Christian Life

Chapter 1

1.1 Purpose of life

In a nutshell, what is our purpose of living or why are we alive? What is the purpose of living?

The purpose of life is to live with and love God like Adam and Eve did.

MT 22:34 "Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. [35] One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: [36] "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?""

MT 22:37 "Jesus replied: " `<u>Love the Lord your God with all</u> <u>your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.</u>' [38] This is the first and greatest commandment. [39] And the second is like it: `Love your neighbor as yourself.' [40] All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.""

LK 6:32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even `sinners' love those who love them. [33] And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even `sinners' do that. [34] And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even `sinners' lend to `sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. [35] But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. [36] **Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.**"

1JN 4: 16 "And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. **Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.** [17] In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like Him. [18] There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love."

1JN 4:19 "**We love because He first loved us.** [20] If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not

love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. [21] And He has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother."

LEV 19:18 " `Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

MT 5:43 "You have heard that it was said, `Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' [44] But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, [45] that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. [46] If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? [47] And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? [48] Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

A Loving GOD

So the next question is how do we know that we are loving God?

1JN 5:1 "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves His child as well. [2] This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out His commands. [3] **This is love for God: to obey His commands**. And His commands are not burdensome, [4] for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. [5] Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God."

So the way God says that we show our love for Him is that we obey His commands. What are His commands? Well that is what we spend a lifetime doing. However, it does not take a lifetime to know what His commands are.

We do have the bible as a guide to start seeing what His commands are or what we are to do to be obedient.

But how do we know what to do daily to be obedient? Does the bible tell us what He wants every day? So how can you or I know His will always? Lets start to answer these.

But before we continue, lets pray.

We pray for Your children, almighty God and Father of all creations, that You will open their eyes, their ears, their mind and their heart, so that with their eyes they can see the Kingdom of God, with their ears they will always hear Your voice, with their

heart they will be able to understand Your will and with their mind they can do/obey Your every wish, follow Your guidance, every command and Your every will.

Amen

1.2 The Beginning: The Christian Foundation

Lets review a little from what we have learned from the previous book just to ensure that we are still understanding the foundation of the Kingdom of God.

So where do we begin. I believe that we should begin with God.

GE 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. [2] Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters."

And then we continue with Jesus.

JN 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was with God in the beginning.

JN 1:3 "Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. [4] In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. [5] The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it."

Not man or any other God created the world. The only true one and only God created our world. The God and Father of Jesus Christ, His Son, and it was done by His Holy Spirit. So why do we worship other gods or people?

Lets return to us today. Today we have all kinds of religions: Eastern religions of Hinduism, Muslim, Buddhism, Shintoism, Unitarianism; Christian Religious cults of Mormonism, Jehovah Witness, 7th Day Adventist; and many, many, many Christian religious Denominations of Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Church of Christ, Assembly of God, Four Square, Episcopalian, Catholic; and finally we have all of the non-denominational religious churches. So are all of these religions and churches wrong? How can there be so many different religions of God? Are all of these religious people God's Children? Are all of these people religions Christians?

So what is a Christian? Who is a Christian? Why do you call yourself a Christian? What right do you have to call yourself a Christian? How do you become a Christian?

To answer the first question regarding religion, the only true religion is one that follows the true God of this world the one that made it according to His will. The true religion is the one that believes in the Son of God, Jesus the Christ who came down from Heaven to bring salvation to us. The true religion is one that follows the bible according to the revelations of the Holy Spirit and follows the bible as a whole and does not use it in pits and pieces that suits their beliefs, or desire to control people. The true religion is not following lots of man made rules and doctrines, customs, rituals, or beliefs. True religion just does not happen one or two days a week, nor does it always involve gathering of people. True religion does not live by just a gathering of people to sing holy songs and yelling praises, and just gathering for man made worship of a deity and speaking of things that happened in the past.

When I was a young Christian, I asked God what He thought religious means. He answered with this, "Religion is man's concept of how to worship God." "Religion is man's way of controlling man; it is not My way." "True religion should set man free, and not by used to control and enslave him." "It was the religious spirit that crucified Jesus, hoping to remove the freedom Jesus preached in order to keep all men enslaved."

