

SAVED BY BELIEVING

John 3:36

Introduction: In thinking about Salvation that God offers to us, there is one word that keeps coming up and that word is "believe." Oh, we "believe" in this or that and we use the word "believe" many times a day in our conversations. However God states that if we "believe" in His Son, Jesus, we shall have eternal life. Does that sound easy? Yes, it is. By "believing," "trusting" in God's Son, we are given salvation. How can Salvation be so easy for us? Because somebody else has done for us what we couldn't do for ourselves.

I. WE ARE TO TRUST GOD'S SON, JESUS

1. When our children are born into the world, it is the Mother who suffers the most isn't it.
 - It is the same when a person is saved.
 - The Lord, Jesus suffered the bloody ordeal of the cross.
 - He suffered the traitor's kiss on His cheek.
 - He suffered the nails driven into His hands.
 - He felt the crown of thorns shoved down on His head.
 - The soldiers plucked away His beard and beat Him.
 - He was spit upon and then left hanging on the cross to die.
 - Jesus did the suffering and Salvation is paid for. The work has been done.
 - On the cross Jesus cried out, "***...It is finished!***" and it was
 - All a person needs to do is put his/her trust in Jesus, believing in Him.
2. What about works? Don't we need to do some works of merit or something?
 - No! One needs only to trust what Jesus Christ has already done.
 - He wants you to believe in Him. To depend on Him.
 - That's the way it is all through the Bible.
 - Paul said, "***...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day...***"
 - This is it! Not some faith that believes a FACT but faith that trusts a PERSON. Not faith that says "I trust in a certain PRINCIPLE, but faith in a PERSON.
 - Jesus made a promise. He said that He had paid for sin. He said that He would forgive us. Therefore trust Him to do what He said. That is FAITH! That is BELIEVING! and that is what God meant when He said: "***...He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life...***"

II. ONE IS ALREADY SAVED WHEN HE/SHE TRUSTS JESUS

1. The scriptures say: "***...hath EVERLASTING life...***" He that believes on the Son is not "going to be saved when he/she dies. He that believeth on the Son is not going to be saved "if he/she holds out..."
 - Paul says, "***...according to the power of God who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began...***"

2. Already saved! But wouldn't one be saved if he/she did so and so?
 - It isn't that we "would be saved." The believer is ALREADY saved, already a child of God.
3. But what if one "falls short?"
 - We are careful whom we name our children after for that person might turn out to be bad. It is said that when writing a biography it is best to wait till that person is almost dead because that person might do something bad.
 - But this is settled about Salvation. ***"...He that believeth on the Son, HATH everlasting life..." "Verily, verily, I say unto you, 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..."***
 - One that puts his/her trust in Jesus Christ HAS everlasting life already. If one depends on Jesus, one already has everlasting life. PRESENT TENSE APPLICATION.

III. SAVED ONLY ONCE INTO EVERLASTING LIFE

1. What if we sin again?
 - If Jesus went through all He did for our sins and we sin again, what is left? Is Jesus going to come back into this world and die again every time one of us sins?
 - If Jesus paid for our sins the first time and we trusted our existence to Him, then why do we think that He has lost our soul somewhere?
2. Jesus doesn't need to pay any more. Our sin debt is paid in FULL. God is satisfied and the believer's sins are blotted out. the Bible says: ***"Their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more..." "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." "Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity."***
3. Sin needs to be punished!
 - Sin is punished. God chastises His own Children.
 - At the judgment seat of Christ some believers will have more reward than others.
 - Each believer will face his/her deeds at the judgment seat of Christ but still be one of God's Children, not condemned to Hell.

IV. EVERYONE WHO HAS NOT TRUSTED JESUS CHRIST IS CONDEMNED

- "...He that believeth not...shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him..."***
1. What about the person who doesn't quite believe the Bible?
 - There is not other way. If one doesn't put his/her trust in Jesus Christ as Savior, who is God's own answer for sin, then that person is still going to Hell. ***"...He that believeth not the Son shall not see life..."***
 2. What about the educated people?
 - The educated will go to hell as quickly as anybody else. The sin of unbelief in Jesus Christ is worse than drunkenness, worse than blasphemy, worse than perjury, worse than adultery. There is no way but trusting in Jesus Christ.

3. What about somebody who is a good person?
 - Those who pay their debts and give to the poor and talk nicely, what about them?
 - Well they are going to Hell if they don't put their trust in Jesus.
 - There is something sinful about any person who refuses to believe in Jesus Christ.
 - **"...this is the condemnation that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.."**

4. What about the heathen who never heard the Gospel?
 - They are lost because they are sinners, not because they never heard the Gospel.
 - God decided that He would give everlasting life to EVERYONE that believed in His Son, Jesus. That is the way God decided, by people believing on His Son.
 - There is simply no other way. Jesus said, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life..."**
Peter preached: **"There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved..."**
 - It is believe in Jesus Christ or be forever lost. There is no other way!

V. THE WRATH OF GOD IS ON THOSE WHO REFUSE TO BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST

"...and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him..."

1. The wrath of God. Does God get angry?
 - If you don't know that God gets angry, then you had better do some studying up on God.

2. The anger of God, the wrath of God stays on lost sinners all the time. **"God is angry with the wicked every day..."** Why?
 - Because they turn Jesus down. They "spit" on Jesus. They won't believe the Bible. They choose sin and they love sin and they go on in sin.
 - The anger of God hangs over every lost sinner like a cloud of judgment. Judgment is coming and YOU need to turn to Jesus Christ right now.

CONCLUSION:

1. If you have never definitely trusted Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sins and to give you eternal life, do it right now.
 - **"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life..."**

2. If you have already believed in Jesus Christ, then you already have everlasting, eternal life which shall never be taken away from you.

3. There is no other way to go to heaven except the way God provides and that is through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.