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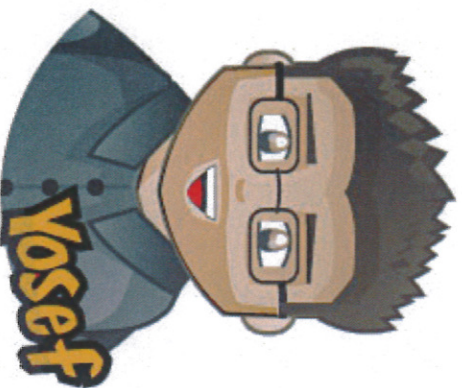
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Get Saved and Born Again



John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am **the way**, and **the truth**, and **the life**; no one comes to the Father but through Me. [NASB]

Acts 4:12

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Salvation Begins With Repentance

If you haven't read "[Need Jesus](#)", please do to understand why you need Him first!

The ways of God are so different than the ways of men: The way up is down, to be filled you must be emptied, to be a ruler you must be a servant, the way to live is to die, and the way to die is to live.



One main reason for Jesus coming to earth was to die for our sins we could never pay and restore us to God. In all our evils and selfishness, **God wants to restore you to himself because He loves you.** This is not about what church denomination you are, or why people are starving around the world, it has to do with your heart and your relationship to the living God. Sadly, we are the problem and we always have been.

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

The call to salvation is not a light thing. Jesus Christ is not an accessory to life, to use him and get something for nothing. **He is the Life! When you get born-again, there will be a transformation,** because you become a new creation, and friends with God.

Telling you the Truth, Life through Death



As much as you may not want to read this piece, please do, it's necessary! As lovely as it sounds when a church preaches how God will boost your self-esteem, how He wants to bless you with wealth, how happy God is with your life, and how it's your time for a reward. **It's not always true!** God is first concerned with peoples eternal soul and righteousness! (Hebrews 12:14) Jesus is Holy and He did not die for our selfish vanity. In 2 Timothy 4:3, For the time will come when men will **not put up with sound doctrine.** Instead, **to suit their own desires,** they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. Many preachers are telling people what they want to hear and

this does not lead to Repentance, Salvation, Holy Living, or Love for the Lord. Titus 1:16 Such people claim they know God, but they deny Him by the way they live.

If you have not felt overwhelming conviction of your sins, please first ask the Holy Spirit to reveal it to you. If you have not feel a regret, a burden, a guilt, or a shame for your sins you will miss one of the most important things. We have to realize why we are at a distance with God.

The way of the Lord is through death, a seed does not grow unless it dies. Submission to the will of God, Surrender to the will of God, and obeying the Lord with all your heart, mind, and strength. **The call is to sell out and give your life to the Lord.**

Mark 8:34

"If anyone wishes to come after Me, **he must deny himself**, and take up his cross and follow Me.

Eternal Life is to Know God Now

Consider this; I can read an auto-biography about someone in great detail, but I'm limited on knowing them. The best way to get to know the author is to spend time with them in person. In the same way you get to know God, by spending time with Him! The Bible is great to read, but it will not fulfill your relationship with God. You can't just read the Bible to know what God is really like, words do not do justice compared to being in His Presence and daily fellowship.



John 17:3 [KJV]

And **this is life eternal, that they might know thee** the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

You are alive to have a relationship with your creator. God's goal throughout the Bible is to restore men to himself and receive glory, He longs for fellowship with us, He loves us! But God's holiness and our sin prevents us from being close to him. So choice is up to you, to turn from sin and repent and receive Christ -- It is difficult, but it's the best choice you can make in life. God is the most honorable, powerful, ingenious, committed and faithful person that ever lived, and still lives.

So to receive the rewards of the Lord, we must renounce sin, do what is right and just, and love and obey the Lord. We must to go His way, not our way. We get salvation through Him, so we must follow His instruction to attain blessings and eternal life. We have to surrender our life to the Sovereign Lordship of Jesus Christ.

