



# God's Way of Salvation

**According to Scripture**



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*Printed in the United States of America*

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Dr. Henry M. Morris was Founder and President Emeritus of the Institute for Creation Research.

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## According to Scripture

### I. The Universal Fact of Sin

I Kings 8:46: "For there is no man that sinneth not."

Isaiah 53:6: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way."

Romans 3:10, 12: "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one. . . . They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

Romans 3:22-23: "For there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

### II. Physical and Spiritual Death the Penalty of Sin

Genesis 2:17: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Romans 5:12: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

Ezekiel 18:20: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death."

Hebrews 9:27: "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."

Revelation 21:8: “But the fearful, and *unbelieving*, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and *all liars*, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

### **III. Sacrificial Death of Christ the Only Remedy**

Romans 5:8: “But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

Isaiah 53:4-5: “Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. . . . But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.”

1 Peter 2:24: “Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.”

Galatians 3:13: “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.”

### **IV. Salvation the Free and Unmerited Gift of God**

John 3:16: “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.”

Romans 6:23: “The *gift* of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Titus 3:5: “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the

washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.”

## **V. Salvation Conditioned Only upon Personal Faith and Trust in Christ**

Romans 10:9: “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.”

Acts 16:31: “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”

John 3:36: “He that believeth on the Son bath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

I John 5:12: “He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”

Acts 4:12: “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

## **Excuses and Objections Considered**

### **I. Disbelief in the Bible**

A. Most people will acknowledge the Bible to be one of the most marvelous of all books, even though they may not believe in its divine inspiration. But it is impossible to explain the tremendous moral and spiritual power of the Bible and its wonderful compilation and preservation if its writers were either deluded or deluders. Those who wrote the book believed and said that it and they were inspired by God. For example, note what the following said about their writings:

**Moses:** “Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of *the LORD your God* which I command you” (Deuteronomy 4:2).

**David:** “The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and His word was in my tongue” (II Samuel 23:2).

**Jeremiah:** “Then the LORD put forth His hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth” (Jeremiah 1:9).

**Luke:** “It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first [literally, ‘from above’], to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus” (Luke 1:3).

**Paul:** “But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ” (Galatians 1:11-12).

“Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth” (I Corinthians 2:13).

Jesus Himself frequently quoted from the Old Testament as divinely authoritative. For example, see Luke 24:44: “And He said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you. that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.”

**Paul** said: “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (II Timothy 3:16).

**Peter** said: “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (II Peter 1:21).

B. There is no *proved* fact of science or history that conflicts with any statement in the Bible. Furthermore, many discoveries of modern science have been hidden in the pages of the Bible for thousands of years. These include the roundness of the earth, the remarkable water cycle of meteorology, the rotation of the earth, the strong force of gravity, and many others. The theory of evolution (either cosmic or organic) has never been proved. Almost all the supposed evidences for it have, in recent years, been rejected even by many evolutionists. At the same time, evidence is multiplying that evolution on any large scale not only did not, but could not, take place.

C. There are hundreds of minutely fulfilled prophecies in the Scriptures, most of which have been proved to have been fulfilled long after being written. These prophecies include the history of such nations and cities as Egypt, Edom, Tyre, Sidon, Babylon, Persia, Syria, Greece, Rome, etc. The entire history of the Jewish land and people was foretold, to and beyond the present. Scores of prophecies of the first advent of Christ, including the date of His coming, His place of birth, His virgin birth, His ministry and miracles, His vicarious death, and resurrection, were given in the Old Testament. Many New Testament prophecies are being fulfilled today.

## II. Belief that One's Personal Goodness Is Sufficient

A. God is perfectly righteous and just. Therefore, no one that is in any degree unrighteous or that comes short of perfection may be in fellowship with Him.

James 2:10: “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”

Galatians 3:10: “For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in *all* things that are written in the book of the law to do them.”

John 3:3: “Jesus answered and said unto him [Nicodemus, a very moral and even religious man], Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Galatians 2:16: “Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”

B. We can be brought into the fellowship of God only through the righteousness of Christ.

I Corinthians 5:21: “For [God] hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”

I Peter 3:18: “For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.”

### III. Hypocrites in the Church

A. Most churches contain members who are themselves unsaved. This was true even of the very first Christian group. “Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?” (John 6:70). Even those who were believers were very imperfect at first. James and John were hot-tempered and self-seeking, Peter denied Christ, Thomas was a doubter, etc. This is true to some degree of all Christians, and Christians are commanded to “grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (II Peter 3:18). Real Christians do tend to develop a greater love for goodness and hatred for sin as they become older in the faith. “Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (II Corinthians 5:17). Most will admit that, in general, real Christians live a more righteous and godly life than those who are unsaved. Moreover, a hypocrite is really nothing but a counterfeit Christian, and nothing is ever counterfeited unless it is itself of great value.