True religion should be a way of life, a way of living. True religion should be about living with our Creator and Father in Heaven. True religion should set man free from the bondage of sin.

In truth the only true religion is the one that is not religious at all. Christianity is not a religion; it is a way of life. To say that you are a Christian means that you want to live with God, not just worship Him. For me, I am not religious, I am a Christian, and I have dedicated my life to live with Him, for Him and by Him—God our Father, the creator of this universe and the Father of Jesus my Savior—the Christ.

What is a Christian?

A Christian is a person who has been saved. A person who has been transformed by the power of God through Jesus, for He is our savior. Christian means "To be Christ like" or "To be like Christ". But what does Christ mean? It means the Holy Anointed one of God who has God's anointing. It is not Jesus' last name. It means who He is. He is the anointed one of God who is living in God's anointing. To be "Christ like" or Christian really means to be like the anointed one living in God's anointing.

Who is a Christian?

The clue of who is a Christian is to figure out how to be anointed and to live in God's anointing. And a sinful person living in an evil spirit cannot be anointed, yet alone live in God's anointing. Only a person who has been forgiven, wash clean with the Blood of Jesus and is "Born Again" with a new holy and pure spirit is a Christian.

Why do you call yourself a Christian?

Just because you go to church and do what the church says, does not make you a Christian. You might be religious but does not mean that you are a Christian. All people who go to church might be a member of that church and baptized in to that church or

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congregation, but just because you are does not make you a Christian. To be a Christian is to do one thing, and that is to obey God and only God not man.

What right do you have to call yourself a Christian?

You do not have any right to call yourself a Christian; only God can call you a Christian. God calls us Christians after we are "Born Again". Then He adopts us into His family, and then He calls us His children, we then are the Children of God. As child of God, He can anoint you with the Holy Spirit and then He asks you to live in His anointing. Once you are adopted, He asks you to live in His world, out of evil's world, and He calls this the "The Kingdom of God."

Therefore, God expects you to live as a Child of God in the Kingdom of God.

How do you become a Christian?

In order to know how to be a Christian and to live in the Kingdome of God, I believe it is best to start with knowing WHY God does what He does, or to know WHY the Kingdom of God works certain ways. This way if you know why, then you can find out how to be what God is asking of you.

1.3 Christian foundation

Lets first define Good and evil. Jesus says that there is only one good person, and that is our Father in heaven

MT 19:16 "Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

MT 19:17 "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "**There is only One who is good**. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."

And evil is simply defined as, "Not Godly; not from God; something other then from God or someone other then from God, or God did not do it, but this does not mean satan, himself, or the devil did it or that the devil did it personally; it could be his demons, but it could merely be something that God did not make or do.

In short, evil means "Not from God or Not Godly."

1.3.1 Free Will

Lets start with the basics.

The most basic question is:

In this spiritual world, what power do we really have?

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What power do we really have over this spiritual world?

Are we stronger then satan? Can we control his demons? Can we stop them? Can we fight them? Can you protect your self or your family from them?

In short, no. We cannot. So what power do we have? The only power we have is the power over our free will. Can we stop ourselves from sinning? Can we stop an addiction? Can we heal ourselves? Can we stop getting mad at someone or something? Can we stop being jealous or sad? So what power do we have? It seems that we are pretty weak to me.

The only power that I know of is that we have the power of our free will. Our free will to decide. We can decide to want or to be willing to do good, to believe and have faith in God. God recognized this and God bases all things on that. God honors our free will and our decisions. If we decide to want evil, He lets us have evil, if we decide to want Him, He will remove all evil and will fill us with His Holy Spirit as long as we ask. But of ourselves we are nothing and we can do nothing to stop evil, but all we can do is to decide to have faith in Him.

It is only with His support can we do anything and everything.

Note: When you read the word "world" as below, it means that the ways of the world as the evil one has twisted it and turned the ways of the world against God and made it evil. As you will see later, after Lucifer rebelled against God (see Ephesians 2:1) he was given domain over the world to rule it as he sees fit, which is to mean that the is ruled by evil.

