

Ever Lasting Life

Newsletter

July 2008

Study Guide

2008 The Year of Expectation

As we move from the year of increase to the year of expectation we must be ever mindful to keep our minds, heart and soul on the Lord Jesus Christ. *(From January Issue)*

As we reach the half way point of the year of expectation, I ask how is your year going? Has the Lord manifested the unexpected into your life? Have you been enduring your trials and temptations from the evil one?

1 John 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

As Everlasting Life Publications prepare for the second part of this year we ask that you continue to study, you are welcome to send ideas personal studies, and, or, anything that you might like to add to this newsletter.

Proverbs 24:14 So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.

Please keep in mind that the Sunday School lessons are like a daily bread that you can read each day throughout the month. So please read, study, share and grow.

Matthew 19:26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.



From the Desk of Pastor Nazareth Repentance

If you were to take a survey the consensus would be that repentance consists of only asking God. Merriam – Webster 11th Collegiate Dictionary defines Repentance as the action or process of repenting especially for misdeeds or moral shortcomings. From this definition we find that repentance is executed in phases. John says in Matt 3:2 "repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" in verse 8 he goes on to say "Bring forth fruit meet for repentance." John helps us to understand that this process escalates from a mental change, to a verbal change, to a physical change.

I'm persuaded that repentance is worked out in steps.

1. **Awareness**
2. **Acknowledge**
3. **Action**

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Far Left: Pastor Brian Nazareth of Atlanta
Middle: Evangelist Keisha Henry &
Overseer William Henry Of AhhP

Awareness

Repentance begins with the awareness of wrong, but it doesn't remove the wrong. Repentance is not complete in this early stage because recognition only brings about regret or remorse. We see an illustration of this form of repentance in David, yet David only repented when his transgression was brought to his attention by Nathan. Everyone needs a Nathan.

While one man's Nathan may have been prayer, for another it may have been a song, with others it was the reading or the preaching of God's word. There are even instances of Nathan coming in the form of sickness of oneself or someone close. That brought about admitting that there is a need for change. Yet one would have to wonder if David hadn't been exposed would he have repented. This leads me to believe that awareness is only the first step in repentance.

McClintock and Strong's Encyclopedia shows a contrast between legal repentance, and evangelical repentance. "A legal repentance flows from a sense of danger and fear of wrath, but an evangelical repentance produces a true mourning of sin and an earnest desire of deliverance from it."

Acknowledge

David helps us to see the next essential step in the process towards repentance. It was because of his being made aware of his transgressions David wrote Psalm 51. True repentance is not determined by the deterrents or the fear of discipline. True repentance brings one to a place where they are willing to admit they were wrong. As David did in Psalms 51 it was here that David realized that he deserved to be punished, Acknowledging makes you want to admit that you have done wrong. Only when you can acknowledge the pain that you have put someone through. When acknowledgment brings you to the commandment "love thy brother as you love yourself." Acknowledging won't let you rest until you arrive at the last and final step.

Action

Yes repentance is a process you must first be made aware. Then you must acknowledge your faults. Now you are ready to take the final step action. Notice that the first two steps are internal, and they are for you. In this last phase of this process it's external. Also we must remember that God initiates the change and it's up to the individual to accept. Someone once wisely said the higher the level one goes in God the bigger the devil. Just as Zacchaeus in Luke 19th after being in the presence of Jesus he repented for his sin and decided he would return to all he offended fourfold. When you allow Jesus into your life it will be reflected on the outside. There will be an action; you will act differently when Jesus comes into your life. Because you will think differently, you will talk to people differently, you'll treat people differently, you will respond differently.

There will be an outward show of change. No more stealing you'll start giving. No more lying you'll start testifying; no more fighting you'll start forgiving. The true signs of repentance will be reflected in your living. But this process takes some time. You may not instantly go to your brother whom you have offended and ask for forgiveness. You may not immediately repay those who you have stolen from. But at this action phase you will get better. As time goes on you will be made aware of sins sooner, and you will acknowledge them earlier, and you will take action faster. I can bear witness that God is going to help you. This is not theology according to Pastor, but according to the word of God Luke 24:49 *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*

During this process the devil steps in and tries tricking us into believing because we keep making mistakes that we are wasting our time repenting. The devil is a lie according to 1 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.* No this is not a license to do wrong, but the reason to keep pressing on. God's forgiveness is never ending.

Repentance begins a confession internally, but is reflected with action externally. Amen!!!

Boaz and Ruth: Firm Foundations

(Ruth 1-4)

By Min. Debbie Price

Introduction: Sometimes life treats you harshly. At those times, you wonder where God is? Why has He let such terrible things happen to me? This week we look at women whose lives are torn apart by the death of their spouse. Will remaining faithful to God pay off? Will grit and determination help? Let's dive into our lesson and find out!

1. Disaster

1. Read [Ruth 1:1-5](#). This was a terrible time in which to live. There was no government in Israel ([Judges 17:6](#)), people did whatever they wanted. Apparently, there was also no rain, so Elimelech decided to take his little family to another country where they had food. What do you think of Elimelech's decision? (It put the physical above the spiritual. Although Israel was not following God the way it should, the god of Moab was Chemosh.)

1:a Was it wrong for Mahlon and Kilion to marry Moabite women? (It was not specifically prohibited ([Deuteronomy 7:1-3](#)), but it was not a good idea because they worshiped other gods.)

1:b Has the move improved Naomi's situation? (It turns out that the husband's attempt to improve the welfare of his family actually makes things worse.)

2. Naomi hears that the famine has ended in Israel, so she decides to return home. Read [Ruth 1:8-13](#). What kind of women is Naomi? (She is bitter towards God, but she is unselfish towards her daughter-in-laws. They have been good wives to her sons and she is looking out for their future.)

3. Read [Ruth 1:14-15](#). Orpah is convinced by Naomi about the best course for her future, but Ruth decides to stay. What is Naomi's spiritual state right now?

(She is in rebellion against God. In her opinion, God has harmed her, not helped her. Thus, she recommends that Orpah and Ruth return to their "people and [their] gods.")