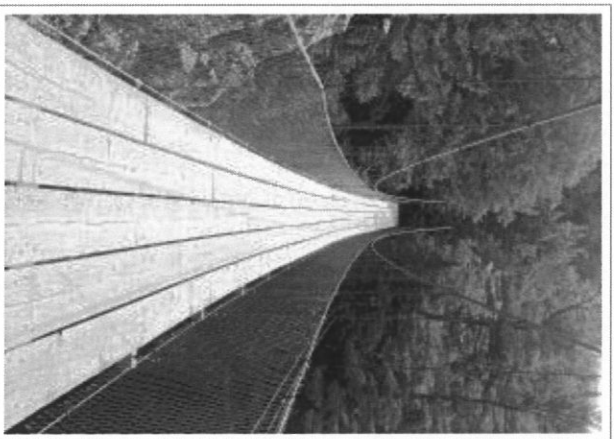
Obeying God is Worth It All

Narrow is the way, be glad you are finding it! Coming to the Lord is a life commitment, a love relationship, and it requires obedience to His Word. This requires faith, the Bible says in **Hebrews 11:6** that without faith it is impossible to please God. And in Romans 10:17, So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. You see, we are hearing the way to God from His words, and now we take initiative to put faith in what he is saying! There is no reason to pretend, otherwise we won't find the Lord, we have to do what he says!

John 8:32-33 [NASB] says, [...] "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." -- Note that the truth is not a relative truth, it is the absolute truth of God.

Philippians 3:8 [NASB]

[...] I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ.



Get Born Again

2 Chronicles 7:14 says, if my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. And Godly Sorrow leads to repentance (2 Corinthians 7:10).

You should make a list for a special purpose. Write the date, and then on this list write down your all of your sins that you can remember. It may get a bit long but that's okay. Even though it's not possible to list all of them just list some of them and your biggest hurts. This is not a pity party, it is to give you time to reflect on what you are repenting from and to see what the Lord Jesus is going to wash away by His Blood. Now save this list for later, and read on!



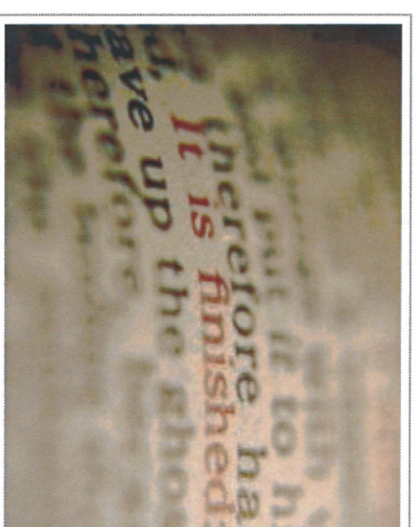
You have to repent first by confessing your sins: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Confessing your sins and repenting requires that you turning away from your sin. Repentance is a change of thought, a change of thought creates a change of actions.

Romans 10:9 [KJV]

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

Confess Jesus as your Lord and Savior, that He was crucified for your sins and God raised Him from the dead.

Ask Him to make you a new creation with a new heart (To become a born-again child of His by the power of the Holy Spirit) (John 3:3). Finally, ask the Lord Jesus for the baptism of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13), and ask for the Holy Spirit to teach you new things and reveal Gods heart to you.



Then thank Him for becoming the Lord of your life, you can close prayer by saying 'In Jesus Name, Amen'.

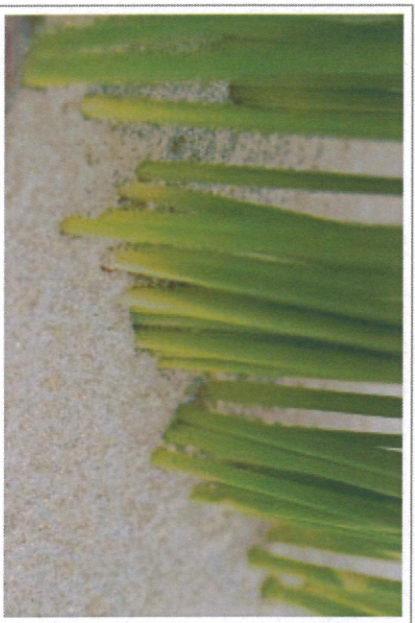
To respond to God and interact you have to walk in faith with your thoughts and actions: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1). Continue to talk to God about all your thoughts and ask Him to get to know Him -- You may not realize the way God speaks to you immediately, but you will soon enough. You will notice that you are going to start having **new desires and changes are going to happen in your heart**, the sinful things will start becoming less satisfying because you are a new creation and the old has passed away.

