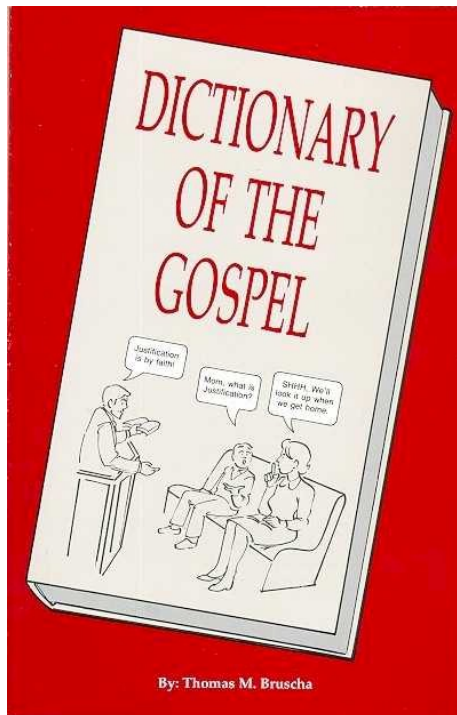


# Grace India Ministry



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## DICTIONARY OF THE GOSPEL



## DICTIONARY OF THE GOSPEL

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## DICTIONARY OF THE GOSPEL

A paperboy on the street corner yelling, "**GOOD NEWS, GOOD NEWS, READ ALL ABOUT IT,**" will sell some newspapers. But if he were more specific and announced how this good news affects the public, he would sell even more papers. For instance, suppose he yelled; "**GOOD NEWS, GOOD NEWS, READ ALL ABOUT IT. MAN INVENTS CURE FOR OLD AGE!**" Now that would sell newspapers.

That is the purpose of this book. No, not to sell papers, but to inform you in a specific way about the good news that affects *your eternal destiny*. You see, the term "**GOSPEL**" means "**GOOD NEWS.**" The *good news* published in this book is God's *good news* to you about an opportunity you have been given to receive eternal life freely.

There are many messages of "*good news*" in the Bible, but the message of *good news* for this present age is the *good news* that God has provided for everyone a free, total, and complete salvation from all our sins.

The book of Romans in the Bible is God's great explanation of how this salvation was accomplished. The simplicity of the gospel is that: (I Corinthians 15:3,4)

***CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS, WAS BURIED, AND ROSE FROM THE DEAD THE THIRD DAY, ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES.***

However, involved in that death and resurrection was a very precise, strategic, and technical accomplishment of a victory which God has won over sin, over death, and over Satan.

Now God desires you to know, to understand, and appreciate this "**GOOD NEWS.**" For that reason the book of Romans used technical language that--when understood--thrills the heart of every Believer. When these technical terms are not understood, it results in confusion. Romans 3:21-28 heralds the good news of our salvation with such terms and doctrines as:

<i>"Righteousness"</i>	<i>"Faith"</i>
<i>"Imputation"</i>	<i>"Remission"</i>
<i>"Justification"</i>	<i>"Forbearance"</i>
<i>"Grace"</i>	* <i>"Reconciliation"</i>
<i>"Redemption"</i>	* <i>"Sanctification"</i>
<i>"Propitiation"</i>	

\* The last two terms are from other portions of Scripture which shall be included in this study of "**SALVATION.**"

There is much more confusion amongst Bible students over the question of salvation.

- 1. Is a person saved through faith alone?**
- 2. Are works part of salvation?**
- 3. Can a person know for sure he is saved?**
- 4. What if a person sins again after being saved?**
- 5. Can a person lose his salvation?**

All of these questions can be answered simply, just by understanding the meaning of the terms which are listed on the previous page. This is why it is our purpose in this book to define these terms. At the end of the book we will review these questions and see how easily they are answered.

These eleven terms constitute what is called "**THE GOSPEL.**" Therefore we have entitled this book:

## **"DICTIONARY OF THE GOSPEL"**

### **ANOTHER REASON FOR CONFUSION**

Before we begin our definitions, I want you to be aware of another reason why there is so much confusion in Christendom. The problem is that people read their Bible too superstitiously, thinking that "*wherever*" they read and "*whatever*" they read is what God is saying to them; but that is not so. Confusion begins by not paying attention to "*Who*" is being addressed in a passage of the Bible; and then, not believing that when God addresses "*Israel*," He means Israel.

There is a portion of the Bible that specifically addresses *US - Gentiles and Jews of this age*. It is the books of Romans through Philemon. Now let's see how knowing this fact clears up much confusion.

It is commonly taught that there is only *one gospel* in the Bible. (I'm not speaking of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John which are sometimes called the four Gospels.) I'm talking about the proclamation of the gospel in the Bible. Many--in fact most--believe that all the New Testament preachers (John the Baptist, Jesus Christ, the Twelve Apostles, and the Apostle Paul) preached the same gospel. This is totally unscriptural! The Bible speaks of several gospels: "***THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM,***" "***THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD,***" "***THE GOSPEL OF PEACE,***" "***THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL,***" "***THE GOSPEL OF THE CIRCUMCISION,***" "***THE GOSPEL OF THE UNCIRCUMCISION,***" etc. These are not all synonymous terms for the gospel.

