

Must Every Person
Believe
Jesus ⁱⁿ Christ?



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Must Every Person Believe in Jesus Christ?

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Contents

MUST EVERY PERSON BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST?	4
CHRIST WAS MADE SIN FOR US.....	9
THE EXCLUSIVISM OF JESUS CHRIST	11
THE MEANS OF SALVATION	13
GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS VERSUS MAN'S RIGHTEOUSNESS.....	17
WHAT HAPPENS AFTER BELIEVING IN CHRIST?	23
WHO IS A CHILD OF GOD?.....	24
CHRIST'S ABSOLUTE PROTECTION FOR THE SAVED	25
BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ARE FREE FROM ETERNAL CONDEMNATION.....	25
AFTER SALVATION WHAT NEXT?	27

MUST EVERY PERSON BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST?

Nobody can properly answer this question except the bible. Why the bible? Because it is the word of God. There is no place to find God's will and plans for mankind apart from the bible. He who created the world and man has declared that all men are sinners.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23.

When did all humanity commit sin? All humanity sinned when Adam sinned in the garden. This may not make sense to human reason; but it makes sense when one accepts what God says. For example, it doesn't make sense for a virgin to get pregnant apart from sleeping with a man, right? But God was able to make a virgin who had never slept with a man to conceive and give birth. Therefore, all that one needs to do is to believe the word of God because God never lies. The bible says we are sinners and that is

exactly what we are. We are sinners because we are born sinners.

Sin is transferred from Adam to all men through procreation. Every person is conceived in sin in the womb and born a sinner. King David recognized this truth when he said,

***“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin my mother conceived me. ”
Psalm 51:5***

We are sinners not only because we commit personal sins but because we also have sin (sin nature) which is transferred to every person at birth. All personal sin is secondary or results of the sin nature in us. We personally commit sin because we submit to the temptation of the sin nature in us. The sin of Adam also brought spiritual death to all men

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—¹³ for until the Law

sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.” Romans 5:12-14.

Men are sinners, both by birth and by act. Not only are we born sinners, we also commit personal sins. Personal sin is only a confirmation of the fact that we have a sin (sin nature) in us. Concerning personal sins the bible declares:

- 1. Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who *continually does good and who never sins. Ecclesiastes 7:20*
- 2. They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt; There is no one who does good, not even one. Psalm 14:3*

KNOWING THE WILL OF GOD

The phrase, “**the will of God**”, whether explicitly or implicitly stated means different things in different contexts in the bible. God has always had a will for mankind.

- It was the will of God for Adam and Eve not to eat the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:17)
- It was the will of God for the Jews to do His commandments (Deuteronomy 28)
- It was the will of God for the Jews to accept their Messiah, Jesus Christ; but they were not willing (John 5:39-40)
- It is the will of God that Christians abstain from sexual immorality (1Thessalonians 4:3)
- It is the will of God that all unbelievers come to repentance, or faith in Christ (2 Peter 3:9)

The points above show that God has a will for individuals, nations, and the whole world.

God has a will, both for unbelievers and believers. Oftentimes, many Christians get confused as to what the will of God is in certain situations. God has demonstrated His will concerning how a nation should operate through the principles from the Mosaic Law. Therefore, just as God has a will towards how a nation should be governed and people should live their lives within a nation, the same way God has a Will concerning how an unbeliever can be saved. So, the will of God does not always mean being obedient to certain Laws of God, or being moral. For example, Christians are to abstain from immorality (1Thessalonians 4:3) not because by doing that they will go to heaven, but because they are already justified, and are children of God.

The question now is: what is the **will of God** concerning how a person can be justified or accepted by God? God's answer (not a human being's answer) is given below:

For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day. John 6:40

It is very important we pay attention to the context. The context is about how a person can have eternal life? The simple answer given by Christ is that, “Everyone who beholds the son and believes in Him will have eternal life”.

CHRIST WAS MADE SIN FOR US

“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” 2 Corinthians 5:21.