Luke 15:7

[...] there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

The devil is going to try and lie to you and tell you that you were never forgiven, especially at a weak moment. Just take out that list you wrote and look at the date you received Jesus Christ and tell the devil he is a liar.

Growing



Everything doesn't happen over night, but when you fellowship and walk with the Lord these are some of the good things God and promises that you are bound to see. The following promises go beyond two or three words, you will get to live them out with Jesus -- **His promises for His children**, here are a few: *A New Heart, Everlasting Life, Forgiveness, Love, Peace, Safety, New Things, Protection, Miracles, Fellowship with You, Supply all your needs, Be your Companion, Your Brother, Give you strength, Show you Great and Mighty things,*

Give you Rest, Always be with you, Fulfillment and Satisfaction, Authority through His Word, To Guide and Teach you, Healing, Authority over Satan, Salvation. ^(b)

It would be a good idea to listen to some good teaching on the Bible, because the Word of God is food for your spirit. If you decide to go to a church, please be careful not to join one that is dead. A church to stay in is a church that challenges you, where you get conviction for your sin -- because the Holy Spirit came to convict the world of sin. In God you are to move Glory to Glory, not sit under a dead church that doesn't challenge anything!

Please try to avoid the people who are "self-righteous", which is a form of pride. The legalists, who boast about "their works", and a church that tries to quickly get you into "street evangelism". A new believer in Jesus Christ needs to be disciplined first. After you experience the miracles of God in your life don't be bothered by people who will want to argue and debate with you, nothing good comes out of it. Just start simple, living and loving the Lord, start thanking Him for a good meal!

Do not worry! The Holy Spirit will teach you all things. You may stumble and get in a bad spot, but the Holy Spirit will help you! **God will never leave you or forsake you. You don't have to do anything to make God love you more, love Him back!**

^(b) Some of the Promise verses: Ezekiel 36:25, John 6:47, 1 John 1:9, John 14:21, Isaiah 26:3, Psalm 4:8, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 8:2, Mark 16:17, John 14:21, Philipians 4:19, Hebrews 13:5, Psalm 27:1, Jeremiah 33:3, Matthew 11:28, Matthew 28:20, John 6:35, Mark 13:11, John 16:3, Mark 16:17-18, Ephesians 6:18-19, Romans 10:8-10).

Jul 31, 11	New Writing: Putting God Second
Jun 25, 11	New Audio: Lust
Jun 1, 11	New Writing: Jason Upton - Burning
Apr 3, 11	New Audio: Ravi-Lord, Ravi-Pride, Overcoming the Flesh



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Need Jesus? Do I Need God?



"The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire" - John the Baptist, Luke 3:9

But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. - Romans 2:8

But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. - Matthew 12:36

God Never Did Anything For Me

For a long time I would ask God for things but nothing ever happened. I have asked for fame, money, love, a better life, healing, help, you name it. Maybe If I tithe my 10% I can get 500% back! Was I under the delusion that God was a magic genie? Yes, I was. I thought If I had enough faith I could have anything I want. I was only self-seeking concerned about my comfort.



I feel like the story of my life has been, "**God give me [insert-thing]**", making my requests to him as a last resort when I needed something. Since I didn't get what I wanted I grumbled and complained, who else to blame but God? Afterall He owes me, doesn't he? Wasn't I born to have a rich, fulfilling, successful life that other people would envy because I give credit to God for answering a small token of prayer?