JN 4:4 "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because **the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world**. [5] They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. [6] We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood."

So we are very weak compared to the spirit world and others for that matter. But He says that it is ok to be weak and it is even preferred. Because He says:

MT 10:37 "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; [38] and anyone who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. [39] Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

OR

LK 9:23 "Then He said to them all: "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. [24] For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me will save it. [25] What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? [26] If anyone is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. [27] I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God.""

2CO 12:7 "To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. [8] Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. [9] But He said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. [10] That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.""

So when we realize that we are truly weak, we can then let God be God in our life and in Him we will be strong.

EPH 6:10 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. [11] Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. [14] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, [15] and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. [16] In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. [18] And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

So we let Him be our strength and we make the decision to let Him help us. The only thing we can do is to decide to let Him. We decide to have faith, we decide to love Him, we decide to follow Him, we decide to follow His commands and we decide to receive His gift of life and salvation.

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1.3.2 Decisions

Lets look at one of His main principles.

JN 14:15 "If you love Me, you will obey what I command. [16] And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-- [17] the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. [18] I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. [19] Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. [20] On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. [21] Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him."

My question is how do you do this, "If you love Me, you will obey what I command." Or "Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me." By what process do we as humans go through to fulfill this? Well, first we listen to the idea, then second, we believe the idea, but wait, how do we know we believe? Does it just take us over; does it magically over come us?

How do we believe? Well first we think about it and think about it, and then we come to the conclusion that it is from God. With that conclusion, we decide to believe; we decide that we want to believe and love Him, so we decide to obey His commands or to obey Him

JOS 24:14 "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. [15] But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, **then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. **But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.**"

Here Joshua is presenting the concept of who the people will follow and serve, for which god they will follow. So he says "**then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,...**" I ask you, How do you choose? By what means do we choose? Is it not by making the decision that you choose one thing over the other? Here Joshua has decided which he will choose, he choose the Lord our God. He decided whom he would serve and follow.

So the true secret to life with God is our decision to obey or disobey Him. He will do the rest if we decide to have faith in Him and follow Him. This decision could be conscious or it could be by training or by teaching or by habit, but at some time or

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another you had to make the decision to do it or not. To be come a habit, it is from a long time of making the same decision under the same circumstance to where you get to the point where you do it automatically or by habit.

1.3.3 Doubt

As you read this and anything of the Lord, always keep looking for how your decision is made so that you know it was right and can stick by it. You need to stand on your decision.

MT 21:21 "Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, `Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. [22] If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.""

How do you not doubt? Where does doubt come from? Doubt is questioning whether what you are doing is right or not. But why are you doing it if you have not decided it was right to do? So doubt is questioning your decision that you made to do what you are doing. To not doubt then is to stick with the decision you made, because you have faith in God. To doubt is to question God, it is questioning your belief in Him or your decision to trust Him and your decision to follow His commands.

Lets look at one more concept. We do things often without really thinking as to the process of doing it.

A simple example is going to the store. Why? Why are you going to the store? How did it start? You went to the refrigerator to get a glass of milk for the cookie you are eating. Why are you eating the cookie? Because you are hungry. But you are out of milk. So now what? You start asking yourself lots of questions like, where do I get more milk? How much is milk? How do I get to the store? What type of milk? You realize you have a car to get to the store, you know that everyone likes low fat milk, you remember that the store is just down the street, you remember the price. Well now what do you do? Automatically you get the money, the car keys and head to the store. Did someone tell you to do this? How did you come to the conclusion of all of these things? You automatically decided on the choices. You decided to get the car, you decided which milk type, you decided that is was worth that much money. You decided to do.... So based on our decisions we put things into action or motion.

Decisions are the most important thing we all do. We decide to follow God or not. It is that simple. Wait a minute, I thought God says that we are saved by our faith. So what do decisions have to do with it?

And faith comes by what? Your decision to believe, decision to trust and decision to obey God.

1.4 Faith

But what is faith? Is not faith just believing? Or is it more? Why is faith so important?