The "***GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM***" is what our Lord Jesus Christ preached during his earthly ministry, according to Matthew 4:23. By comparing this verse with Matthew 4:17, we know that the "***GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM***" is the preaching of the *good news* that the "***KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND.***" This was the "*Kingdom*" Jesus Christ taught his disciples to pray for in Matthew 6:10:

***"THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN."***

God promised in the Old Testament to set up a Kingdom here on Earth through the nation Israel, in which Jesus Christ would reign as King! Christ was here; and the *good news* proclaimed was that *the Kingdom was at hand*. In Matthew 10:7 we find this to be the same gospel the Twelve Apostles were sent to preach. Also, in Matthew 10:5,6 we learn that this gospel was good news for the Nation of Israel. It is amazing, yet true, that even after the Twelve Apostles had been preaching this gospel for some time, they still did not know about Christ's purpose to go to the cross and die for their sins. We know this is true because when Jesus Christ began later to tell his Apostles that he was going to Jerusalem to die, they did not believe him, nor did they understand what he was talking about. The reason they didn't understand was because they were preaching the *good news* about the

*Kingdom* and to take the throne as their King - see Matthew 16:21,22; Luke 18:31-34; and Luke 19:11.

How, then, could the Twelve Apostles have been preaching the same gospel as the Apostle Paul later preached, when they did not know nor understand anything about the Cross at that time? Yet Paul says he preached (I Corinthians 1:18,23)

**"THE CROSS" and "CHRIST CRUCIFIED"!**

The point is this: the gospel that the Twelve Apostles preached during the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ is not the same gospel the Apostle Paul was sent to preach later. According to I Corinthians 15:1-4, the gospel Paul preached was the **GOOD NEWS** of the **DEATH, BURIAL, and RESURRECTION** of Jesus Christ **FOR OUR SINS**.

Paul tells us where his gospel originated in Galatians 1:11,12. It was after the resurrection and ascension that the Lord Jesus Christ revealed to the Apostle Paul all that was accomplished on the Cross. In Acts 20:24, Paul calls this message **"THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD."** In Galatians 2:1,2, we see that this gospel is intended for the Gentiles as well as Jews; and in Galatians 2:6-10 we find that the Twelve Apostles learned of this gospel from Paul.

In this present age of "**GRACE**," God has set Israel as a nation aside, and the Kingdom promised them has been postponed until a future time. Therefore the **"GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM"** is NOT God's message of *good news* for today, but rather the *good news* of how the Cross saves Sinners of all nationalities. This is God's message for today!

This is why the first epistle of Paul, set forth in our Bible, is the book of Romans. The book of Romans teaches precisely how God saves sinners. Therefore the following is God's message of *good news* for YOU today!

## **ROMANS 3:20-28**

***"THEREFORE BY THE DEEDS OF THE LAW THERE SHALL NO FLESH BE JUSTIFIED IN HIS SIGHT: FOR BY THE LAW IS THE KNOWLEDGE OF SIN.***

***BUT NOW THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD WITHOUT THE LAW IS MANIFESTED, BEING WITNESSED BY THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS :***

***EVEN THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD WHICH IS BY FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST UNTO ALL AND UPON ALL THEM THAT BELIEVE: FOR THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE:***

***FOR ALL HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD;***

***BEING JUSTIFIED FREELY BY HIS GRACE THROUGH THE REDEMPTION THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS:***

***WHOM GOD HATH SET FORTH TO BE A PROPITIATION THROUGH FAITH IN HIS BLOOD, TO DECLARE HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS THAT ARE PAST, THROUGH THE FORBEARANCE OF GOD;***

***TO DECLARE, I SAY, AT THIS TIME HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS: THAT HE MIGHT BE JUST, AND THE JUSTIFIER OF HIM WHICH BELIEVETH IN JESUS.***

***WHERE IS BOASTING THEN? IT IS EXCLUDED. BY WHAT LAW? OF WORKS? NAY: BUT BY THE LAW OF FAITH.***

***THEREFORE WE CONCLUDE THAT A MAN IS JUSTIFIED BY FAITH WITHOUT THE DEEDS OF THE LAW."***

## **ROMANS 5:10**

***"FOR IF, WHEN WE WERE ENEMIES, WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD BY THE DEATH OF HIS SON, MUCH MORE, BEING RECONCILED, WE SHALL BE SAVED BY HIS LIFE."***

## **I CORINTHIANS 1:30**

***"BUT OF HIM ARE YE IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO OF GOD IS MADE UNTO WISDOM, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND SANCTIFICATION, AND REDEMPTION."***

## **ROMANS 6:3**

***"KNOW YE NOT THAT SO MANY OF US AS WERE BAPTIZED INTO JESUS CHRIST WERE BAPTIZED INTO HIS DEATH?"***

To assist you in understanding the riches of these passages of Scripture, and the doctrine of salvation taught by them, we encourage you to learn (from the following pages of this book) the definitions of the underlined biblical terms.

**DEFINITION#1**

**ROMANS 3:21**

**"RIGHTEOUSNESS"**

**RIGHTEOUSNESS: Is God's Standard of Perfection. - (Deuteronomy 32:4)**

As you read God's commandments in Exodus 20:1-20 and Christ's sermon on the mount in Matthew 5-7, you will see that God's standard of right is absolute PERFECTION. In fact, Matthew 5:48 says:

***"BE YE THEREFORE PERFECT, EVEN AS YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN IS PERFECT."***

Absolute perfection is "*Holiness*" and only God possesses holiness. The Bible says **God is Holy** (Isaiah 6:3 and Isaiah 57:15); but according to Isaiah 64:6:

***MAN'S RIGHTEOUSNESS IS AS FILTHY RAGS IN THE SIGHT OF GOD***

As we turn our attention to the book of Romans we find these same truths taught their in more detail. Romans 1:18 through 3:20 basically teaches two doctrines:

**# 1. God must judge and condemn the sinner because He (God) is Holy and His justice demands it!**

Even in society, we cannot let people get away with breaking the law. There must be justice. So it is with God.