Speaking as a Christian, It took me a long time to understand why God didn't answer my prayers and give me what I wanted back then. After a lot of battles in my mind, I finally understood that God is not my personal butler and his church is certainly not a slot machine. The concept I wasted so many years on was that **Gods will is not my will**. I lived my life the way was comfortable and pleasing to me, because this way seemed right.

I justified myself by comparing living a better life than *[some-person]*, I figured that I must really deserve heaven and blessings! As if righteousness were measured by comparing myself to other people who also sin! What my heart really desired was to simply hangout with my friends, party, meet girls, and save money for a nice new car. Oh, How little I knew what kind of gift the blood of Jesus Christ was. Oh, I feel conviction as I write this.

Isaiah 55:8

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.

Choosing to Stay in Darkness

Remember the verse at the top spoken by John the Baptist? Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. It's not enough to confess God, we have to bear fruit. We can't foot God! In Hebrews 4:13 it says, Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. That's scary!

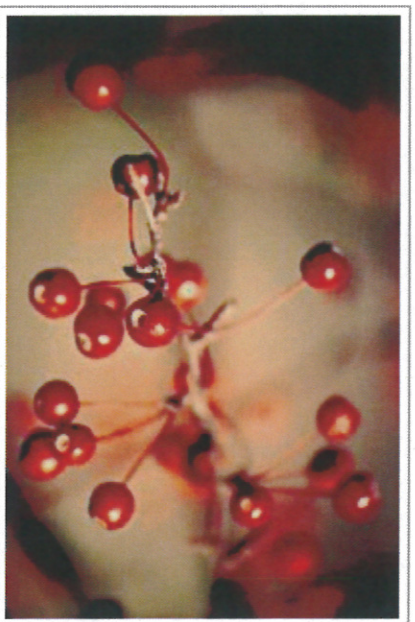
George MacDonald wrote the following, and I could not have written it better myself. "I thank thee, Lord, for forgiving me, but I prefer staying in the darkness: forgive me that too." No; that cannot be. **The one thing that cannot be forgiven is the sin of choosing to be evil, of refusing deliverance.** It is impossible to forgive that sin. Let a man have committed any sin whatever, I forgive him; but to choose to go on sinning--how can I forgive that?

It would be to nourish and cherish evil! **It would be to let my creation go to ruin.** Shall I keep you alive to do things hateful in the sight of all true men? If a man refuse to come out of his sin, he must suffer the vengeance of a love that would be no love if it left him there. **Shall I allow my creature to be the thing my soul hates?"**

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

We are Sinners



If we look at ourselves, the following is who we are. All have sinned fallen short of the Glory of God. We are offended by the Word of God, and we are born radically depraved. We are God hating, we never sought God, we never came to God, we have rebelled against God, and we have broken every law of His. **The things we love to do God hates.** We fill our minds with things God is disgusted with. Our hearts are filled with abuse, envy, jealousy, bitterness, blasphemy, lying, stealing, lust, idolatry, gossip, hatred, slander, murder, selfishness, adultery, and many other evils. **We are not good people.** We were created in the image of God to fellowship and love Him, but we do the opposite of the goodness He desires because our hearts are **deceitfully wicked.** We deserve punishment by a Righteous and Holy God.

You may say, "Well that doesn't make me feel very good!" It doesn't make me feel very good either! We must know what we are and it's true that one sinner can hurt many people and destroy much good.

Galatians 6:8

The one who sows to please his **sinful nature**, from that nature will **reap destruction**; [..]

Pride is a Destroyer

Some people will not acknowledge they are sinners because they are prideful and stiff-necked. We believe we are full of good qualities, I may have a few qualities. But my heart, my motives and my enteraining thoughts are disgusting towards God. Proverbs 15:26 says, **The LORD detests the thoughts of the wicked [..]**

Many people refuse to come to God for several reasons, first being pride, the Bible says [..] **God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble** (1 Peter 5:5). Second, John 3:20 says clearly, "Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for **fear that his deeds will be exposed.**" Lastly,

they think **the cross is foolishness** which is declared in 1 Corinthians 1:18. These last two things are both wrapped in pride because it exposes them and it challenges their intellect, and as people we want to save our face. This is why it says in 1 Corinthians 1:27, **But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise**; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. Look at John 3:20 once more, every who does evil hates the light. If you hate hearing the truth that exposes your sin then you do evil. You want to continue in your sin and pleasure and you do not want to change, you love your sin. And you will say and use anything to make an excuse to keep sinning.

