

check your age or the balance in your bank account or your educational level. Of course not. It's not necessary because the value of the coupon is not dependent upon you. The value is determined by what is printed on the face of the coupon. The value of a \$1 coupon is \$1 no matter how smart, rich, or good looking you may be. It's also that way with God. Your intelligence, popularity, political or social status have nothing to do with the value of the coupon. The value of the coupon is based upon the price that Jesus Christ paid when He was crucified for your sin. God doesn't accept any additional value. As far as He is concerned, Christ paid the entire debt for your sin. For you to offer to pay more is an insult to God.

You really don't save anything if you use a coupon to buy something that you do not want. So, you might be thinking. Why should I cash in God's coupon for eternal life. I'm not sure I need it or even want it.

We really don't know what will happen to us after we die, but God does; and He has told us a little about life after death in the Bible. He tells us that all human beings are eternal. After life on this earth, each of us will spend an eternity either with Him or in a place that He has also created that He calls Hell. He describes Hell as a place of constant torment, a place of infinite loneliness, a place where nobody in their right mind would want to spend a few hours, much less eternity.

manhood, and finally gave His life on a cross to redeem a mankind that was rightfully God's by creation. Romans 5:10 says, "when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son." The Bible also tells us "that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." (1 Corinthians 15:4) You were included in that transaction. All that is needed is for you to accept God's free gift—turn in the coupon for eternal life and let God do the rest. It is an act of trust, an act of faith. Just like handing a coupon to a clerk at the store. You trust the clerk to apply the value of the coupon to what you owe. Have you ever noticed that when you hand a coupon to a clerk they never

So, it's up to you. The coupon is in your hands. Remember, "He that believeth on him [Jesus] is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already." (John 3:18) Will you raise your coupon to God and ask Him to redeem it?

It is a serious matter, but it is not difficult. Just tell God that you know you are a sinner—one who has refused to obey Him. The Bible tells us that everyone, no matter how good they may appear to be, is a sinner. (Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.") Tell God that you accept what His Son Jesus Christ did to redeem you. The Bible tells us that it is faith in Jesus Christ that provides redemption. (Acts 16:31

destined to live forever and enjoy God and the things that God provided for him. God wanted man to love and trust Him, but he wanted man to do so willingly. So, God gave man a choice. Man could continue to trust God or he could distrust God. Unfortunately, man opted for "doing his own thing" and every human being since then has been paying the price. We, by the very nature of our human heritage, are alienated from God. In the Bible, God says it this way, "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) Fortunately, God has provided a means of reconciliation. God came to earth in the form of a baby, lived a perfect life among us as He grew into

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.")

God will do what He promises, so you might also want to thank Him.

If you have accepted God's free gift of eternal life by putting your faith in His Son Jesus Christ, the best thing you can do is to tell someone about it as soon as possible. Then, begin to regularly attend a church where the Bible is taught.



If you are anything like me, you like a good deal. Any time I can buy something that I was planning to buy and get it at a discount, I'm thrilled. That's what I like about coupons. With little effort I clip the coupon, take it to the store, hand it to the clerk, and get my purchase for less than the sticker price. Now, that's a deal. I am more than willing to let a manufacturer help me pay for their products. But the coupon in your hand is not for a product, it is for a service. A service that God performs. God is in the redemption business. He willingly pays to buy back that which is rightfully His. Here's how it works. When God created man, man was perfect, he was

