

## **The Day I Entered Eternity**

Do you remember the date you entered into eternity? It may sound like a trick question, but it's not. We began our eternal life the day we received, through faith, Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. That marked the start of our salvation, and we were declared "*not guilty*" by God. Our salvation is the work of God's grace, through which He pardons our sins and grants us His gift of eternal life. This is the essence of salvation. It's the manifestation of God's grace, representing His unmerited and undeserved favor and love for us. Consequently, He pardons (justifies) us, forgives all our sins, and bestows upon us the gift of eternal life. **Ephesians 2:8:** "*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.*" No issue is more crucial than our eternal destiny. The Bible is abundantly clear about our salvation and where we will spend eternity after our lives in this world are over. More importantly, our eternity begins when we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior. At the moment we believed and placed our complete faith in Jesus Christ, we are born again and possess eternal life, which is not just a future promise but something we experience now. **John 3:35-36:** "*The Father loves the Son and has entrusted all things to His hand. The one who believes in the Son has eternal life; but the one who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*" Receiving salvation from God and starting to live eternal life today happens when we place our faith and complete trust in Jesus Christ alone as the payment for our sins. **Ephesians 1:13-14:** "*In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance...*" Through our salvation, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in our hearts and starts working on us gradually. **Romans 8:11:** "*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*" He cleans up this area over here and changes that aspect over there; He corrects this attitude and improves that relationship. Little by little, we notice changes in our lives; we are being transformed, not merely reformed. If we were being reformed, that would imply an external change. No, transformation happens from the inside out. You see, when we give our lives to Christ, He sends the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Once the Holy Spirit resides within us, He embarks on a mission to make us holy and transform our lives. Our heavenly Father gives us a singular choice: faith in the sacrificial, all-sufficient, atoning death of Jesus Christ on the cross, along with the surrender of our lives to Him as Lord and Master. In that moment, we begin our eternal life.