Romans 1:18 says: ***"FOR THE WRATH OF GOD IS REVEALED FROM HEAVEN AGAINST ALL UNGODLINESS AND UNRIGHTEOUSNESS OF MEN WHO HOLD THE TRUTH IN UNRIGHTEOUSNESS."*** (Also see Romans 2:12, 16)

The second doctrine taught in Romans 1:18-3:20 is:

**# 2: Every person is a sinner!**

There is no sense in denying it. We must all admit we've done things wrong. The Bible says so!

Romans 3:9 - ". . . ***THEY ARE ALL UNDER SIN.***"

Romans 3:19 - ". . . ***EVERY MOUTH MAY BE STOPPED, AND ALL THE WORLD MAY BECOME GUILTY BEFORE GOD.***"

Romans 3:20 - ". . . ***THERE SHALL NO FLESH BE JUSTIFIED IN HIS (God's) SIGHT.***"

Romans 3:23 - ". . . ***ALL HAVE SINNED, AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.***"

Therefore, since God is holy and must judge the sinner, and since every person is a sinner, then mankind has a problem. With respect to this problem, Paul now reveals the solution to the dilemma that man is in. The solution is in the "**GOSPEL**" which was given to Paul by God - Romans 1:16; 2:16.

In Romans 3:21, Paul starts to unfold God's solution:

***"BUT NOW THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD WITHOUT THE LAW IS MANIFESTED BEING WITNESSED BY THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS."***

**"BUT"** - This begins the great solution to man's sin problem. Man is a sinner but . . .

**"NOW"** - Indicates that the problem has been resolved and that the solution is being revealed to mankind for the first time.

***"THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS MANIFESTED"***

- This does not mean that God's righteousness was not known before. It means God's standard of right (the perfection of God) is now being made available to mankind by the gospel.

God has given to man His *holy laws*, but man was not able to keep them. Some people hope they will get to heaven by keeping the "Ten Commandments," but the point of Romans 3:19,20 is that if people would read those laws and be honest with themselves and God, "**EVERY MOUTH**" would be stopped and each person would have to acknowledge that they have broken God's laws. In fact, the reason God gave the "Law" was to point out to man his sinful condition and his need of a Savior which is the Lord Jesus Christ.

The problem is that man lacks the righteousness that God requires for entrance into heaven. But now, that righteousness is made available to man--from a source outside of himself. God's righteousness is being offered to mankind as a gift.

### **PRACTICAL POINT:**

Since it is *GOD'S STANDARD OF PERFECTION* that is required for entrance into heaven, then our works cannot save us. In fact, our righteousness is not a part of the solution here at all. The scriptures point us to Jesus Christ and *His Righteousness*.

Another thing, since we are all sinners, and our righteousness is as filthy rags, then our works cannot save. In fact they will only condemn us!

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*How can man reach God's standard of perfection?*

## **READ ON!**

**DEFINITION #2**

**ROMANS 3:22**

### **"IMPUTATION"**

**IMPUTATION:** *Is God's Righteousness Credited To One's Account.*

The word "*Imputation*" (or "*Impute*") is not used in Romans 3:22. It is actually used in Romans chapter four, but the word "UPON" in Romans 3:22 conveys the same thought (See Romans 4:3). The word "*Impute*" is an accounting term which means "*to credit to one's account.*" For instance, suppose my bank account is short the necessary funds required for paying my debts. A person who loves me--and has the money--can deposit the amount necessary into my bank account which will keep me out of jail.

***THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IS UNTO ALL AND UPON ALL THEM THAT BELIEVE.***

Since man "***COMES SHORT***" and cannot make himself righteous, righteousness will have to be given to him from God, otherwise there is no hope for man. This is exactly what Romans 5:17 says:

#### ***RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A GIFT FROM GOD***

This God-given *righteousness* is available to man "***BY THE FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST***" according to Romans 3:22. That is to say, the righteousness of God is available to man because of the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. God is not giving out *His righteousness* as a reward to us because of our faithful service to Him. God is giving out *His righteousness* as a gift to us because of Christ's faithful service to Him. Jesus Christ always did the will of His Father, even when it came time to give up His life and die on the cross for our sins. The following verses confirm that it's Christ's faithfulness and not ours that counts with God when the subject is our salvation:

Ephesians 3:12 - Teaches that our access to God is by Christ's Faithfulness.

Philippians 3:9 - Says it is not my righteousness, but through Christ's righteousness and my faith in Him, that saves me.

Coming back to Romans 3:22, there are two important phrases to take note of:

#1. "**UNTO ALL**" - *This speaks of an Unlimited provision!*

God's righteousness is available to *everyone*. This is great news and again the following verses will confirm this wonderful news:

I Timothy 2:4 - "***GOD OUR SAVIOUR WHO WILL HAVE ALL MEN TO BE SAVED, AND TO COME UNTO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.***"

I Timothy 4:10 - ". . . ***BECAUSE WE TRUST IN THE LIVING GOD, WHO IS THE SAVIOUR OF ALL MEN, SPECIALLY OF THOSE THAT BELIEVE.***"

I Timothy 1:15 - ". . . ***CHRIST CAME TO SAVE SINERS . . .***" Compare this with Romans 3:23 which says, ". . . ***ALL HAVE SINNED . . .***"

NOTE: The provision of the cross was not always declared "***UNTO ALL.***" In times past, it was limited to Israel (Isaiah 53:4-8 & Matthew 26:28). However, Romans 3:21 begins with "***BUT NOW,***" indicating a change and that the provision is now available to ***ALL***.