Jesus Christ is the only person who has ever lived without a sin nature, and without any form of personal sin. This made Him to be the qualified candidate to go to the cross to die for all mankind. Since a sinner cannot save a sinner, only a person without sin nature or any personal sin could save the rest

of sinners in the world. God the Father also confirmed Jesus Christ as the only son whom He (the Father) was well pleased as a qualified person to save the whole world from the penalty of sin.

“While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!” Matthew 17:5.

Because Christ alone pleased God the Father, His death on the cross was/is accepted forever.

“Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.” Hebrews 7:25

This means that eternal salvation is not a repetitive work. God saves an unbeliever who believes in Christ only once; He doesn't need to save him twice. This is because once a person gets into the father's

hands and Christ's hands, he (the saved person) can never ever get out of their hands (John 10:28-30)

THE EXCLUSIVISM OF JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is said to be the only way to the Father. This is true because He is the only person who was sinless, pleased God the Father, and also died on the cross. This has made Him the **only person** and **means** to the Father. Nobody can ever have a relationship with God the Father without first having a relationship with Jesus Christ. This is how God has made Him and He (as the only standard) remains unchangeable. Concerning this fact, Christ Himself has this to say,

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” John 14:6.

Apostle Peter also confirmed the same fact when he wrote,

“And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12

Jesus Christ is also the seal of the Father’s approval. He is the only person who has been approved by God the Father to save mankind.

“Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal”. John 6:27

If this is true (and it is), what should be the attitude of the unsaved or unbelievers? Well, all that the person needs to do is to believe in Jesus Christ. To believe in Jesus Christ simply means you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins and that the same Jesus Christ also rose from His death. Isn’t that

simple? It is simple to believe, but many have rejected this fact. If you are reading this tract as an unbeliever, then remember that you need Jesus in your Life.

THE MEANS OF SALVATION

By what means will a person be saved?

- ❖ Is it by faith alone?
- ❖ Is it by works?
- ❖ Is it by faith plus works?

What is the bible's answer?

“But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:21-23.

Throughout the scriptures, it is communicated that a man is justified by faith alone, and not works or faith plus works,

“nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified. Galatians 2:16.

Faith has always been the means or the instrument through which God accepts man as he believes whatever information given by God. Faith is not a gift, neither is it a causative of salvation; but it is a means through which we accepts information. We are not saved by our faith; we are saved by God. The gospel is the information or the object that a person must believe to be saved. When you believe in the gospel, you have not worked. In applying faith to be justified by God and receive His righteousness, you don't exert any effort. Therefore, faith is not a work.

*“For what does the scripture say?
“ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT*

WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS”” Romans 4:3

“Even so Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham.” Galatians 3:6-7.

Throughout the bible, it is always believe! believe! believe! why is the emphasis on “believe?” This is because nobody can be saved by his works. One may ask, “Does the bible emphasize that our good works cannot save us? Yes the bible does!

**SALVATION IS NOT BY WORKS
(GOOD WORKS OR
RIGHTEOUSNESS)**

1. *Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not*

by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified. Galatians 2:16

2. *Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, “THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH”. Galatians 3:11*
3. *But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis works, otherwise grace is no longer grace. Romans 11:6*
4. *For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9*
5. *He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out*

*upon us richly through Jesus Christ
our savior. Titus 3:5-6*

There is much emphasis on “**Salvation Is Not By Work**” because some are preaching wrong gospel. The Bible preaches “faith gospel”, not works gospel. There is no difference between faith and believe; “faith” or “trust” is just the noun form of the verb “believe”, and “believe” is just the verb form of the noun, “faith”. If you have faith in Christ, it means you have believed in Christ. In the same way if you believe in Christ, it means that you have faith or have trusted in Christ.

GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS VERSUS MAN’S RIGHTEOUSNESS

The Bible recognizes two kinds of righteousness: the Righteousness of God, and the righteousness of man. The Righteousness of God was worked out by Christ on the Cross. Jesus Christ lived on earth without sin. He also went to the cross as a perfect sacrifice. His death on the cross

was the work of God since He came from Heaven purposely to do the work of God. His ultimate work on earth for a man's salvation was/is His sacrificial death on the cross. His finished work on the cross became what we call, "*The Righteousness of God*". For this reason, it is His Righteousness that we need, not ours. We should remember that the man Jesus was God, and at the same time was a man. His humanity which is inseparably united with His deity (Godly aspect) needed to fulfill every aspect of the law, including going to the cross for the attainment of complete righteousness. God's emphasis is on Christ's Righteousness which reached its culmination at the cross (Hebrews: 2:17, Romans 3:24-25). Therefore, whoever rejects Christ's righteousness has rejected the righteousness of God, thereby standing on his own human righteousness which is unacceptable to God the Father.

On the other hand, the righteousness of man (Human Righteousness) is all about what man does (works) in relation to the demands

of the law, or any form of human good. The works of the law simply mean becoming obedient to the demands of the law. In other words, do (work) what the law asks of you. For example, if the law says don't steal, murder, or commit adultery, etc., you comply. But you are not saved from spiritual death just because you have obeyed the law. The law's purpose was to teach the Israelites about their need for salvation, since no one was able to keep the whole law. The law was given in a single unit and therefore was always described as law, and not laws. This means violation of one is a violation of the entire law. This tells us how serious the situation looks when a person is trying to be saved by any system of works. There is no human works or righteousness that can provide salvation except the Lord Jesus Christ.

“Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we

may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified” Galatians 2:16.

Since no man was able to fulfill the demands of the Law, Jesus Christ had to come to fulfill every demand. Therefore, Christ became the fulfillment and the end of the law. The Jews in Jesus’ time trusted in their own righteousness, rejecting the righteousness of God. The Apostle Paul clearly states:

- *“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is for their salvation. ²For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. ³ For not knowing about God’s righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the Law for*

righteousness to everyone who believes". Romans 10:1-4.

- *“and may be found in Him, not having the righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith”. Philippians 3:9*

All forms of religion teach that God can accept man in eternity only if man lives a good moral life (human righteousness). This places emphasis on what man has done or can do and not what Christ has done. In religion, the focus is on man's work, his goodness, his abstinence from immorality, his offering of money to the poor, his good services to humanity, etc. Those were the things that the Jews thought would save them. Therefore, they saw no need of believing in Jesus Christ as their Savior. But according to the Apostle, they didn't know (were ignorant of) God's righteousness.

They manifested their ignorance with zeal, but without knowledge. This deception has been the struggle of all religions, yet, the Bible plainly declares that our goodness is like filthy garment.

“For all of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; And all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away” Isaiah 64:6.

In fact the Hebrew word translated filthy rag literally means menstrual rag. Menstruation always made a woman unclean according to the Mosaic Law. This means that our human good is unclean and therefore rejected in the sight of God. Please, notice that God is not against human beings doing good things towards one another; He is only against the idea that the good works manifested by a person is the basis for which God will accept him into His kingdom.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER BELIEVING IN CHRIST?

After believing in Jesus Christ, God gives you assurance. The purpose of this assurance is to keep the believer from all sorts of doubt that might come into his/her mind concerning their salvation. The devil doesn't want Christians to know or have that confidence that they already saved or possess eternal life. This is because he (Satan) doesn't want Christians to grow spiritually since spiritual growth is first based on knowing that they are saved. But the good news is that all believers have eternal life according to the word of God.

“And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life” 1 John 5:11.

After believing in Christ as your savior, you immediately receive eternal life. It is this eternal life that makes it impossible for you to be ever separated from God

WHO IS A CHILD OF GOD?

All human beings are creation of God. This statement is true, but doesn't this make every human being a child of God? Well, God says **No!** It is one thing to receive a human life from God, at birth, and become a human being; it is another thing to become a child of God. Therefore, being a creature of God (born by a human being) doesn't make the person a child of God. God tells us who His child is.

- *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of the man, but of God. John 1:12-13*
- *Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him. 1 John 5:1*

- *That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. John 3:6*

CHRIST'S ABSOLUTE PROTECTION FOR THE SAVED

“And I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand” John 10:28.