EPH 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

So to be saved or "Born Again", only comes through faith. Not by works. We cannot buy salvation. We cannot go to church like you do school, when you show up you get points and after so many points you get saved. You cannot be the best person in the world and expect salvation with out being "Born Again" or likewise, you can be the best person in the world, you can give all your wealth, all of your belonging, you can donate all of your time to the poor and homeless and yet if you are not "Born Again", you are going to hell. You will be "Born Again" only through salvation which is through Jesus the Christ. Salvation is God's gift to mankind.

So what is faith? Faith is made of several things. When I asked this question the Holy Spirit guided me through many parts of the bible. He used the concept of being saved to show me faith because the whole purpose of Jesus dying is salvation, as we read in John 3:16.

1.4.1 Believing

As John says,

JN 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever **believes** in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

LK 8:11 "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. [12] Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. [13] Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They **believe** for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. [14] The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. [15] But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

RO 10:5 "Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." [6] But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, `Who will ascend into heaven?! " (that is, to bring Christ down) [7] "or `Who will descend into the deep?! " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [8] But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: [9] That 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. [10] For it is with your heart that you **believe** and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. [11] As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." [12] For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, [13] for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

So one part of faith is believing. We must believe to start with. If we do not believe in God and that He sent Jesus to die for our sins, then how can we do anything else?

Now lets look at James.

JAS 2:19 "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that and shudder."

This says that demons believe too. Does that mean that they are saved? Heaven forbid that they or any human not a child of God should be saved. Do you want to continue to live eternal life with them? God does not. That is why He blinds the evil children so that they cannot see the Kingdom of God and God's great salvation in Jesus.

MT 13:10 "The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?""

MT 13:11 "He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven has been given to you, but not to them. [12] Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. [13] This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

MT 13:14 "In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: 'You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving."

MT 13:15 "For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.""

MT 13:16 "But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. [17] For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

JN 8:42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. [43] Why is my language not clear to you? **Because you are unable to hear what I say. [44] You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire.** He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. [45] Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! [46] Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? [47] He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

So God opens the eyes and ears of His children so that they can believe in Jesus but not the evil children of the devil.

So in order to have faith we must first start by deciding to believe God.

1.4.2 Trusting

Then we read:

JN 14:1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. **Trust in God; trust also in Me**. [2] In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be

with Me that you also may be where I am. [4] You know the way to the place where I am going."

JN 14:5 "Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?""

JN 14:6 "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. [7] If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

ISA 12:2 Surely God is my salvation;I will trust and not be afraid.The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song;he has become my salvation.""

With this and more about trust, the Lord was saying that although people believe in Him but they do not trust Him. We have to trust God to fulfill what He has promised.

But back to the believing part of Romans in that He bases His believing part on trust.

RO 10:5 "Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." [6] But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, `Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) [7] "or `Who will descend into the deep?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [8] But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: [9] That 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. [10] For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. [11] **As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame."** [12] For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, [13] for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.""

As you study the bible, the meaning of shame is to be case into hell. To be eternally separated from God. So He is saying that those who put their trust in God will not go to hell.

EX 14:29 "But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. [30] That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. [31] And when the Israelites saw the great power the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, **the people feared the LORD and put their trust in Him** and in Moses His servant."

EX 15:1 "Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

"I will sing to the LORD, for He is highly exalted. The horse and its rider He has hurled into the sea."

DT 9:23 "And when the LORD sent you out from Kadesh Barnea, He said, "Go up and take possession of the land I have given you." But you rebelled against the command of the LORD your God. **You did not trust Him or obey Him.** [24] You have been rebellious against the LORD ever since I have known you."

PS 37:4 "Delight yourself in the LORD and He will give you the desires of your heart.

PS 37:5 "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will do this:

PS 37:6 "He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

PS 37:7 "Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

PS 37:8 "Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret--it leads only to evil.

PS 37:9 "For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

PS 37:10 "A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found.

PS 115:11 "You who fear him, trust in the LORD--He is their help and shield.

PS 115:12 "The LORD remembers us and will bless us: He will bless the house of Israel, He will bless the house of Aaron,

PS 115:13 "He will bless those who fear the LORD--small and great alike.