The other important phrase in Romans 3:22 is this:

#2. "***UPON ALL THEM THAT BELIEVE***"

- *This speaks of a Limited Application!*

While God's righteousness is available to everyone, it is *imputed only* to those who believe. God in his great wisdom has chosen to credit *His righteousness* only to the account of those who choose to trust in Him.

Romans 1:16 - ". . . ***THE GOSPEL OF THE CHRIST. . . IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION TO EVERYONE THAT BELIEVETH.***"

Romans 4:3 - ". . . ***ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS COUNTED UNTO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS.***"

Romans 4:23, 24 - "***NOW IT WAS NOT WRITTEN FOR HIS SAKE ALONE, THAT IT WAS IMPUTED TO HIM; BUT FOR US ALSO, TO WHOM IT SHALL BE IMPUTED, IF WE BELIEVE ON HIM THAT RAISED UP JESUS OUR LORD FROM THE DEAD.***"

I Corinians 1:21 - ". . . ***IT PLEASSED GOD TO SAVE THEM THAT BELIEVE.***"

To illustrate what we have learned so far, let's say a certain man became extremely ill of a disease. He became so ill that he lost his job and with it his health insurance. Afterwards he discovers there is an operation that can cure him and without it he will die. However, having lost his job and insurance, he cannot afford the operation. Then one day he reads in the newspaper about a very rich person who advertises that he will deposit into anyone's bank account the amount of all medical expenses for anyone who is in such a predicament. If this man will believe what he has read and receives this offer, he will

live. But if he pays no attention to this provision and has the attitude that he will take care of himself, in his helplessness he will die.

### **PRACTICAL POINT:**

The illustration may be fictitious but the truth of Scripture is not. The Lord Jesus Christ was faithful. He lived without ever sinning. He died for our sins. The provision has been made for everyone, but His righteousness is given only to those who believe, and thereby receive it.

Since Jesus Christ paid for all sins, and since it is *His righteousness* that God sees applied to my account the moment I believe in Christ, then I am secure because *His righteousness* will never fail although there will be times mine will.

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*Does imputed righteousness mean God makes me righteous?*

### **READ ON**

**DEFINITION #3**

**ROMANS 3:24**

## **"JUSTIFICATION"**

**JUSTIFICATION:** *means: To Reckon, or To Declare One Righteous.*

The Greek word for "*Justify*" is actually the same Greek word which is translated "*righteousness*" in Romans 3:21 & 22. Therefore to "**JUSTIFY**" means: To "*Righteousify*" or; *To Reckon One Righteous.*

NOTE: This does not mean that the Believer is made righteous as far as his practical life is concerned. It means that God declares him to be righteous. Remember, the righteousness given to a Believer is not handed to him, but is put to his account. You are not made as righteous as Jesus Christ, you are credited as having His righteousness. It is on this basis that God declares you righteous.

**WHO DOES GOD DECLARE RIGHTEOUS, AND WHY; AND HOW CAN A HOLY GOD DO THIS?**

Job, in Job 9:1,2, and his friend Bildad were among the first to ask this question in Job 25:4:

**"HOW THEN CAN MAN BE JUSTIFIED WITH GOD? OR HOW CAN HE BE CLEAN THAT IS BORN OF A WOMAN?"**

Now finally in the gospel given to Paul, the answer is made known, by Romans 3:28:

**"THEREFORE WE CONCLUDE THAT A MAN IS JUSTIFIED BY FAITH WITHOUT THE DEEDS OF THE LAW"**

Remember our previous two word studies. We understand from the word "*Impute*" that God takes His righteousness and puts it to the account of all who believe in Jesus Christ. Therefore even though I am a sinner (as Romans 3:23 clearly states), the moment I believe, God credits His righteousness to me and then declares me righteous. This is "*Justification*".

Romans 8:33 Says we are *Justified by God*. - He is the Source.

Romans 5:9 Says we are *Justified by Blood*. - Christ's blood is the Basis.

Romans 3:24 Says we are *Justified by Grace*. -This is the Means

Romans 5:1 Says we are *Justified by Faith*. - Here is the Appropriation.

Romans 4:25 Says we are *Justified by the Resurrection of Christ*. - This is the Guarantee

**"JUSTIFICATION" IS A LEGAL TERM.**

"*Justification*" speaks of a favorable verdict from God which is pronounced the moment a person believes in Christ. The unfavorable verdict is "*damnation*", which is already upon us and is sealed at death for those neglecting to believe in Christ. The final sentence will come at the future "*Great White Throne Judgment Of God*" spoken of in Revelation 20:11-15.

Courtrooms are always very frightening, especially if it is you who is going up before the judge. As we think about the term "*Justification*", the scene is in the courtroom of *God's Justice*. God is the Judge. His righteousness is the standard. The time of this hearing is our lifetime (not after we die).

There we stand before the HIGH AND HOLY JUDGEMENT BAR OF GOD; and we stand there knowing full well that we fall far short of His standard of holiness: we know we are sinners; and we know we're guilty! Yet if we will only believe in what Jesus Christ accomplished for us on the Cross, His righteousness will be put to our account; and when God sounds His verdict, he will declare the believer "**RIGHTEOUS**"!

## PRACTICAL POINT:

The practical application of this doctrine could not be better put than in Romans 8:33:

***"WHO SHALL LAY ANYTHING TO THE CHARGE OF GOD'S ELECT? IT IS GOD THAT JUSTIFIETH."***

There is no sin that can condemn a *Justified person* to hell. No person; not yourself; not even the Devil can charge you with anything once God declares you righteous. This was Paul's reasoning after making the statement in Romans 8:31;

***"IF GOD BE FOR US, WHO CAN BE AGAINST US?"***

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*Romans 3:25 continues to explain the accomplishments of Jesus Christ through the Cross, and how a Holy God can declare a Sinful Man righteous.*

## **READ ON!**

**DEFINITION #4**

**ROMANS 3:24**

## **"GRACE"**

**GRACE:** *Is The Unmerited Favor of God.*

"Grace" is so much of a characteristic of God (like His love), that human words do not adequately express its meaning.