3:a Has Naomi always been like this - rebellious towards God?

(Read [Ruth 1:16-18](#). Elimelech's family converted Ruth to serve the true God. Although Ruth has lost her husband, she does not have this rebellious attitude towards God. Instead, Ruth shows her strong character by disregarding the "practical advice" for her future and instead remaining faithful to Naomi and the God of Israel. Naomi must have held on to some faith because Ruth refers to "your God.")

2. God's Blessings on Ruth

1. Read [Ruth 2:1-4](#). What do we learn about Boaz? (He is a relative of Elimelech, he is prominent in the community, he is a land-owner and farmer, he is Godly and has a good relationship with his workers.)

1:a What additional fact do we learn about Ruth? (She is not lazy.)

1:b Notice that [Ruth 2:3](#) says "as it turned out, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz." It sounds like this was mere chance. Is that how you see it? (God is leading the actions of this industrious young lady!)

2. Read [Ruth 2:5-7](#). Ruth catches the eye of Boaz. What recommendation does the foreman give her? (He says three important things. First, he tells Boaz that she is a relative (or at least with one of his relatives). Second, that she asked permission to "glean" (which was her right under [Leviticus 23:22](#)). Third, she is a hard worker.)

2:a What do you think Boaz may have previously heard about "the Moabitess who came back from Moab with Naomi?" (Naomi had a very sad story.)

The one bright spot in her situation was this young woman from Moab who not only left her own country to help Naomi, she converted to the God of Israel. I'll bet the people had a favorable opinion of Ruth.)

3. Read [Ruth 2:8-10](#). Ruth has the same question I have, why is Boaz being so kind to her? It is one thing to let her glean - which is her right - it is another thing to tell her to glean only on his property, promise his personal protection, and make her a part of the "household." Why? (Read [Ruth 2:11-12](#). It turns out I was right about her reputation. Boaz had already formed a high opinion of her, so when she "happened" to show up in his fields, he was anxious to help her.)

3:a Instead of wishing her a "rich reward by the Lord," why didn't Boaz just give her that rich reward?

4. Read [Ruth 2:13](#). What do you think of this answer? What if she had said, "You are right, I am doing a lot for Naomi! This gleaning stuff has cramped my style. You are rich, how about helping me a bit more? I deserve the help. You can afford it."

5. Read [Ruth 2:14-16](#). Aside from feeding her, what do you think Boaz is trying to do for Ruth? (He wants her to feel accepted and be accepted by his employees. He does not want her to be embarrassed because she is gleaning. He views her as a special person. A person who, if circumstances were different, would not be gleaning.)

5:a What principles about helping the poor do we find in our story so far? (Boaz did not just give Ruth money or food - although he could afford it. Following God's plan of gleaning, the poor had to work for their food. On the other hand, Boaz realizes Ruth's unfortunate circumstances and takes steps to both keep her from embarrassment, keep her safe, and make her food collection a little easier.)

6. Read [Ruth 2:17-18](#). What traits of character do we see in Ruth? (We see again that she is hard-working. We also find she is generous.)

3. Boaz and Ruth

1. Read [Ruth 2:19-20](#). Our story introduces a new fact. Boaz is "one of our kinsman-redeemers." What is that? (Let's read some texts: [Leviticus 25:25](#); [Leviticus 25:47-49](#); and, [Deuteronomy 25:5-10](#). Family was important in Israel. This idea of one family member "redeeming" someone who had fallen on hard times was written into the law. It even extended to the "Levirate law" in which a brother of a deceased man would marry his widow in order to have a son to continue on the name of the deceased. Ruth and Naomi, had not only fallen on very hard financial times, they had both lost their husbands.)

1:a What other principles about helping the poor have we learned in these texts? (The family has a primary responsibility.)

2. Read [Ruth 3:1-4](#). You recall that Naomi argued that Ruth should stay with her people so that she could find a husband. What is Naomi up to now? Is she trying to have Ruth seduce Boaz? (No. Naomi is doing "her job" as a parent to arrange a marriage for Ruth. Boaz has made no move to marry (redeem) Ruth, so Naomi is going to help move things along by getting the girl cleaned up and having her lay by Boaz when he is sleeping. The smell of her perfume should waft over to snoring Boaz and he may start dreaming of marriage. When his feet get cold he would wake up and there Ruth would be - looking and smelling good! Let's see how this plan works!)

3. Read [Ruth 3:5-9](#). Let's compare notes a bit. Naomi told Ruth ([Ruth 3:4](#)) that when Boaz awoke "he will tell you what to do." Who is telling whom what to do in [Ruth 3:9](#)? (Ruth is telling Boaz that she wants him to redeem (marry) her!)

So much for waiting for him to have the idea.)

3:a What lessons do the single ladies learn about marriage? (Listen to you parents advice, wear nice clothes, be clean, smell good and be aggressive! Otherwise your Boaz might just snore along the rest of his life.)

3:b Are Ruth and Naomi taking this aggressive stance without any encouragement from Boaz?

4. Ruth has now put herself "on the line." She could be rejected, not simply as a wife, but as a gleaner. If Boaz does not want to marry her, he might not want her around to constantly remind him of what Naomi considers to be his duty. Read [Ruth 3:10-13](#). It works! Has this idea already been in Boaz's mind? (Yes! He has already considered the problem of the closer relative.)

4:a What must Boaz do about this potential problem? (Boaz has to do a little "legal work" to get everything in order.)

5. Read [Ruth 3:16-18](#). What is wise Naomi's assessment of the situation? (Boaz is going to try his best to make this work out.)

6. Read [Ruth 4:1-6](#). How would you rate Boaz as a business negotiator? Does he mention which widow goes with the estate? Which is logical?

7. Read [Ruth 4:9-10](#). Have the requirements of the law been met? (Yes.)

7:a Read [Ruth 4:13-16](#). How did Naomi go from a woman unhappy with God to having a grandson who was the grandfather of King David? (It was a mix of things. A decision to return to God's people. The loyalty, commitment and hard work of Ruth. The law of God. God's hand in leading Ruth to the field of Boaz. Boaz's kindness.