It is not only Jesus Christ who gives absolute protection for all Christians; the Father also does.

“My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand” John 10:29.

BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ARE FREE FROM ETERNAL CONDEMNATION

There are benefits or advantages that those who believe in Christ have as a result of

their new salvation relationship with Jesus Christ.

“And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,” Hebrew 9:27.

Physical death is guaranteed towards all men and physical death is not the end of life. The human soul continues to live after death whether in the presence of God or in the eternal torment. Whether a person spends eternity with God in heaven or in the eternal torment with Satan depends on the choice that he makes towards Jesus Christ. The one who believes in Christ is promised of no condemnation (John 5:24, John 3:18, John 3:36, Romans 8:1, 1Thessalonians 5:9-10). Concerning such promise the scripture has this to say,

- 1. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of***

*the only begotten Son of God.
John 3:18.*

2. *Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life
John 5:24.*

3. *Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1*

4. *For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.
1Thessalonians 5:9-10.*

AFTER SALVATION WHAT NEXT?

If you are reading this gospel tract and you have personally believed in Christ, the next

plan of God in your life is for you to grow spiritually.

“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”² Peter 3:18.

Your eternal salvation which gives you a ticket to heaven is totally different from your spiritual growth. Your spiritual growth is only in this life. Christians are no longer going to grow spiritually in heaven. This is because they will not be anything like: sin nature, Satan, corruptible body, temptations, etc. Therefore, it is only in this life or world that spiritual growth or maturity is expected. God expects every believer to grow into maturity and live like Christ whilst we await Him to deliver us from this present, corruptible body at the Rapture of the church. This spiritual growth can only happen in the life of a Christians who subject their soul to consistent bible teaching. This is the standard procedure that God has put in place for spiritual growth.

Without consistent bible hearing, it is impossible for one to grow and become mature. If we need physical food to live and grow physically, then, our souls need spiritual food (sound bible teachings) to grow spiritually. Such spiritual food or teachings in the bible include:

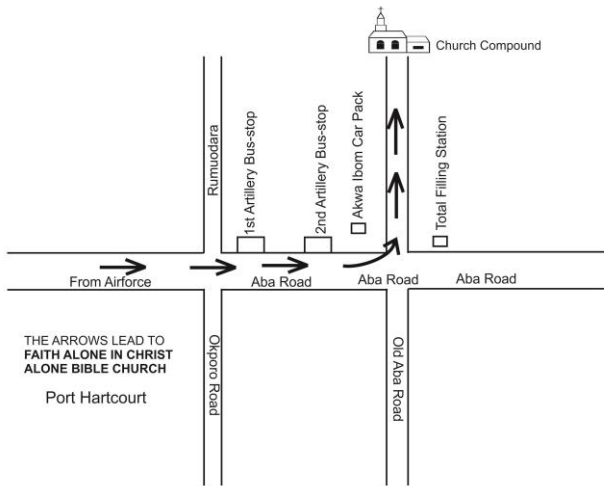
- ❖ Faith.
- ❖ Salvation (all the different types of salvation).
- ❖ God's discipline/chastisement.
- ❖ Christian suffering. Why do Christians suffer?
- ❖ Difference between Israel and the church.
- ❖ The dispensations.
- ❖ The rapture of the church.
- ❖ The tribulation (the seven year reign of the anti-Christ).
- ❖ Judgment seat of Christ (for all Christians).
- ❖ The great white throne judgment (for all unbelievers).
- ❖ Difference between salvation and spiritual growth, Etc.

MUST EVERY PERSON BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST?

These and many more bible doctrines are taught in our weekly bible studies. Questions are allowed after each class to enable members ask questions. If you are interested to worship with us to grow in grace and in the scriptures, you are free to contact the numbers below or follow the direction to the church.

Contact number: 07030416709
08060075538
08167100191
08155114537
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MUST EVERY PERSON BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST?



MUST EVERY PERSON BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST?

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