Romans 3:24 begins:

***"BEING JUSTIFIED FREELY BY HIS GRACE"***

Some have defined "Grace" as "Undeserved Mercy", and this is true. However, all mercy is undeserved; that's the meaning of mercy. **GRACE** is more than mercy. Mercy gets a criminal off the hook and out of jail, but **GRACE** pays the debt of the criminal and sets him free to enjoy the good life.

When we say that **GRACE** is "Unmerited Favor", we are saying that this favor cannot be earned. It's not just that you don't have to earn it. The fact is, you cannot earn it. Since we

are all sinners, there is nothing that we can do to gain God's favor. Even if you did good works continuously from here on out, and sacrificed all your time to help others, and did great and wonderful things 24 hours a day for the rest of your life to please God, God still would not accept you or your efforts because He is Holy and you are still a sinner. You cannot work off your sins.

God's salvation is not merited, it is a *GIFT* of God! – See Ephesians 2:8, 9. The word for "**GRACE**" (in the Greek) is "*Charis*." The word for "**GIFT**" (in the Greek) is "*Charisma*." It is easily seen that the very root meaning of the word **GRACE** is **GIFT**.

Romans 11:6 is a verse that clearly contrasts "**WORKS**" with "**GRACE**." It does that because they are exact opposites. A gift is something given freely, but work is something that you do to earn a wage. Romans 6:23 tells us what wages we have coming to us:

***"FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD."***

We really don't want what our sins have earned for us. Rather we want the gift that comes from God through Christ.

Since we began to study Romans 3:21-24, we have seen that God's righteousness has been made available to all of mankind today, but it is only imputed to those who believe. Then God, upon that faith, justifies or declares the sinner righteous. Now we learn that all of this is done "***FREELY BY HIS GRACE***." What a wonderful God we have!

Ephesians 3:1-5 teaches us that God's message of **GRACE** was first revealed to Paul. It was through the Apostle Paul that God's Word of **GRACE** was preached to the Gentiles.

Galatians 1:13-16 gives testimony that God's **GRACE** was what changed Paul from being the number one enemy of Christ into Christ's number one preacher among the Gentiles.

I Timothy 1:11-16 explains why God used Paul for this job of making His **GRACE** known. It was because Paul's conversion is the pattern of grace. Paul deserved the most severe punishment of hell, but by the grace of God he was saved and given the right (as all believers have today), ***to sit with Christ in heavenly places*** - (see Ephesians 2:6).

We have said: "Mercy gets the criminal off the hook, but grace pays his debt". Romans 3:24 goes on to tell us that the reason God is free to deal with mankind today in **GRACE** is because of what Jesus Christ accomplished for us on the Cross. The Lord Jesus Christ paid our debt of sin and, in receiving Him, we are set free to enjoy God's love and to live in His favor!

**PRACTICAL POINT:**

Everything required for my Salvation has been supplied by God. Salvation is the work of God in my behalf. Now, to get that point through our stubborn thick human heads, we are told that justification is *unmerited* and *undeserved* on our part. On the other hand, it is given *freely* to us on God's part. It could not be made any clearer. Salvation comes to us, not on the basis of works, but on the basis of a free gift from God.

Since I am now in God's favor apart from any good works of my own, then-- if I happen to do a bad deed-- it does no change God's attitude toward me.

Before you jump to any conclusion, please understand; this does not mean that a believer is free to go out and continue sinning. Contrary to popular opinion--but in accordance with Scripture--as a Believer dwells upon this *grace* of God in which he now stands, it will motivate him to do good works! – see Titus 2:11, 12.

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What did Jesus Christ accomplish on that Cross?

## **READ ON!**

**DEFINITION #5**

**ROMANS 3:24**

### **"REDEMPTION"**

**REDEMPTION:** *is Freedom By Payment of Price.*

Take special note of the fact that all of the blessings of Romans 3:21-24 which we have studied so far, namely:

- *God's righteousness – which is available to all men today, and is specifically imputed to those who believe;*
- *Justification – whereby God declares a believing sinner righteous; and that, freely by His grace. . .*

...has all become available to the Believer through one tremendous event. Everything in Romans 3:21-28 hinges on this one event which is found in the last part of verse 24:

***"THROUGH THE REDEMPTION THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS"***

Even though all of these blessings are given freely to us, the blessings had a price tag; and the Lord Jesus Christ paid the price.

The word "*Redemption*" was a common word used in Bible days. It was often used in the purchase of a slave. There were three (3) different words used which spoke of three (3) types of redemption.

1. "Agorazo" - which means to *buy in a market place*. Kind of like a trade center. In Bible days a person could go to a slave market and purchase a slave.
2. "Exagorazo" - which means to buy out of the *market place*. For one reason or another a slave could be purchased out of the marketplace, never to be put up for sale again.
3. "Lutroo" - which means to *set free by paying the price*. The price of the slave's freedom is called the *ransom price*. According to this type of purchase, the ransom price of the slave is paid in his behalf allowing him to be set free, liberated, delivered from bondage.

The Greek word for "redemption" in Romans 3:24 is "apolutrooseous" which is a stronger form of "lutroo". What Romans 3:24 tells us is that the ransom price held against us has been paid and we have been set free from bondage.