All of these good things working together created something very special for Boaz, Ruth, Naomi (and now, little Obed).) God is looking to continue His blessings through you, your Boaz and even through your children!

My beloved Sisters, when you follow God's rules, when you work hard and smart, God will remember you and bless you even when times seem very difficult.

Next Month: Elkanah and Hannah: Fulfilling a Vow.

DEAR
GOD:

I want to thank You for what you have already done. I am not going to wait until I see results or receive rewards; I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until I feel better or things look better; I am thanking you right now. I am not going to wait until people say they are sorry or until they stop talking about me; I am thanking you right now...

I am not going to wait until the pain in my body disappears; I am thanking you right now. I am not going to wait until my financial situation improves; I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until the children are asleep and the house is quiet; I am going to thank you right now. I am not going to wait until I get promoted at work

or until I get the job; I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until I understand every experience in my life that has caused me pain or grief; I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until the journey gets easier or the challenges are removed; I am thanking you right now.

I am thanking you because I am alive. I am thanking you because I made it through the day's difficulties. I am thanking you because I have walked around the obstacles.

I am thanking you because I have the ability and the opportunity to do more and do better.

I'm thanking you because FATHER,
YOU haven't given up on me.

Christian Discipleship
Part VII Salvation

Acts 17:30

In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

(from New International Version)

In our last lesson we learned that Jesus Christ rose from the dead (resurrected) to become the head of a new family the children of God.

By natural birth we are all in Adam's family. To become a member of God's family. We must be born again spiritually. God's word tells us that our part in the new birth is to: (1) repent, (2) believe, and (3) receive. In this lesson you will learn what it means to repent.

*** Why We Need to Repent**

The reason we need to repent is that we have been going the wrong way. We have not been going God's way. Instead, we have been going our own way.

Isaiah 53:6

Because we have been going our own way, we must repent if we want to be saved.

Luke 13:3

*** Repentance is Not Shedding Many Tears Over Your Sins**

Many people weep and cry out to God and yet do not repent. Repentance is not going without food or afflicting your body. No one can get rid of his sins by doing these things.

*** Repentance is Not Just Being Sorry for Your Sins**

A man in prison may be sorry that he is having to suffer for his wrong-doing. But, if he has not repented, he would go back to his old ways if released.

*** Repentance Is Not Fear**

Some times in a time of great danger, men who have been accustomed to cursing may become quiet and even cry out to God for mercy. But, when the danger is passed, they go back to their cursing. They have not repented.

*** What Then Is Repentance?**

Repentance is a "turn around" a change of mind that leads to a change in our attitudes and actions. Repentance can take place in a moment's time when you say, I see that I have been going the wrong way; with God's help, I will turn to Christ. That is repentance. This brings joy to God's heart.

Jesus told us that there are two roads in life. A broad road leads to "destruction"- hell; The narrow road leads to "Life"- everlasting life in Heaven. Because we were born into Adam's family by nature we are all on the broad road. This road leads to destruction. If we want to get on the narrow road that leads to everlasting life in heaven, we must turn around. Jesus said, ["Except you repent [turn-around], you shall all likewise perish."]

*** What Does It Mean To Repent?**

It means to turn around and go in the other direction. This involves a change of mind about ourselves, about our sins, and about God.

*** Repentance Is a Change of Mind About Ourselves**

The first step in repentance is to learn and accept what the bible says about us.

Rom. 3:23

We have all sinned. We are all sinners we may not like this description of ourselves, but it is true. The first step towards being saved is to realize this. No one is ever saved until he sees that he is a sinner in need of a savior. You may be decent and moral in life, fair and upright in your dealing with your fellow man, a good husband or a good wife, a kind and generous person, but you have left God out of your life, you are yet unsaved. You may be an active church member, a liberal giver to charitable and religious causes, and at the same time, you have never come as a lost sinner to Jesus and trusted him as your savior.

Dear friend, do not let your pride keep you from admitting that you are a sinner, the bible says "Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners." You must see that you are a sinner in order to be saved.

*** Repentance Is a Change of Mind About Our Sins**

If you were to break anyone of God's commandments, you have broken his holy law.

James 2:10

Stop and consider these important questions; Are you guilty of breaking God's holy laws? Are you concerned about your sins?

If your sins bother you, remember this God is speaking to you in love. He wants you to turn to him before it is too late. To repent of our sins means that we change our mind about them. We see how serious they are and what they cost the Lord Jesus.

*** It Was Our Sins That Put Jesus on The Cross**

He had no sins of his own.

1 Peter 2:24, Gal 2:20

*** Repentance Is A Change of Mind About God**

Before a person is saved, he has all sorts of wrong ideas about God in his mind, put there by satan. Jesus came to tell us and to show us what God is really like. He showed us that God loves sinners and that he wants to save them.

2 Peter 3:9

*** The Lost Sheep**

Luke 15:1-7

4 "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders. (from New International Version)

If you are unsaved, you are like the lost sheep. But the lord Jesus cannot bear to lose you. He died on the cross that he might bring you back to God.

John 10:11, Luke 15:8-10

*** The Lost Son**

Luke 15:11-24, 25-32

In This Beautiful Story

The Lord Jesus shows us two things. First, he shows us what repentance is a "turnaround"- a change of mind that leads to a change in our attitudes and actions. It was a wonderful moment when the son "came to himself" and said, "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, father, I have sinned...." Second, Jesus shows us the wonderful way God receives everyone who comes back to him in true repentance; he receives us with great joy.

It is a matter of great concern to God that he lost us. God wants us to know how much he values us and loves us. **"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son."** You may die unsaved, but you will not die unloved.

Dear Saint, if you have not trusted Jesus as your savior, you are lost, but God cannot bear to lose you. He loves you with an everlasting love.

God is a Savior-God

He wants to give you. God has shown his great love for you. He has even given his son to die, to bring you back to himself. But you must see your need and turn to him.