PS 115:14 "May the LORD make you increase, both you and your children."

NA 1:7 The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. **He cares for those who trust in Him,...**

RO 15:13 "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace **as you trust in Him**, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

So it you trust the Lord He will protect you, provide for you, prosper you, in essence, save you. Therefore, salvation is also given to those who trust God, but how can you trust God if you do not believe Him. So you must first believe in God and what He promises, and then you must trust Him.

1.4.3 Doing—Putting Your Faith Into Action

However, it appears that is not all it takes to be saved. Lets look further in James.

JAS 2:14 "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no **works**? Can such faith save him? [15] Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. [16] If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? [17] In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

JAS 2:18 "But someone will say, "You have faith; I have **works**." Show me your faith without **works**, and I will show you my faith by **what** I do. [19] You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder."

JAS 2:20 "You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without **works** is useless? [21] Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? [22] You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. [23] And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. [24] You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone."

So God said that we must have faith, and faith is **believing** in God and that He sent Jesus, that we **trust** God to fulfill His promises and covenants, and we must show our faith by **putting it into action**. Again, how does He say that we love Him, that we

follow His commands? Well aren't these commands actions, deeds, works and obedience in Him.

He asked me, if you are to obey My commands, how can you do them with out actions, and how can you act on them if you do not trust Me, and still how can you trust Me if you do not believe in Me. You must first believe in Me, then you can trust Me, and finally you can obey My commands once you know that I only do it for you because I love you and only want the best for all My children.

In short Faith is Believing, Trusting and Doing. To do something in faith, you must fulfill all 3 of these aspects and then you have a living faith. Without a living faith you can do nothing, but with this living faith you can do everything.

1.4.4 Examples of Faith

Lets see what God has done by people's faith.

MT 9:27 "As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!""

MT 9:28 "When He had gone indoors, the blind men came to Him, and He asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Lord," they replied."

MT 9:29 "Then He touched their eyes and said, "According to your **faith** will it be done to you"; [30] and their sight was restored. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this." [31] But they went out and spread the news about Him all over that region."

MT 13:53 "When Jesus had finished these parables, He moved on from there. [54] Coming to His hometown, He began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed. "Where did this Man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" they asked. [55] "Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't His mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas? [56] Aren't all his sisters with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?" [57] And they took offense at Him.

But Jesus said to them, "Only in His hometown and in His own house is a prophet without honor."

MT 13:58 "And He did not do many miracles there because of their lack of **faith**."

MT 15:21 "Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. [22] A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to Him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession."" MT 15:23 "Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to Him and urged Him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.""

MT 15:24 "He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

MT 15:25 The woman came and knelt before Him. "Lord, help me!" she said."

MT 15:26 "He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs.""

MT 15:27 ""Yes, Lord," she said, "but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.""

MT 15:28 "Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great **faith**! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour."

MT 17:14 "When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before Him. [15] "Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. [16] I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him.""

MT 17:17 "O unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to Me." [18] Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed from that moment."

MT 17:19 "Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?""

MT 17:20 "He replied, "Because you have so little **faith**. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.""

MT 21:18 "Early in the morning, as He was on His way back to the city, He was hungry. [19] Seeing a fig tree by the road, He went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then He said to it, "May you never bear fruit again!" Immediately the tree withered."

MT 21:20 "When the disciples saw this, they were amazed. "How did the fig tree wither so quickly?" they asked."

MT 21:21 "Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, if you have **faith** and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, `Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. [22] If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.""

JN 14:9 "Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work. [11] Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. [12] I tell you the truth, anyone who has **faith** in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. [13] And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. [14] You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it."

HEB 10:38 "But My righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him."

HEB 10:39 "But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.

HEB 11:1 "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. [2] This is what the ancients were commended for.

HEB 11:3 "By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

HEB 11:4 "By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead.