A Way That "Seems" Right

In Proverbs 14:12 it says, **There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.** It says in Proverbs 16:2, **All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD.** Things that seemed right to me were being



nice and kind, doing good deeds, giving to the poor, and attending church once a year -- though I seldom did these things. As right as it may seem to have good morals and give to the poor, it would still lead me to death (the second death). The Bible declares in Isaiah 64:6 that all our righteous acts are like filthy rags before God.

I am a sinner, and there is nothing I can do to win favor with God or please God. As kind and righteous as I could possibly behave for my entire life, all of those deeds will still be like a filthy rag before God. Because my deeds, my time, and my suffering do not justify me before God. It makes sense why I have never experienced, heard, or felt God -- because I was doing everything He didn't want me to do and everything I did do was like a filthy rag based on my morals. It seemed right to me, but I was wrong.

Religion and Tradition seems right to man. How about those old ancient looking church building where people gather under some Latin preaching they don't understand called Mass? I used to use the saying, "I was raised religious" as if I knew something. I went to church time to time and thought I figured it all out. Jesus said in Mark 7:13, "[...] you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that." Religion and tradition never did anything for me beside make me feel religious. Being religious did not benefit me in any way because most traditions nullify the Word of God -- which is basically putting traditions above repenting, obeying and loving God from the heart. So I went my way that seemed right, but later I'd learn Proverbs would prove me to be a fool as it says, He who trusts in himself is a fool [...] (Proverbs 28:26).

"The religious syste, which has been set up to replace an intimate relationship with the Creator, will influence a person's mind to go after what is highly esteemed in the eyes of men and to ignore what is esteemed in God's eyes." - Greg Viola, The Kings Holy Beauty

John 8:24

"I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will indeed die in your sins."

A Thief and A Robber

Look what Jesus says in John 10:1, "I tell you the truth, **the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber.**" Heaven is God's Kingdom, and the gate to God's Kingdom is Jesus, "**I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.** [..]" (John 10:9). Notice that the gate is "*Through me [Jesus]*", definitely not through church attendance and singing in a choir. If I tried to get into Heaven by justifying my life of "*my good deeds [not through Jesus]*", I would be treated as a thief and a robber trying to enter, and I'd be condemned in the end. Because the only way I can be justified is by faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1), and His perfect sacrifice on the Cross. The only way I can be righteous is by putting on His righteousness, **through Jesus.**

You see, "**For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.**" (Matthew 7:14). The gate is so narrow that it is under one name, **Jesus.** It even says, there are a few who find it. There are only **few** that find it because most people are occupied with the cares and worries of this life meaning **very few are looking for the gate**, they are too busy.

Friend, this isn't religion, organizations, or denominations, this is Jesus Christ the Lord you must seek as the person He is. Within your own conscience you know the difference between **right and wrong**, and it is your choice what you do. We've all screwed up, and we all need forgiveness. But you must be completely honest with yourself, and with God, because **God will not play games.**

God Sees You as Worthwhile

All throughout history very few want to admit guilt, they just want to go their own way and pretend it's okay -- but it's not! **We must be honest and confess our sin before God in an admission of guilt to then receive His forgiveness.** God is love, and love hates evil. God loved the world, and despite all these evils of our hearts and sins we've committed -- God sees you and I as worth the sacrifice of sending Jesus his only Son of to leave Heaven, live as a man, and die for us.

As sad and wretched as the state we are in, God sees what we can become by receiving His Son. He wants to restore fellowship with his creation, but he does not approve of sin because God is good. Rather than staying objects of wrath, if we turn and

receive His Holy Spirit, we can become a born-again new creation adopted into the Kingdom of God, and have fellowship with God!

Ezekiel 33:11

[..] As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! [..]

Please, Get Saved.