God says to us, "If only you will recognize that you are a sinner and in need of a savior, I can help you."

Roman 10:9

Repentance can take place in a moment of time. When you say, "God, I see that I have been wrong. I have been going my own way. I'm turning to you now. I do need Christ as my savior" This is repentance. This will bring joy to God's heart. Will you turn to him now?

*** God is a Savior-God. He Loves Me and He Longs for Me to Be Saved.**

John 1:12

The apostle Paul said that the message of salvation which he preached was "repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ."

Acts 20:21

To repent means to "Turn around." As soon as we repent, we must put our faith in the Lord Jesus as the one who died for our sins. We must believe in him and receive him as our savior. The moment we do this, we are "born again". We are born into the family of God. Salvation is not a matter of becoming religious or changing our outward conduct. God wants to bring us into a living relationship with his son. That is salvation!

1 John 5:12

Five Wonderful Steps

We can think of our life as a long journey. We have been going away from God, but when we repent, we turn to God. Ahead of us we discover five steps that lead to everlasting life in heaven. Let us see what these steps are.

Step 1. I Have Sinned

Roman 3:23

What does this verse tell us?

It tells us that we have all sinned. This means that we have all said wrong things and done wrong things. Are you truly sorry for your sins? Are you sorry enough for them that you want to stop doing them?

Step 2. God Loves Me

Because we are sinners we need a savior. God has given his son to us to be our savior.

John 3:16

Whom does God mean when he says "The world"? He means all the people in the world. That includes you! Whom does God mean when he says, "Whosoever"? He means anyone that includes you also.

You can put your name in this verse do it right now!

For God so loved _____ that
He gave his only begotten son,
That _____ believing in him
should not perish, but have everlasting life

Read the verse now with your name in it. There, that is good news, isn't it? This verse tells you that God loves you and that he has given a wonderful gift to you. What is God's gift to you? God's gift to you is his son! God loves you and he has given the Lord Jesus to you, to be your savior.

Step 3. Christ Died For Me

Romans 4: 6-8, 9-11

These verses tell us that God loved us even though we were sinners and that he gave his son to die on the cross for our sins. The bible says that God laid all our sins on his son on the cross. Jesus had no sins of his own. But he bore our sins. When Jesus died, he cried out, "It is finished!" He had finished the work he came to do. He had paid the penalty of our sins. Because Jesus died for our sins, God can now forgive us of all our sins when we take Jesus as our savior. God does not overlook our sins, but he forgives them because he sees the blood of his son which was shed for them. Not only did Jesus die for our sins, but he rose again to be our living Savior and Lord. He ascended back into heaven and is now seated at the right hand of God the father. God has given the Lord Jesus all power in heaven and in earth. He has the power to forgive your sins and make you a child of God.

Because of who Jesus is and what he has done for us, he is worthy of all our love, worship, and obedience. He is worthy to be followed as our lord and master.

Step 4. I Receive Him.

John 1:12-13

You become a child of God by taking the Lord Jesus as your savior. To take him as your savior means that you are taking him as the one who died for your sins. Salvation is not merely a matter of believing certain facts about Jesus Christ; it's coming into a living relationship with him by receiving him. A great woman of God used to say, "To become a child of God there is something to believe and someone to receive. That someone is the Lord Jesus Christ. God has given the Lord Jesus to you to be your savior, but you must take him, when you take him as your savior. You become a child of God.

"How do I take the Lord Jesus as my savior?" You take him as your savior by inviting him to come into your heart. Your heart is like a house with a door.
Rev. 3:20

Step 5. I Have Everlasting Life

1 John 5:12

This verse tells you that if you have the Lord Jesus as your savior, you have everlasting life. Say the verse to yourself- "He that has the son has life [everlasting life]."

Now that we have explained the five steps, are you ready to take the Lord Jesus as your savior? You can do this right now. Since this is just between you and the Lord, it will be best if you can find a quiet place where you can be alone for a few minutes. So, first now, before you read the next part, find a quiet place where you can be alone with the Lord Jesus.

Now you are to talk to the Lord Jesus. Think carefully about each step and say the words softly.

Step 1. I have sinned

"Lord Jesus, I know that I have sinned. I am truly sorry for my sins and I want to stop doing them."

Step 2. Gods loves me

"God, I thank you for loving me so much and for giving your son to die for my sins."

Step 3. Christ died for me

"Lord Jesus, I do believe that you are the son of God and that you died on the cross for my sins. I thank you for loving me so much."

Step 4. I received Him

In your own words, tell the Lord Jesus that you want him to come into your heart to be your savior. Ask him to forgive your sins and make you a child of God.

Step 5. I have everlasting life

What did Jesus say that he would do if you asked him to come into your heart? He said, "I WILL COME IN." Does he keep his word? Yes, he certainly does. If you asked him to come into your heart and you really meant it, he came in -now you belong to him, and he belongs to you-forever! You can thank him now.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for coming into my heart and for being my savior. Thank you for making me a child of God. When you believe that Jesus died for your sins and you take him as your savior, you have everlasting life. You are saved. Your sins are forgiven; you are a child of God. It is just as simple as that. How do you know that you have everlasting life? You know because God says in his word.

1 John 5:12

Saving Faith two parts:

1. We stop trusting in ourselves and our “good works.”

2. We put our entire trust in Jesus Christ and his blood which was shed for our sins. A man said, “Before I was saved, I tried and tried to make myself acceptable to God, but one night I gave up trying to save myself. I said, ‘God, if you save me, you are going to have to do it all!’ God heard that prayer and he saved me. He did it all!

That is the way God saves us_ he does it all. We are saved by grace (What God does for us) and not by our works.

Eph 2: 8-9

When we believe God’s word and rest on the finished work of Christ, we have peace in our heart. We know that God has forgiven our sins!

Rom 5:1

Saving faith in the heart produces obedience in the life. Believers are not perfect they often fail but they love the Lord Jesus Christ and want to obey him.

“I am here because of Him!

