

Plan of Salvation - Looking to Jesus Series

Exhort people to do something, Severe warning if they do not do it, Appeal to them strongly because of the reward if they do it

Hebrews 12:1-3

BIBLE PASSAGE

"...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 13:1-3

INTRODUCTION

Introduce:

It is assumed that you believe in God, or you would not be here. Just to be sure:

- **Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?**
- **Do you believe that the Bible is the complete, inspired Word of God?**
- **Do you want to go to heaven?**
- **If you learn something you need to change to go to heaven, are you willing to make those changes?**
- **James 1:23-24; "For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was."**

Thesis: God, long ago, established a plan to save mankind and establish a relationship that man severed when he sinned. The way God chose to establish that relationship was through the Perfect sacrifice, His Son Jesus Christ. Through His Son's death, God calls all men to Him. All who respond to the call through obedience will be saved.

THE PROBLEM:

- 1. What is sin? (1 John 3:4)**
 - Breaking God's Law
- 2. Who has sinned? (Romans 3:23)**
 - Have I sinned?
 - Have you sinned?
- 3. What is the result of sin? (Romans 6:23)**
 - Spiritual death, separated from God, eternally lost.
 - What are the wages? Pay for work done, in this case, payment for sin.
- 4. Do I inherit sin? (Ezekiel 18:20)**
 - Am I responsible for my sins?
 - Isaiah 59:1-2 - My sin separates me from God.
 - God is offended by our sins. (Romans 1:18-32)
- 5. Where will the lost spend eternity? (Revelation 21:8)**
 - What is one thing in this list we have all done?
 - Revelation 20:10, 14-15
 - We must read and learn from God's Word to keep from going to this place called hell.

THE SOLUTION

1. According to the Scriptures, what must I do to be saved and to keep from going to this place of torment?
2. (Some questions to think about:) Think about this:
 - a. What do we know about God?
 - b. Does He care about my sin problem?

Yes, God Cares!

1. What has God made available to us? Romans 6:23
2. What is eternal life? John 3:16
3. Does God love us? John 3:16
4. Does God want us to perish? John 3:16
5. Does God want us to be saved? John 3:16
6. God desires **ALL** people to be saved!
7. Whose sins did Jesus die for? 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. Christ died for all sins.

The Gospel: Romans 1:16

"The **power** of God to salvation for everyone who believes."

- I must believe to be saved.
- According to 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, what facts must I believe to be saved?
 - People are saved by the Gospel
 - Jesus died for my sins
 - Jesus was buried
 - Jesus rose on the 3rd day.
- **Can you say, "I believe these facts of the Gospel: "I believe that Jesus is the Son of God, and I believe in His death, burial, and resurrection."**

Note that there is only ONE Gospel.

APPEAL: OBEY THE GOSPEL

Our Salvation

Are you Saved?

If you say yes, think about what we have already studied and the Scriptures we have read. We are going to read more and then answer the question again.

People have different experiences on how they are saved, pastors have different ways of telling people how to be saved, churches have different ways of how t be saved, and parents have different ways of telling their children how to be saved...but Jesus has **ONLY ONE WAY** in telling us how to be saved. Compare your **WAY** to Jesus' **WAY**. If **YOUR WAY** is not like **JESUS' WAY**, consider making the change.

How does Jesus say we are saved?

- 1. Jesus said we must believe and be baptized to be saved. Mark 16:15-16**
 - Is Jesus speaking in this verse?
 - Does Jesus know what we need to do in order to be saved?
 - Did Jesus say, "He who believes **ONLY** will be saved?"
 - Did Jesus say, "He who is baptized **ONLY** will be saved?"
 - Did Jesus say, "He who believes **AND** is baptized will be saved?"
 - Since Jesus is the Savior, the Son of God, the Author and Perfector of the Faith, and He has the answer to the question, "What must I do to be saved?" then I should listen to Him.
- 2. Jesus said we must repent. Luke 13:3**
 - Did Jesus say we must repent or we will perish?
 - Repentance means I must turn from my sins. It means I must change my life if I want to go to heaven. (example: 1 Cor. 6:9-11; " Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor *the covetous*, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Spirit of our God.")
 - True repentance means I may change my habits, beliefs, friends, places I go, things I do, words I say, where I worship, and the way I think. In other words, I must change my life to be a servant of Christ.
- 3. Jesus said we must confess Him. Matthew 10:32-33**
 - Did Jesus say we must confess Him before men?
 - Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?
- 4. Jesus said we must follow Him. Matthew 10:34-39**
 - Jesus requires a total commitment, so we must consider the cost of following Him.
 - Did Jesus say we must love Him more than mothers, fathers, and daughters?
 - Did Jesus we must deny ourselves if we desire to follow Him? (Matthew 16:24-26)
 - This means to obey Jesus; we may have to go against the teachings of our family and friends if we want to be saved and go to heaven.
- 5. Jesus said we must be faithful until death. Revelation 2:10-11**
 - Did Jesus say be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life?
 - Faithful means that once we obey the Gospel, Jesus expects us to be dependable and dedicated, trustworthy to Him and the local church. Faithfully meeting and worshipping with the local church.
 - Being faithful means that I will not quit, that I will not give up, no matter what may happen. (**Hebrews 10:35-39**)
 - **In Matthew 7:21-23, Jesus said we must do the will of His Father, who is in heaven, to go to heaven. But many people say that to be saved, all I have to do is "Call on the name of the Lord." Who should I believe? Jesus or man?**
- 6. Bible example of what it actually means to obey the Gospel: Acts 8:26-39 - Eunuch**
 - What did the Eunuch understand he needed to do to be saved? (vs. 36)
 - What did Philip the preacher tell him he needed to do first? (vs. 37)
 - Then what happened immediately? (vs. 38)
 - Notice that both went into the water and Philip baptized the eunuch.
 - Why did the Eunuch go away rejoicing? (vs. 39)
- 7. Paul's story: Acts 22:3-16**
 - Did Jesus appear to Paul? When Paul realized that he had been persecuting Jesus and that he needed to repent (vs. 10) he asked Jesus, "what shall I do, Lord?" In other words, he was asking what he needed to do to be saved. Jesus told him to go into Damascus where a preacher would tell him what he needed to do! Jesus sent the preacher Ananias to teach Paul the Gospel. In vs. 16 Ananias asked Paul, "Why are you waiting? Get up and be baptized and wash away your sins."
 - According to this scenario, are a person's sins washed away in baptism?

CONCLUSION

- After carefully studying the Scriptures, do you believe you have been saved?
- Have you believed?
- Have you repented of your sins?
- Have you confessed that Jesus is the Son of God?
- Have you been baptized for the remission of your sins?
- We have agreed that if we learned that if needed to make any changes in order to be saved, we would make them. Do you need to make any changes?
- Are there any changes you need to make to go to heaven?