HEB 11:5 "By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. [6] And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. HEB 11:7 "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

HEB 11:8 "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. [9] By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. [10] For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

HEB 11:11 "By faith Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren--was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. [12] And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

HEB 11:13 "All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. [14] People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. [15] If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. [16] Instead, they were longing for a better country--a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

HEB 11:17 "By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, [18] even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." [19] Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

HEB 11:20 "By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

HEB 11:21 "By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

HEB 11:22 "By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions about his bones.

HEB 11:23 "By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

HEB 11:24 "By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. [25] He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. [26] He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. [27] By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. [28] By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

HEB 11:29 "By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

HEB 11:30 "By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days.

HEB 11:31 "By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

HEB 11:32 "And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, [33] who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, [34] quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. [35] Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. [36] Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. [37] They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated--- [38] the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

HEB 11:39 "These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. [40] God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

HEB 12:1 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. [2] Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3] Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

1.5 Humility

Finally, the main Key to life with God is this:

MT 18:2 "He called a little child and had him stand among them. [3] And He said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. [4] **Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**"

And what is humility?

The main key to being humble is to depend on God, to give unconditional love, and unconditional obedience. That is what truly being humble is. Accepting the attitude of humility to God. Accepting the Spirit of humility of God to live in and with you.

Here is what Andrew Murray says in "Absolute Surrender".

"Humility is 1) to cast all your cares upon Him for He cares FOR you...knowing apart from HIM we can do nothing. 2) It is also walking in meekness; considering others better than yourself to walk in the love of God. And to do this requires resting in His presence; casting your cares on Him, basking in His love; being in a receiving mode; so we can then give out what He gives to us, to others; in quietness and rest we are refreshed.

Webster's dictionary says this: humility is the quality or state of being humble in spirit, freedom from pride or arrogance. Having a low opinion one's own importance or merits. "

Note: This is not saying that being humble is being insecure, or allowing everyone to walk on you or take advantage of you, but to have the attitude of putting others first, like Jesus did when He died on the cross. He could have called down 10,000 angles and defend Himself and destroy everyone, but He put us, His people first before His own suffering and death, because He loved us. He put the will of His father first before Himself, and so should we.

Then Andrew Murray in "Absolute Surrender" on p.49 prays...

"Father, let the Holy Spirit have full dominion over me, in my home, in my temper, in every word of my tongue, in every thought of my

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heart, in every feeling toward my fellow-men. Let the Holy Spirit have entire possession."

"This is the bottom-line of humility is allowing God total ruler ship in our lives. He is our Adonai: our Master. "

Humility is realizing we are not in control. It is the opposite of self-sufficiency and self-reliance, or living in and with the attribute of pride. Pride needs to be in charge of our life and the lives of others. When we think we know what is better for someone else than they do...we are walking in pride.

And the Key to all children is what? They all depend on their parents. God wants us to depend on Him and only Him. Not man, not religion, not church, not self, not your parents, nothing but Him. Once we learn to be dependent on Him, then we are truly humble. And the Humble will inherent the Kingdom of Heaven. That is salvation. That is life with God. Being humble is bowing down to God, not bowing down to any man.

You cannot just go to church on Sunday and fulfill this. We must be with Him always, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Always! To easily remember what the Key to life is: Depend on God. That is it. Depend on God and nothing else.

1CO 13:1 "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. [2] If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. [3] If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing."

1CO 13:4 "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. [5] It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. [6] Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. [7] It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

1CO 13:8 "Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. [9] For we know in part and we prophesy in part, [10] but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. [11] When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. [12] Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

1CO 13:13 "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

1CO 14:26 "What then shall we say, brothers? When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church. [27] If anyone speaks in a tongue, two--or at the most three-should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. [28] If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and God."

1CO 14:29 "Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. [30] And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. [31] For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. [32] The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. [33] For God is not a God of disorder but of peace."

1CO 14:36 "Did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached? [37] If anybody thinks he is a prophet or spiritually gifted, let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command. [38] If he ignores this, he himself will be ignored."

1CO 14:39 "Therefore, my brothers, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. [40] But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way."