There will be untold multitudes of people in heaven- so many that no man can number them. If they were asked how they got there, each one would point to Jesus on the throne and say, “I am here because of him and what he did for me.” Being a child of God is the most wonderful thing in the entire world, but let me tell you a secret. I will not always be easy while we are here on earth.

We will have many troubles as we travel to our home in heaven. But we do not have to be afraid. Why? Because the Lord Jesus is living in our hearts. He has promised:

Heb 13:5

Remember, taking the Lord Jesus as your savior is the most important decision that you will ever make in your lifetime.

1 John 5:13

The new birth is a miracle of God that takes place when a person trusts Christ as his savior. Briefly, the four essentials in God’s great salvation are:

1. The Work of Christ

By his death and resurrection, Christ has completed the work of redemption for us. Christ work is perfect and completed, and it is his work that makes it possible for God to forgive us of our sins.

2. The Word of God

In his word, God told us what Christ has done for us. Christ’s work is real and true and God’s word is likewise real and true.

3. Our Believing God’s Word

When we believe God’s word, we receive all the benefits of Christ work. Believing God’s word means believing precisely what God has said in his word. If we do not believe, we shall receive nothing

4. The Work of the Holy Spirit

When we believe God’s word, The Holy Spirit makes real in us all that Christ has done for us. Our sins are forgiven. We are born again!

1 Peter 1:23

Because Christ’s work is perfect and complete and because God’s love for us is so great, God forgives us totally and unconditionally. God says that he will not even remember our sins any more.

Heb 10:17

How can we know we are saved?

When a person is born again, he becomes a child of God. His sin is forgiven and he is saved from God’s wrath. God wants every child of his to know with out a doubt that he is a child of God and that he has eternal life. In this lesson we are going to consider three ways by which we can know that God has saved us and made us his child forever.

1. We know that we are saved by the word of God.

One way by which we know that we are saved is by the word of God made real to us by the Holy Spirit. As we read or hear a portion of the Bible, it suddenly seems as though God is speaking directly to us. We see that Christ has already paid the penalty of our sins. We see that we have forgiveness of our sins in Christ. What has happened is simply this:

The Holy Spirit has made God’s word real to us. The Holy Spirit uses the word of God in saving us, and he also uses the word of God to give us assurance of our salvation after we are saved. There are many verses in the Bible by which we can know that we have eternal life.

1 John 5:11-12

The sure foundation upon which our faith rests is the word of God, neither our feelings nor our experience. Some people are looking for feelings of peace and joy instead of looking at what God says in his word.

Someone may ask, “Shouldn’t a person feel happy when he is saved?”

“The answer is definite “yes”, but we are not saved by our feelings; we are saved by trusting God’s word. We must first believe God’s word, and then we will have the feeling of joy and peace.

Rom 15:13

A woman was using God’s word to explain the way of salvation to a young girl. The girl was confused. She said, “I thought I had to wait for a certain kind of feeling or some burst of light or something.” Pointing to the Bible in her hand, the woman said, “Here is all the light you need.” The girl put her faith in God’s word and found the peace and joy she had been looking for. Our assurance of salvation must always be based on God’s word and not on our feelings.

Most Christians experience great joy when they are first saved, but as time passes; these feeling of joy usually fade and may even disappear. Does this mean that the believer has lost his salvation? No, not at all he has simply lost the joyful feelings that he had first. Suppose I misplace a valuable ring; then one day I find it. Naturally I feel great joy in finding my ring. A few days later, however, my joy will not be as great, and in time it will fade away completely. Yet I still have my ring. So it is with our salvation. The joyful feeling we had at first may fade or even disappear, but we still have Christ. Regardless of our feelings, we know that we are saved because God’s word says, “He that has the son has life.

2. We know that we are saved by the witness of the Holy Spirit.

When a person becomes God’s child, the Holy Spirit comes to live in him.

Gal. 4:6-7

By sending the Holy Spirit to live in us, God shows us that we are his children. Every child of God has the Holy Spirit dwelling in him, if we do not have him; we were not God’s child.

Rom. 8:9-15

One of the things the Holy Spirit does in us is to “bear witness” that we are God’s children. This means that the Holy Spirit inwardly confirms to us that God is our father and we are His children.

Rom. 8:16

3. We know that we are saved because our life is changed.

When we trust Christ as our savior, many changes take place in our life. These changes are so great that a Christian is described as “a new creature in Christ.”

2 Cor. 5:17

We have new desires, in the past we did not care for the things of the Lord. But now we begin to love them. The Bible becomes a new book to us, we want to know and understand God’s word. We begin to talk to God in prayer. We have a new love, which is actually God’s love in our hearts.

Rom 5:5

Because we have God’s love in our heart, we will be concerned about our unsaved relatives and friends. We will long for them to know Christ as savior. We will have a special love for other Christians. This is one way by which we know that we are truly born again.

1 John 3:14

We have a new heart attitude. Formerly we did not love God, nor want to obey him. Now we love him and want to do his will. Though our circumstances may not have changed, we find that we ourselves have changed. These changes may not take place overnight, but they definitely do take place in the life of a person who is born again. They take place because Christ has come to live in us. Christ himself is in heaven, but he dwells in us by his spirit.

2 Cor. 13:5

Obedience gives assurance

A new Christian may not know much of God’s word and what God wants him to do, but he will want to obey God. When a person is truly saved, his life is marked by obedience to the Lord. Believers are obeyers!

1 John 2:3

God’s word gives no assurance to the person who is not willing to obey God. The famous Evangelist, D.L. Moody, said “There are two classes of people who should not have assurance- those who go to church, but are not converted, never having been born of the spirit, and those who are not willing to obey God.” As a believer I am responsible to do what I know to be the will of God. Let us consider now some ways in which we should obey the Lord.

We Should Obey the Lord in Confessing Him Before Men.

Once a person has trusted in the Lord Jesus, we should confess him before men. God’s word says that we must not only believe with the heart, but we must also confess with the mouth.