In bible days sometimes a person became a slave because they couldn't pay their debts. In Leviticus 25:25-27, God laid out the conditions of *the law of redemption*:

1. The Redeemer must be a next-to-kin.
2. The Redeemer must be able to pay the price.
3. The Redeemer must be willing to pay the price.

If a relative loved the slave enough and was able to pay off their debt and willing to; they could go to the slave market, pay the price for that slave, and set him free. This is "**REDEMPTION**" - *freedom by payment of a price*. This is what the lord Jesus Christ did for us when he died upon the cross.

We were enslaved under the debt of our sin. Romans 6:23 says that ***THE PAYMENT OF SIN IS DEATH***. The Lord Jesus Christ loved us enough to come (by virgin birth) to the earth (the slave market). As a kin to mankind and being the sinless Son of God, He was able to pay the price for all of mankind's sins; and He willingly died upon the cross, shedding His Blood for the payment of our debt of sin.

God's righteousness is imputed to us who believe, and we are declared righteous freely by His grace, ONLY because the lord Jesus paid the price! We have been set free from sin.

No wonder the Bible says salvation is a gift and not of works. The work is done! Not only did Jesus Christ die for our sins, but he was raised for our justification according to Romans 4:25.



## PRACTICAL POINT:

Some who resist the truth of salvation being a gift given to those who believe--apart from works--argue against this doctrine by calling it "*Cheap Grace*".

How dare anyone refer to the blood of Jesus Christ shed at Calvary in payment for man's sins as "*Cheap Grace*" and then to think of their own works as something more valuable than the blood of the Son of God? That kind of thinking leads me to believe that they don't really know the gospel and that they have not believed the truth and are yet in their sins!

Another thing *redemption* does is free a person from guilt. Since Jesus Christ paid for my sins--rather than just letting me off the hook--I can now live with a clear and grateful conscience before God forever. If my sins were not paid for, I would have to carry the guilt of those sins with me.

For instance, if you owed me money and could not pay me back and I eventually let you off the hook, every time you saw me after that, you would remember how you cheated me out of some money. But if a friend of yours paid me back in your behalf, you could face me with a clear conscience every time we meet.

This is now true of our relationship with God the Father because Jesus Christ paid for our sins.

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*Redemption is what Christ accomplished for man, but at the same time Jesus Christ accomplished something for God the Father.*

## **READ ON!**

**DEFINITION #6**

**ROMANS 3:25**

## **"PROPITIATION"**

**PROPITIATION:** means *Satisfaction, or To Satisfy*

In heathen circles it was a word that meant "*to appease the gods.*" The biblical sense of the word speaks of that which *satisfies the justice of God.*

From the beginning of our study we have been pointing out that Romans 3:23 says that we are all sinners. Sin is the breaking of God's laws. Therefore we have all offended God's justice. This is not something that God can simply overlook.

Even in our society, we have a set of standards which we call the law. When one of these laws are broken we have a judicial system that requires vindication for the crime committed. We call that justice. A judge cannot look at the evidence, see the person is guilty, and say, "*Well, we love you so we are going to let you go scot-free.*" **No!** Our laws state clearly that certain crimes are to be punished by certain penalties.

God's justice is the same, only He treats all sin alike. God's justice must be vindicated. The penalty for breaking His laws must be satisfied (propitiated). Death (which is *separation from God - or Hell*) is that penalty which God's justice demands. As guilty law breakers we cannot do anything to correct our wrong. However, according to Romans 3:25, it was JESUS CHRIST who provided propitiation, and that propitiation was through His blood. The first part of the verse, in speaking about the Lord Jesus Christ, reads:

***"WHOM GOD HATH SET FORTH TO BE A PROPITIATION THROUGH FAITH IN HIS BLOOD..."***

*Redemption* is manward, but *propitiation* is Godward. Jesus Christ provided redemption in behalf of mankind. He purchased man's salvation. At the same time, Jesus Christ provided propitiation in behalf of God the Father. Christ's death on the cross satisfied the demands of God's Justice.

The Greek word for "*propitiation*" is also translated "*Mercy seat*" in Hebrews 9:5. The mercy seat of the Old Testament temple was the place of *propitiation*. The mercy seat was located in the holy of holies in the Jewish temple. First, their temple had the outer court where the people gathered. The inner court was where the daily sacrifices were offered. Located in the inner court was the temple proper. The front and larger section of the Temple was called the holy place. Divided off by a large curtain was a special part of the sanctuary called the holy of holies. It was here that the High Priest entered only once a year, with the blood of Israel's sin offering. The High Priest sprinkled the blood on the *mercy seat* of God for an atonement for the nation's sins. By sprinkling the blood on the mercy seat, God's justice would be appeased for another year. All of this pointed to Jesus Christ, who--as the High Priest of mankind--offered His holy blood as the satisfactory payment for all of man's sins. When He did, God's justice was *completely satisfied* once and for all.

Isaiah 53:10,11, in prophesying about Christ's death on the Cross; says:

***"YET IT PLEASED THE LORD TO BRUISE HIM; HE HATH PUT HIM TO GRIEF: WHEN THOU SHALT MAKE HIS SOUL AN OFFERING FOR SIN, HE SHALL PROLONG HIS DAYS, AND THE PLEASURE OF THE LORD SHALL PROSPER IN HIS HAND. HE SHALL SEE OF THE TRAVAIL OF HIS SOUL,***

**AND SHALL BE SATISFIED: BY HIS KNOWLEDGE SHALL MY RIGHTEOUS SERVANT JUSTIFY MANY; FOR HE SHALL BEAR THEIR INIQUITIES."**

If God the Father is satisfied that Jesus Christ has provided the full and complete payment for the penalty of our sins, then so should we. Christ left nothing undone or incomplete. This is why salvation is through faith and faith alone.