EPH 3:20 "Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, [21] to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

EPH 4:1 "As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. [2] **Be completely humble and gentle**; be patient, bearing with one another in love. [3] Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. [4] There is one body and one Spirit-- just as you were called to one hope when you were called-- [5] one Lord, one faith, one baptism; [6] one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

Finally

JAS 4:4 "You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. [5] Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit He caused to live in us envies intensely? [6] But He gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud (haughty) but gives grace to the humble."

JAS 4:7 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. [8] Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. [9] Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. [10] **Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."**

JAS 4:11 "Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. [12] There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and destroy. But you--who are you to judge your neighbor?"

JAS 4:13 "Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." [14] Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. [15] Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." [16] As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. [17] **Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.**"

1.6 Knowing GOD's Way of Doing Things

He promised us that He would send a Helper in order for us to do just that.

Note: The following scripture is from the Berkeley version of the bible.

JN 14:15 "If you love Me, you will obey what I command. [16] And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper to be with you forever-- [17] the Spirit of Truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. [18] I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. [19] Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. [20] On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. [21] Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him."

JN 14:25 "All this I have spoken while still with you. [26] But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. [27]

Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

JN 15:26 "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about me. [27] And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning."

JN 16:5 "Now I am going to Him who sent Me, yet none of you asks Me, `Where are you going?' [6] Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. [7] But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. [8] When He comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: [9] in regard to sin, because men do not believe in Me; [10] in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see Me no longer; [11] and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

JN 16:12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. [13] But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. [14] He will bring glory to Me by taking from what is Mine and making it known to you. [15] All that belongs to the Father is Mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is Mine and make it known to you."

The Lord shows us here that one of the blessings we are to receive is the Holy Spirit; the same Holy Spirit that lives in Jesus; the same Holy Spirit that made the world; the awesome power of God. He will live in us, and when He does He will give us everything He gave Jesus. This is why the Lord says that the same things He did we will do and more.

1.7 "BORN AGAIN"

To be "Born Again" is the only way to be a Christian. It is the Holy Spirit that makes us a Christian. He is the Key to salvation. But how do we get the Holy Spirit that the Lord Jesus had? We get Him through Faith, and through Faith, God makes us a new creation and the Lord calls this new creation being "Born Again".

JN 3:1 "Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. [2] He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

JN 3:3 "In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is "Born Again". "

JN 3:4 "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

JN 3:5 "Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. [6] Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. [7] You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be **born again**.' [8] The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

JN 3:9 "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

JN 3:10 "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? [11] I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. [12] I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? [13] No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven--the Son of Man. [14] Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, [15] that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.

JN 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. [18] Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. [19] This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of Light because their deeds were evil. [20] Everyone who does evil hates the Light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. [21] But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

1.7.1 Original Sin

But why do we need to be "Born Again"?

Adam and Eve were kicked out of the Garden of Eden and separated from God for sinning. This sin became a curse to all mankind. This curse of death follows all man—male and female alike. This curse is evil that lives in us and is passed down to all

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of our children. It lives in our blood. It is passed to each child through the blood of the father. (A little biology here.) Sperm is made of 2 things, water and blood, as the scripture above says—but check any biology book and see. And the woman provides the egg, just like the first Adam. God made him out of the earth in the ground, a lifeless form. So when people mate, life is put in the egg by the father.

1.7.2 Jesus Our Savior

This is why Jesus had to be born from a virgin. He had to have no sin in Him. And He committed no sin making Him the perfect sacrifice for us. God demands sacrifice for sins in order for humans to understand the seriousness of sinning. God asked for animal sacrifice for man to try to get the idea how bad sin was but these animal sacrifices were never enough for God to permanently forgive us and bring us Holy into the Kingdom of God. Only a pure and holy sacrifice can do that. Animal sacrifice was never good enough. But neither would the sacrifice of any man or woman. For we have Adam and Eve's sin in our blood. Only the Pure and Holy blood would be good enough. So God set the plan in motion, the plan of His own sacrifice for us. He sent Jesus, the Pure, Holy, sinless person, His only son, to be the sacrifice for all mankind.