B. Regardless of the people in the church, each individual is responsible himself directly to God for his own sins, not those of someone else.

Romans 14:4: “Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.”

Romans 14:12: “So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”

C. *There is no other way provided for salvation except Christ, and each individual is responsible himself for accepting or rejecting Him.*

John 14:6: “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

Hebrews 2:2-3: “For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; *How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him?*”

#### **IV. No “Feeling” or “Inner Compunction” to Accept Christ**

A. Salvation depends only on faith, not on “feeling.”

John 1:12: “But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that *believe* on His name.”

John 5:24: “He that heareth my word, and *believeth* on Him that sent me, *hath* everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but *is passed* from death unto life.”

B. A feeling of true peace, joy, and assurance of sins forgiven and everlasting life will be a *result* of faith, but *cannot precede* it.

Romans 8:16: “The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”

I John 5:10-11: “He that *believeth* on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God

gave of His Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.”

## **V. Unwillingness or Supposed Inability to Give up Sin to Live Christian Life**

A. Salvation is a free gift and requires nothing in exchange, except to accept it gratefully and without reservation.

Ephesians 2:8-9: “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.”

B. It is true that real Christians should and will seek righteousness because of the leading of the Spirit, and by virtue of their new natures. But God Himself will empower the believer to live the Christian life.

Romans 8:14: “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”

I John 5:4: “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.”

I Corinthians 10:13: “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

Philippians 4:13: “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

C. In any event, nothing is as important to give up as one's soul.

Matthew 16:26: “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

D. The Lord Jesus Christ gave up far more to save us than we ever will to accept Him.

II Corinthians 8:9: “For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes, He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich.”

Philippians 2:5-8: “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”

E. A Christian gains infinitely more than he gives up.

Philippians 4:19: “But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus,”

I Corinthians 2:9: “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.”

## **VI. Fear of Ridicule or Persecution**

A. It is foolish to fear what men can do or say more than God.

John 12:43: “For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.”

Proverbs 29:25: “The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.”

B. The Son of God endured ridicule and suffering for US.

Hebrews 12:3: “For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.”

C. It is a privilege, not a hardship, to suffer for Christ.

Matthew 11:6: “And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.”

Romans 8:17-18: “If so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

I Peter 4:13-14: “Rejoice. inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part He is evil spoken of, but on your part He is glorified.”

D. Realization of the full import of salvation emboldens the Christian.

Romans 1:16: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.”

## VII. No Immediate Concern

A. Death and eventual judgment are certain. Therefore, God's offer of salvation should not be neglected or put off.

II Corinthians 6:2: "Behold, *now* is the accepted time; behold, *now* is the day of salvation."

Proverbs 27:1: "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

B. The "unpardonable sin" of Matthew 12:31, is constant ignoring of the Holy Spirit as He seeks to lead the individual to accept Christ. This continual rejection of Christ finally results in such a hardening of the heart against Christ that acceptance is no longer possible and the person is completely lost.

Genesis 6:3: "And the LORD said. My spirit shall not always strive with man."

Hebrews 10:28-29: "He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"

Hebrews 10:31: "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

# **Promised Blessings to the Christian**

## **I. New Nature**

II Peter 1:4: “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

I Peter 1:23: “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

## **II. Forgiveness of Sins**

Ephesians 1:7: “In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.”

I John 1:9: “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

## **III. Holy Spirit**

Romans 5:5: “And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”

I Corinthians 3:16: “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

## **IV. Answered Prayer**

I John 5:14-15: “And this is the confidence we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth

us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.”

Matthew 21:22: “And all things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.”

## **V. Peace**

Philippians 4:6-7: “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

## **VI. Comfort**

I Peter 5:6-7: “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.”

## **VII. Grace**

II Corinthians 9:8: “And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.”

## **VIII. Victory**

II Corinthians 2:14: “Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of His knowledge by us in every place.”

## **IX. God's Presence and Guidance**

Hebrews 13:5: “Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”

## **X. Resurrection and Glorification at Christ's Return**

Philippians 3:20-21: “For our [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body.”

I Corinthians 15:22-23: “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming.”

## **XI. Eternal Life and Happiness with Him**

I Peter 1:3-5: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”



**If you have not yet accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your Personal Saviour, there is no adequate reason why you should not do so, and every reason why you should. So believe in Him and receive Him TODAY—NOW!**

## **Other Easter Booklets of Interest**

*The Resurrection of Christ*

*The Wonder of It All*

*God's Plan for Your Life*

*Christ Our Life*

*Impact of the Empty Tomb*

*Better Than the Angels*

*The First Two Witnesses of the Resurrection*

*Reason and the Christian Hope*

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