

God says you are a Sinner

What is sin? Sin is putting anything or anyone ahead of God in your life. It includes all issues of morality – stealing, lying, sex outside of marriage, jealousy, greed, gossip... God gave you a conscience which tells you when you sin (if you listen). You may think you have everything you need; you may have a comfortable life. But in God's eyes you are "wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked" (Revelation 3:17).

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

God's penalty for sin is Death

"For the wages of sin is death;"

Romans 6:23

In God's eyes you have earned the spiritual death penalty for even one sin. What is spiritual death? After your body dies your spirit – the "real you" – will be separated from God and others forever. Your spirit will still be "you", you will live on, and you will mourn. You can't take anything with you. Everything that seemed so important on earth will be insignificant. You will be in mental, emotional, and physical anguish.

As he came from his mother's womb, so he will go again, naked as he came; he will take nothing for his efforts that he can carry in his hands. Ecclesiastes 5:15

Jesus paid your Death Penalty

Jesus Christ paid for your sin with His blood. He lived a sinless, perfect life, and died on the cross almost 2000 years ago so that your spirit would never have to die. He was raised on the third day to new life, in a new body that will live with God forever. This is the hope that you can have for your spirit - the "real you". You can live with God forever, in perfect harmony and delight.

"While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5:8

Salvation is God's free gift

You must believe in your heart (intellect, will, and emotions) that you are a sinner, desperately in need of saving, and that Jesus is your Savior. It is not about what you do (recite a special prayer, try to be a good person, go to church, get baptised), but about what Jesus has *already done*. His death has done ALL the "work" required. You only need to believe in the person of Jesus Christ, as He is defined in the Bible, to be saved.

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 14:6

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation.

Romans 10:9-10

What Do I Do Next?

- **Talk to God.** It is essential to talk with God to develop a relationship with Him. Talk to Him out loud or in your head, in regular words. Struggling? Depressed? Tempted? Fearful? Talk to God about it (truly!). Ask Him to help you understand His Word, the Bible.
- **Read a Christian Bible.** There is no better way to learn about God than to study His Word. His word is “living and active” and this is mostly how God will “speak” to you. Try to read it every day. It is easiest to start with the New Testament. Easier to read translations are the HSCB or NIV Bible (try bookstores, or amazon.ca).
- **Follow Jesus.** Once you believe in Him, you need to follow Him. You were a slave of sin, but Jesus paid the price to free you with His own blood. Listen to Him through your conscience and confess your sins to Him, asking forgiveness. Obey His commandments – not to “maintain” your salvation, but to act on your belief in Jesus as Savior and Lord. You can’t lose true salvation – you are sealed by God’s Holy Spirit. Saving faith is evidenced by a changed life – you will be different because you ARE different! You were lost, now you’re found! You were blind – now you see! So persist in following Jesus.
- **Go to Church.** It is difficult to live the Christian life alone. You need other believers to teach you, guide you, and encourage you. Look for a church that doesn’t cater to what people want to hear, but teaches the whole Bible as truth (Evangelical Free, Baptist, Alliance, Mennonite...)

Learn About Your Faith

- www.gracethrufaith.com
- Especially:
 - www.gracethrufaith.com/series/what-does-the-bible-say/
 - www.gracethrufaith.com/free/ebooks/the-redeemer
 - www.gracethrufaith.com/free/ebooks/ebook-osas-anthology/
- www.multiplymovement.com/material
 - This is an excellent free eBook to work through to see God’s overall plan!
- www.gotquestions.org



God created you.

You are not some insignificant evolutionary product, whose life has no meaning. God created YOU, specifically. He knows you. And He is calling you.

You know this.

Deep down in your heart you know there is more than what you can see, touch, hear. You have a “sixth sense” – dim, foggy, fleeting. It is your spirit. And it hears God’s call. You KNOW He is real.

How will you respond?

You have an eternal destiny, which is completely up to you. Free will. Your choice. None of us know when our time is up. Accident? Illness? We all die. You are not reading this by coincidence.

Today is the day of salvation.