**PRACTICAL POINT:**

Some people don't believe it is enough just to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved. They think there must be more to do. **NO**, the Scriptures make it clear that Christ has done it all. Now we learn that God is fully *satisfied* by the work of Jesus Christ. Knowing this, we had better be satisfied with what God says is enough or we may just find ourselves opposing God.

Since God is completely satisfied once and for all with the payment of sin, then I can rest assured that there is no sin left unpaid that can send me to hell, once I believe.

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*If salvation is through faith and faith alone, what exactly is "Faith"?*

**READ ON!**

**DEFINITION #7**

**ROMANS 3:25**

**"FAITH"**

**FAITH:** *is Taking God At His Word - and leaving the consequences to Rest upon His Faithfulness.*

Faith is a simple thing. It is something we exercise every day. The average driver thinks nothing of going 55 miles per hour down a highway 20 feet behind another car. When they approach a red light, each driver applies his brakes in full faith expecting them to work and stop their car. We continuously live by faith. We trust our employers will give us a paycheck at the end of the week. We trust the labels on the canned goods at the grocery store. We trust the bank with our money and doctors with our lives in surgery.

Yet, somehow--when we come to the bible--we lose all of our common sense. Some people say, "*I believe!*", but when asked what they believe they don't know. Some have

become so confused that they have put their faith in faith. They think if they just believe hard enough, things will come true. Others have made faith a work. They say; "*Salvation is not a gift because you have to believe.*" This is foolishness. *Believing* is not a work. Romans 4:5 makes it clear:

**"BUT TO HIM THAT WORKETH NOT, BUT BELIEVETH ON HIM THAT JUSTIFIETH THE UNGODLY, HIS FAITH IS COUNTED FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS."**

Notice the words "*Believe*" and "*Faith*" in Romans 3:21-28; and take note of these points:

VERSE 22 - Said that God's righteousness is imputed upon all that **BELIEVE**.

VERSE 24 - Said that God declares a person righteous **FREELY** by His **GRACE** because of Christ's payment for sin on the cross.

VERSE 25 - Said that God's anger against man for his sins is appeased by the satisfying sacrifice of Jesus Christ. But it also indicates that God's anger is not satisfied until that sinner exercises **FAITH** in the blood of Christ.

**"THEREFORE"** - VERSE 28 concludes that a man is justified by **FAITH** without the deeds of the law.

When the Bible says a person is justified or saved by **FAITH**, it does not mean that a person is saved by believing anything they want. *Faith* is taking God at His Word. *Faith* is man approaching God according to God's terms! Those terms (for this age) are based upon "**FAITH IN HIS BLOOD**" (Romans 3:25). God will save, impute righteousness, or justify any sinner who will believe what God said concerning the Blood of Jesus Christ; namely, that it is the only acceptable payment (redemption) for man's sins, and the only satisfying sacrifice (propitiation) that will appease the justice of God. The very moment a person chooses to believe this truth, God declares him *justified*! So "*Saving Faith*" is faith in the *person* and *work* of Jesus Christ.

It may be helpful to think of "**FAITH**" as incorporating three elements:

1. **KNOWLEDGE** - One must know "*In Whom*" and "*In What*" they must trust - II Tim 1:12
2. **BELIEF** - One must accept the facts as truth - see Romans 4:20,21
3. **TRUST** - After knowing the facts and accepting the facts as true, one must rely on them to accomplish what they claimed. One must rest in the truth.

The reason we can live in full assurance that we have been *justified*, *redeemed*, *propitiated*, and *reconciled* with God is because our faith is in what God has said and not in ourselves. God is faithful and cannot lie!

## PRACTICAL POINT:

We have already seen that the work of salvation was accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ. Then finally we have come to see that, *through faith*, "God's salvation" becomes "My salvation." One person has said it this way: "*Faith is the arm of acceptance.*"

Receiving salvation is like receiving a gift at Christmas. Someone hands you a gift and you accept it. God is offering you *eternal life* through Jesus Christ as a gift. But, in this case, you cannot reach up and put your hands on eternal life or Jesus Christ to accept the gift. Therefore, it is your faith in what God promised that accepts the gift.

Now because my faith is in what God said, then it is true that the day I first trusted in Jesus Christ as my Savior, God saved me. This I know, because God said so. Therefore on the authority of God's Word, ***I KNOW I have eternal life.*** What a great assurance God has given to me. It can be yours as well! Read I John 5:9-13 and please don't call God a liar.

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*As the Psalmist said:*

**"SUCH KNOWLEDGE IS TOO WONDERFUL FOR ME."** *Could there be even more Good News? Yes!*

## **READ ON!**

**DEFINITION # 8**

**ROMANS 3:25**

## **"REMISSION"**

**REMISSION:** *basically means "Forgiveness" - To Send Away, To Loose or Release.*

The Greek word "*APHESIS*" is translated both "*Remission*" and "*Forgiveness.*" There are, however, two types of forgiveness taught in the Bible. Before the Cross, men were offered a temporary forgiveness, but after the Cross the message of total complete forgiveness was made known.

In the Old Testament (Leviticus 4 & 5) when the Priest, the common people, or the ruler committed certain sins, an animal sacrifice was offered to God for their forgiveness. The "*Day of Atonement*" (Leviticus 16) was a special day in which--once a year--the High

Priest would take two goats. One he would sacrifice upon an altar and take the blood within the veil--into the holy of holies--and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat for the sins of the congregation of Israel. Afterwards the High Priest would lay his hands upon the other goat and confess all of the sins of Israel. Then that goat would be taken into the wilderness and set free. This was a picture of *forgiveness*; the *release* from their sins and *sending them away*.