Rom 10:9-10

To “confess” Christ means to tell friends, relatives, and others that you have taken Christ as your Savior and Lord. We should never be ashamed of confessing him who has so graciously saved us. It is the people of the world who should be ashamed,

not the believers. The people of the world are still under the guilt and bondage of sin, but we have been delivered from it. They face eternal punishment, while we can look forward to being with the Lord forever. Therefore it is they not us, who should be ashamed. If we confess the Lord Jesus before men he will confess us before His Father in Heaven, but if we deny him before men, he will deny us before His Father.

Matt. 10:32-33

We should share with others the way of salvation. Untold numbers of people are lost through ignorance no one has ever made it personally clear to them how they can be saved. We must have the courage to say, "Christ has forgiven me of my sins and given me eternal life. He will do the same for you. Will you let me show you the way?"

Every redeemed person is called to be a witness for his Lord.

Psalms 107:2

We should Obey the Lord In Baptism

One way in which believers are to confess their faith in Jesus Christ is by being baptized. The Lord Jesus commanded his disciples to baptize those who truly believed on him.

Matt 28:19

What is baptism? Baptism is a ceremony which pictures our union with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection. When we stand in the water to be baptized, we testify that we have committed our life to Jesus Christ. When we are lifted up out of the water, we picture our resurrection with him. The Lord Jesus commanded that everyone who believes on him be baptized, by baptism we publicly confess that we belong to the Lord Jesus Christ.

We should understand that baptism does not save anyone. It is simply a public testimony to the fact that a person has trusted Christ as his savior. Only those who are already saved should be baptized.

We should obey the Lord in worship

When the Lord Jesus was here on the earth, he spoke of building his "church."

Matt 16:18

The church that Jesus spoke of is not a building but rather people. It is composed of every born-again believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, regardless of race, color, or culture. Members of this one true church are found throughout the world. It is not possible for all of these believers to meet together in one place,

but it's possible for believers in one locality to gather together regularly to worship the Lord and to have fellowship with one another. Such an assembly is called a "local church."

It is God's will that every believer be part of a bible-believing local church and that he faithfully support it. In some places in the world there are few if any organized churches.

In such a situation, believers should seek out other believers and meet with them.

If only two or three believers meet together in Jesus name, they can be assured that the Lord will be with them.

Matt. 18:20

One of the ways in which believers are to worship the Lord together is in observing "the Lord's supper." The Lord Jesus established this observance to help us remember his death on the cross for us. In observing the Lord's Supper, the believers drink from a cup which represents Christ's blood that was shed for us and eat part of a broken loaf of bread which represents his body that was broken for us.

As we partake of these elements, we are reminded a new that we are saved because Christ died for our sins. We also look forward to the time when he will come again to take us to be with Him.

1 Cor. 11:26

Some believers look at the imperfections of the local church and decide that they do not need it. This is a serious mistake. No local church is perfect because it is made up of imperfect people, but it is God's chosen instrument for accomplishing his work on the earth. We must never neglect meeting together with other believers in the local church.

Heb. 10:24-25

The bible tells us that in the last days men shall be "Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God."

How sad it is when God's people allow the fleeting pleasures of this world to draw them away from their place in the local church.

2 Tim. 3:1-4

We must never neglect the local church!

We should obey the Lord in serving him.

We begin our Christian life the moment we receive Christ as our savior. The way we live our life as a Christian is very important because one day we will be judged for the things we did after we were saved.

Rom. 14:12

God has a plan for every believer's life.

It includes certain good works that God has planned for us to do. We are saved by our works that God has planned for us to do. We are not saved by our works, but we are saved to do good works.

Eph. 2:10

Did you ever receive a reward for doing something well? God has promised rewards to his children who faithfully serve the Lord Jesus. The apostle Paul was a faithful servant of Christ and he looked forward to his reward.

2 Tim. 4:7-8

We should obey the Lord in all circumstances

The Lord Jesus never promised his followers that they would have an easy time in this life. On the contrary, he told us that we should expect trials and temptations.

John 16:33b

We are servants of the Lord Jesus, and the servants are not greater than his master. Since our Lord was persecuted, we can expect to be persecuted.

John 15:20

In these days Christian are being persecuted as never before. It is said that more Christians has laid down their lives for Christ in the last fifty years than at any other time in the history of the church. We may or may not be called upon to lay down our lives for Christ, but we will surely face some form of persecution if we are living for the Lord.

2 Tim. 3:12

Whatever may come, we must be faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ.
Rev. 2:10

We Have Full Assurance of Salvation by Believing and Obeying God's Word.

Assembly Holy House of Prayer

62 Arch Street
Paterson, NJ 07522
Penns Grove, NJ 08069

Founders / Senior Pastors / Apostles

*Apostle Joseph T. Robinson Sr.
Prophetess Laura L. Robinson*

[Get Out, Give Up, and See the Promise](#)

[Scripture Reading:](#)

Genesis 12:1-3

[Key Verse:](#) : Genesis 12:1

The Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you."

First came the command in verse 1, then the promise in verse 2: "I will make you a great nation" (Gen. 12:2 nkjv). God gave Abram a proposition. "If you do this, I will do this." If he would leave his country, his family, and his father's house, God would show him a land.

Look closely at Genesis 12:1. God did not say He would give Abram something; He said that He would show him something.

You need faith to break camp without the promise of everything else. You need to be deep in love with God to do what He tells you without knowing for sure that you will be rewarded.

Now, do not confuse faith with mercy. Most of the time you do not have faith enough to get the job done; rather, God simply has mercy on you. Abram, though, moved in such a dynamic level of faith that God compensated him for the loss of his country. That is why God said He would make Abram a great nation.

My friend, the blessings of God always make up for the cost of the things you leave behind to obey Him. The real question is this: Would you leave them even without any promise? Thank You, Lord, for all the things You have done and for all the things You have promised to do. Above all, thank You for being You—the almighty God who was, and is, and always shall be. You are worthy of praise, worship, honor, and obedience simply because You are the only true God. I bless You in Jesus' name. Amen.

