

**The book of John.** This book is all about how to be saved. Do you know that the word 'REPENT nor 'REPENTANCE' does not even appear once! But the word BELIEVE on Christ is seen all over the book many times.

**The book of Galatians.** This is the book fighting against the false Gospel based on works for Salvation, refuting the Judiazers adding Law to how a person is saved. Again, the word REPENT is not found once in this book contending for the true Gospel! However the word FAITH in Jesus Christ is found all through the book.

**The book of Romans.** Paul tells us again and again that Salvation is NOT OF WORKS IN ANY MANNER! And where the word REPENT is found, it is not the same Greek word. It is a not defined as '*turning from your sin*'. The word SIN in Romans is not even an action verb; it is a NOUN (a thing).

The Christian religions need to stop using the dictionary definition of the word REPENT! They are teaching a FALSE GOSPEL WHICH WILL NOT SAVE ANYONE.

## BELIEVE THE GOSPEL AND BE SAVED

Do you believe Jesus is the Christ, the only begotten Son of God who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, born without sin, lived a sinless life, atoned for and paid in full the sins of the whole world (past/ present/ future) on the cross, died and rose again on the third day? If so, the Holy Spirit now resides within you and you are SEALED and saved for all eternity. You are Heaven bound and your sins will not cause loss of your Salvation. They are fully PAID by Christ on the cross 2000 years ago.

*"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 Cor. 15:1-4 KJV)*

## DOES THAT MEAN OUR GOOD WORKS AFTER SALVATION ARE MEANINGLESS?

God forbid! (Romans 6) as Apostle Paul wrote. We have a new born again Spirit which is sealed by the indwelling Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13-14), complete in Christ (Colossians 2), which is the very righteousness of God, in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21),



which has been perfected by God (Hebrews 10:14). Our new Spirit is real. We need to RENEW OUR MIND (repenting after salvation) by God's Word; the truth of who God made us. This leads to better decisions and walking in the Spirit (Gal 5:16). We are not saved by works (Eph 2:8-9), nor kept saved by good works (Gal. 3, 5:4-5), but we should walk by the Spirit (Gal. 5:16) and not the fleshly wrong beliefs in our mind. Pray to God to help in your walk after your moment of salvation. Overtime, you will see how much He has worked in your life!

*“For we are **his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that **we should** walk in them. “***  
(Ephesians 2:10KJV )

## MY HOPE IS THAT YOU COME TO BELIEF ON CHRIST FOR SALVATION

Believe on the finished work of Christ and you are saved. What now? The number one goal for a new believer is to gain the knowledge of the truth of the Gospel and who Christ MADE YOU, from the very moment you believed on Christ. To renew your mind by God's Word; The Truth (Romans 12).

Read my free e-book *“Christ in Us, The Hope Of Glory” and other articles and video links* found at <https://seekknockfind.org> to gain more understanding by Scripture who you now are in Christ because you believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The good news! Join our Facebook Group in conversations as we all learn more and more the deep riches God has bestowed on all who believe. Jesus is returning; please be ready.

## About The Author

*Don Gerrity* is not a preacher. He is not a leader of a church organization. He uses his talents in writing to help share the Gospel to the lost and to help encourage other believers. Don does not lead in an organization, nor an organizational church, though he does frequent many of the top Facebook Christian groups.



Don is owner of the SeekKnockFind.org website.

A growing FREE resource with Christian articles, YouTube video playlists and links to other Christian resources. The goal of the SeekKnockFind.org website is to help new believers expand their knowledge of the truth in Salvation through Jesus Christ and to show non-believers why Christianity and the Holy Bible can be believed with full assurance that the Bible is the truth.



[SeekKnockFind.org](http://SeekKnockFind.org)

## *Selected Bibliography*

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