We know that Jesus came to the world to die for our sins. So that in believing in Him we can be saved. That the Him dying and spilling His blood, be a living sacrifice to the Father so that having faith in Jesus, we can be saved

Now by believing that Jesus died for us in our place, we can receive the miracle of God—His forgiveness. And with that forgiveness, He can transform us from a sinner to a forgiving child of God. He can now clean us and purify us and make us Holy as He is. Now He can wash the sin in us so that even though it is still there, He does not see it, He only sees the precious blood of Christ on us. And He can remove the evil spirit in us and replace it with a new and holy spirit from God, just like Jesus.

So as you can see, you must be "Born Again" in spirit. So when you believe on the sinless Jesus, God accepts that as from you, and then you repent and ask for forgiveness, then ask God to live in you, He removes your old sinful spirit, nature and replaces it with a new human spirit that is from Him. A new spirit and makes you a Holy and pure live soul and so now you can go to heaven. Sin is still in your blood but the spirit by which you were born with is now changed or "Born Again" in spirit.

Now we are "Born Again" and as such the Lord can fill us with His Holy Spirit. It is by His Spirit that the Lord hears us and we Him.

However, when you have children, they will still be born from the sinful blood. So they will need to be "Born Again" too. God does not have any grandchildren only children. Everyone must have his or her own personal re-birth to go to heaven.

1.8 How are we "Born Again"?

We are "Born Again" by using our faith.

EPH 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace. expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

We use our faith to receive the Gift of God. Salvation cannot be bought, it cannot be worked for; it can only be received. We receive it by believing in Jesus the Christ and that God raised Him from the dead. We receive it by admitting we are sinners. We receive it by accepting the Blood of Jesus as our Holy and perfect sacrifice for our sins. We receive it by asking God our Father to forgive us. We receive it by repenting. We receive it by asking God to live in us. Finally we receive it by committing our life to Him, making a life long marriage, accepting Him as our Father and living with Him as such and as our best friend.

RO 10:5 "Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." [6] But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, `Who will ascend into heaven?! " (that is, to bring Christ down) [7] "or `Who will descend into the deep?! " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [8] But what does it say? **"The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: [9] That 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.** [10] For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. [11] As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame." [12] For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, [13] for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.""

This is how we know that we are having faith in the right God. There are many gods and religions out there, but which one is the true God that created this world that we

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need to put our faith in that brings salvation. Anyone, religion or god that requires more than this for salvation, is not the right one and you will and cannot be "Born Again".

But in receiving this gift from God, then we will be transformed and you will know it. After you put your faith in God and receive His Gift, you will know that He is the living God. He will create a new spirit in you and then He will live in you.

REV 3:14 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. [15] I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! [16] So, because you are lukewarm--neither hot nor cold--I am about to spit you out of my mouth. [17] You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. [18] I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

REV 3:19 "Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. [20] Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me."

REV 3:21 "To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with Me on My throne, just as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. [22] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Summary

At this point it seems good to summarize what it takes to receive this precious gift of God. This gift that Jesus suffered so horribly and died such a painful death to give to you.

- 1. Each person needs to decide to have faith that Jesus is the Son of God.
- 2. Each person needs to decide to believe that Jesus' sacrifice is for the forgiveness of their sins.
- 3. Each person needs to decide to believe that they are a sinner and need this forgiveness.
- 4. Each person needs to decide to accept Jesus' sacrifice.

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- 5. Each person needs to decide that because of Jesus sacrifice they now can ask God to forgive them.
- 6. Each person needs to decide to accept God's ways and repent (be willing to change) from their own way and the ways of this world.
- 7. And finally each person needs to decide to ask God to come into your life and live with and in them.

Now that you are "Born Again", you need to know how to live with God and live in the Kingdom of God. You need to know who to walk in His Spirit.

Being "Born Again" is the only way to be a Christian. There is no other way. Only God can make you a Christian and that only comes from being ""Born Again"." At this point you are now a **Christian**, a person who wants to be and live like Christ, Jesus. Now you need to know the Secret Helper that God has for you to live in this world of evil.

AC 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! [9] If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, [10] then know this, you and all the people of Israel: **It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,** whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. [11] He is

> " `the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone. '

AC 4:12 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.""

Christian Life