Rev 1:8

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

(from New International Version)

Comprehensive Bible Study
Used for Sunday Morning Bible School
Month of July 2008

July 6, 2008

Calm Confidence

Lesson Focus: Because Jesus is our High Priest, we can confidently come before God.

‘Our Compassionate High Priest’

Hebrews 4:14-16

‘Qualifications for High Priesthood’

Hebrews 5:1-4

Our High Priest

During Jesus ‘earthly ministry, He never succumbed to sin, though He faced temptations as we do. Therefore, Jesus truly understands what we are going through when we are confronted by sin. He is also uniquely qualified to be our High Priest, being sinless while having sacrificed His life on the cross in order to cleanse us of our sins so we might come before God with confidence, not fear and guilt.

Key Verse:

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. Hebrews 4:14

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Hebrews 6:7-12, God Will Not Forget Your Good Works and Love.

Tues. Hebrews 6:13-20, God will keep His Promises.

Wed. Hebrews 7:1-10, The Story of Melchizedek.

Thurs. Hebrews 7:11-17, Jesus is a Priest in the Order of Melchizedek.

Fri. Hebrews 7:18-28, Jesus Sacrificed for Our Sins Once and for All.

Sat. Hebrews 8:1-6, The New Covenant Comes through Jesus.

Sun Hebrews 8: 7-13, We Know God Personally through the Covenant.

July 13, 2008

A New Agreement

Lesson Focus: We need God’s new agreement in our minds and hearts.

‘Better Promises’

Hebrews 8:6-7

‘More Effective’

Hebrews 8:8-9

‘Internal Rather than External’

Hebrews 8:10-12

A Renewed Commitment

Jesus laid down His own life to provide a new and better way to God. His blood is the means of our fellowship with the Father. No agreement that cost so much is something we can take for granted or can allow to become familiar. We dare not casually kick around this new covenant. It is priceless, precious, and unspeakably sacred.

Key Verse: But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. Hebrews 8:6

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Hebrews 11:1-6, Our Faith Pleases God.

Tues. Hebrews 11:7-12, Examples of Faith Are Told.

Wed. Hebrews 11:13-19, Some Promises Do Not Come until Heaven.

Thurs. Hebrews 11:20-28, The Faith of Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses.

Fri. Hebrews 11:29-31, Faith Conquers Evil and Brings About Good.

Sat. Hebrews 11:32-40, God’s Plans for Us Will Make All Things Perfect.

Sun. Mark 11:22-25, Have Faith in God.

July 20, 2008

Into the Unknown

Lesson Focus: Faith pushes us into unknown territories.

‘Faith Shows Confidence in God’

Hebrews 11:1-2

‘Faith Pleases God’

Hebrews 11:4-7

‘Faith Takes Us into Unknown Territories’

Hebrews 11:8-13

Look, Listen, Respond

God calls each of us to be a faith hero. That may seem impossible to us. However, God provides us with the measure of faith we need to respond to the challenges He brings our way.

Our response is to look for God’s leading, listen for His call, and then respond with obedience.

Key Verse:

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Verse

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Hebrews 12:1-6, Fix Your Eyes on Jesus.
Tues. Hebrews 12:7-13, God Disciplines Us for Our Good.
Wed. Hebrews 12:14-21, Live in Peace and Be Holy.
Thurs. Hebrews 12:22-29, God's Kingdom Cannot be Shaken.
Fri. Hebrews 13:1-6, Love Each Other as Brothers.
Sat. Hebrews 13:7-14, Remember What You've Learned and Have Faith.
Sun. Hebrews 13:15-25, Do Good and Share with Others.

July 27, 2008

Endurance in Difficult Times

Lesson Focus: Endurance, perseverance, and discipline are essential to the Christian life.

'Focus on Christ'

Hebrews 12:1-3

'Remember God's Love for You'

Hebrews 12:4-6

'Trust God's Purpose'

Hebrews 12:7-11

'Encourage Others'

Hebrews 12:12-13

Follow Jesus' Lead

In our lives, we will experience excruciating pain, devastating disappointment, or irreplaceable loss. But we can learn from Jesus, who went before us. He blazed the trail. He showed us that the path of pain leads to victory, peace, and joy in the end. Now He invites us to take His hand as we follow in His footsteps.

Key Verse:

If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? Hebrews 12:7

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon. Joshua 1:1-9, Be Strong and Courageous: God Is with You.

Tues. Joshua 1:10-18, Joshua Reminds the People of the Lord's Promise.

Wed. Joshua 2:1-7, Joshua Sends Two Spies to Jericho.

Thurs. Joshua 2:8-13, Rehab Helps the Two Spies.

Fri. Joshua 2:14-20, They Promise to Protect Her and Her Family.

Sat. Joshua 2:21-24, The Spies Tell Joshua Everything They Found.

Sun. Joshua 6:20-27, God Allowed Joshua to Do Awesome Things.

A woman awakes during the night to find that her husband is not in bed.

She puts on her robe and goes downstairs to look for him. She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a hot cup of coffee in front of him. He appears to be in deep thought, just staring at the wall. She watches as he wiped a tear from his eye and takes a sip of his coffee.

"What's the matter, dear?" she whispers as she steps into the room, "Why are you down here at this time of night?"

The husband looks up from his coffee, "It's the 20th Anniversary of the day we met".

She can't believe he has remembered and starts to tear up. The husband continues, "Do you remember 20 years ago when we started dating? I was 18 and you were only 16," he says solemnly.

Once again, the wife is touched to tears thinking that her husband is so caring and sensitive.

"Yes, I do" she replies.

The husband pauses. The words were not coming easily. "Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car?"

"Yes, I remember" said the wife, lowering herself into a chair beside him.

The husband continued. "Do you remember when he shoved the shotgun in my face and said, "Either you marry my daughter or I will send you to prison for 20 years?"

"I remember that, too" she replied softly.

He wiped another tear from his cheek and said "I would have gotten out today."

Daily Scripture Reading:
Read the Holy Bible in a Year.

July

1. ΔMk 11:1-14 Δ1Kgs 1 ΔHos 4:11b-5:4
2. ΔMk 11:15-33 Δ1Kgs 2 ΔHos 5:5-15
3. ΔMk 12:1-27 Δ1Kgs 3 ΔHos 6:1-7:2
4. ΔMk 12:28-44 Δ1Kgs 4-5 ΔHos 7:3-16
5. ΔMk 13:1-13 Δ1Kgs 6 ΔHos 8
6. ΔMk 13:14-37 Δ1Kgs 7 ΔHos 9:1-16
7. ΔMk 14:1-31 Δ1Kgs 8 ΔHos 9:17-10:15
8. ΔMk 14:32-72 Δ1Kgs 9 ΔHos 11:1-11
9. ΔMk 15:1-20 Δ1Kgs 10 ΔHos 11:12-12:14
10. ΔMk 15:21-47 Δ1Kgs 11 ΔHos 13
11. ΔMk 16 Δ1Kgs 12:1-31 ΔHos 14
12. ΔI Cor 1:1-17 Δ1 Kgs 12:32-13:34 ΔJoel 1
13. ΔI Cor 1:18-31 Δ1 Kgs 14 ΔJoel 2:1-11
14. ΔI Cor 2 Δ1 Kgs 15:1-32 ΔJoel 2:12-32
15. ΔI Cor 3 Δ1Kgs 115:33—16:34 ΔJoel 3
16. ΔI Cor 4 Δ1 Kgs 17 ΔAm 1
17. ΔI Cor 5 Δ1 Kgs 18 ΔAm 2:1-3:2
18. ΔI Cor 6 Δ1 Kgs 19 ΔAm 3:3-4:3
19. ΔI Cor 7:1-24 Δ1Kgs 20 ΔAm 4:4-13
20. ΔI Cor 7:25-40 Δ1 Kgs 21 ΔAm 5
21. ΔI Cor 8 Δ1 Kgs 22 ΔAm 6
22. ΔI Cor 9 Δ2 Kgs 1-2 ΔAm 7
23. ΔI Cor 10 Δ2 Kgs 3 ΔAm 8
24. ΔI Cor 11:1-16 Δ2 Kgs 4 ΔAm 9
25. ΔI Cor 11:17-34 Δ2 Kgs 5 ΔOb
26. ΔI Cor 12 Δ2 Kgs 6:1-7:2 ΔJon 1
27. ΔI Cor 13 Δ2 Kgs 7:3-20 ΔJon 2
28. ΔI Cor 14:1-25 Δ2 Kgs 8 ΔJon 3
29. ΔI Cor 14:26-40 Δ2 Kgs 9 ΔJon 4
30. ΔI Cor 15:1-34 Δ2 Kgs 10 ΔMic 1
31. ΔI Cor 15:35-58 Δ2 Kgs 11 ΔMic 2

August

1. ΔI Cor 16 Δ2 Kgs 12-13 ΔMic 3
2. Δ2 Cor 1:1-2:4 Δ2 Kgs 14 ΔMic 4:1-5:1
3. Δ2 Cor 2:5-3:18 Δ2 Kgs 15-16 ΔMic 5:2-15
4. Δ2 Cor 4:1-5:10 Δ2 Kgs 17 ΔMic 6
5. Δ2 Cor 5:11-6:13 Δ2 Kgs 18 ΔMic 7
6. Δ2 Cor 6:14-7:16 Δ2 Kgs 19 ΔNah 1
7. Δ2 Cor 8 Δ2 Kgs 20-21 ΔNah 2
8. Δ2 Cor 9 Δ2 Kgs 22:1-23:35 ΔNah 3
9. Δ2 Cor 10 Δ2 Kgs 23:36-24:20 ΔHab 1
10. Δ2 Cor 11 Δ2 Kgs 25 ΔHab 2
11. Δ2 Cor 12 ΔI Chr 1-2 ΔHab 3
12. Δ2 Cor 13 Δ1 Chr 3-4 ΔZeph 1
13. ΔJn 1:1-18 ΔI Chr 5-6 ΔZeph 2
14. ΔJn 1:19-34 ΔI Chr 7-8 ΔZeph 3
15. ΔJn 1:35-51 ΔI Chr 9 ΔHag 1-2

Birthdates and Events of:

JULY

- 2nd BD: Jonathan Townsend *
3rd BD: Msny. Elizabeth Yates
4th Independence Day
BD: Jeremy Henry #
5th BD: Marqus Townsend *
7th BD: Jasmin Williams *
12th BD: Twana R. Hurt
13th BD: Evang. Susie Hayes
20th BD: Jasmine Townsend *
24th BD: Tatiyana Rivera
27th Anniversary, Bruce & Kimala Simmons
30th BD: Elder Oliver Coleman #

AUGUST

- 2nd BD: Kunasa Futrell
5th BD: Vernon Melvin
7th BD: Dakeia V. Stewart *
8th BD: Alan Bond #
8th BD: Asia Rivera *
14th BD: Minister Robert Garret
20th BD: Coueik Harrison *
BD: Briana McNeal *
BD: Mia Brooks
21st BD: Betty Simmons #
24th Anniversary, James & Wanda Townsend
25th BD: Jerome Moultrie
BD: Timothy Jeffery *
26th BD: Sis. Janashia Wyche
27th BD: Louis Banks *
28th BD: Lynn Banks *
31st BD: Deacon Robert Banks

Assembly Holy House of Prayer
Holy Convocation
August 28th thru August 30th
Apostle Robinson closing Convocation
With Ordinations

Heb 9:15

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

(from New International Version)



Starting at Far Left:

*Overseer William Henry &
Evangelist Keisha Henry of
Everlasting Life Publications
& Greater Assembly
Holy House of Prayer*

*Janasha & Jasmin
Assembly Praise Dancers
We thank you young Ladies
for your time and love.*

*Pastor Daryl Wilson of
Assembly Holy House of Prayer
62 Arch Street, Paterson, NJ*

If you know of anyone that would like to be added to our mailing list. Please send their name and address To the return address and they will be added.

God Bless!



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