This whole ceremony is a type of *redemption* and *propitiation* by the blood of Jesus Christ and the *complete forgiveness* of sins through Him.

Under the ministry of John the Baptist and the Twelve Apostles (Matthew-Acts 8) *remission* (forgiveness) of sins was offered through repentance and water baptism (see Mark 1:4 & Acts 2:38). This message and practice was for the purpose of calling out the believing remnant of Israel and the cleansing of that believing nation. By comparing Acts 2:38 with Acts 3:19, it is clear that this offer of remission was only a pardon for their sins until the second coming of Jesus Christ when Israel's sins (Nationally) will finally be blotted out.

It is upon the conversion of the Apostle Paul in Acts 9--along with the message of *Grace* revealed to him, and his unique ministry to the Gentiles--that God has set Israel's promise of national forgiveness aside (and along with it, forgiveness through water baptism) during this present age of grace. Jesus Christ's death on the cross is now the basis for all forgiveness. Therefore animal sacrifices have also been done away as well.

Hebrews 9:22 shows clearly that there is no forgiveness apart from the blood:

**"...AND WITHOUT SHEDDING OF BLOOD IS NO REMISSION."**

Hebrews 10:4 goes on to say that the blood of animals is not sufficient either.

**"FOR IT IS NOT POSSIBLE THAT THE BLOOD OF BULLS AND OF GOATS SHOULD TAKE AWAY SIN."**

As Romans chapter three teaches, only the blood of Jesus Christ can bring *remission* of sins. His blood provides total and complete removal of our sins. Sins are taken away once and for all (permanently) by Christ's work on the Cross.

Hebrews 10:10,14,17 reads:

**"BY THE WHICH WILL WE ARE SANCTIFIED THROUGH THE OFFERING OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST ONCE FOR ALL."**

**"FOR BY ONE OFFERING HE HATH PERFECTED FOREVER THEM THAT ARE SANCTIFIED."**

**"AND THEIR SINS AND INIQUITIES WILL I REMEMBER NO MORE."**

This is why Paul speaks about our forgiveness in this age of grace as unconditional and in the past tense. We as believers do not need to pray for forgiveness since we have already received full forgiveness in Christ! (see Ephesians 1:7; 4:32; Colossians 1:14; 2:13; 3:13)

Everything we have said so far pertains to the Greek word "*APHESIS*." However, the word "*Remission*" in Romans 3:25 is "*PAREISIS*" a different Greek word.

" **PAREISIS**": is the *passing over of debt*.

Romans 3:25 is saying; God set Christ forth to be the satisfying sacrifice for sins, which declares the truth that God was righteous in passing over those sins in past ages. This refers to the sins of the Old Testament saints! More will be said about this under the meaning of the word "*Forbearance*."

## **PRACTICAL POINT:**

Wouldn't it be annoying to you if you told someone "*I forgive you*," and everyday afterwards for the rest of their life they came to you and asked, "*Please forgive me*"?

Not only would it be annoying, it would hinder the growth of your relationship. Instead of leaving the sin behind and growing closer, it is brought up again and again, day after day, hindering both the growth and enjoyment of the relationship. So many people, who say they believe their sins are forgiven, spend most of their prayer time begging God to forgive them. Growth and joy are hindered all because a person refuses to believe that they have been offered complete forgiveness for all their sins. Besides, a person would practically be calling you a liar if you said, "*I forgive you*," but they kept asking you for forgiveness.

My sins (past - present - and future) have been put away by God forever since I believed. Now, rather than asking for forgiveness every day, I thank Him for it and move on to grow in my relationship with my Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you know that you have received the salvation which is through Christ by faith alone, and you know that your sins are paid for, but yet you walk around carrying the guilt of your sins, you have not yet come to enjoy and rejoice in your salvation. Do what Paul says in Philippians 3:13

***"...FORGETTING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND, AND REACHING FORTH UNTO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE..."***

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*What about the sins of the people who lived before Christ died? How can God save them?*

# READ ON!

DEFINITION # 9

ROMANS 3:25

## "FORBEARANCE"

**FORBEARANCE:** *is Patiently waiting for the payment of a Debt.*

As we have taught, the word "**REMISSION**" (as used in Romans 3:25) refers to the *passing over of a debt*. This leads us right into the word "**FORBEARANCE**," for the verse reads:

**"WHOM GOD HATH SET FORTH TO BE A PROPITIATION THROUGH FAITH IN HIS BLOOD, TO DECLARE HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS THAT ARE PAST , THROUGH THE FORBEARANCE OF GOD."**

What Romans 3:25 is saying is that God set Jesus Christ forth to be a satisfying sacrifice (propitiation) for our sins, which declares two (2) truths:

**1. It is by the propitiation of Jesus Christ that God declares the Old Testament Saints Righteous.**

Notice the phrase "**SINS THAT ARE PAST**." These are not our past sins but the sins of those who lived and died before the Lord Jesus Christ ever came into this world. Now that He has come and made a satisfying payment for all of mankind's sins, God can now declare those Old Testament Believers righteous. Before Jesus Christ died, God instructed them to offer an animal sacrifice for their sins. But as we learned in our last study, the blood of bulls and goats could *never* take away sins (Hebrews 10:4). Romans 3:25 now informs us that from the time of Adam until Christ, God was passing over the Old Testament Believer's sins, patiently waiting for the time when Jesus Christ would come and actually pay off their debt of sin. Now that he has accomplished, God can declare them righteous.

It is like when we buy a new car on credit. We find the car we want to purchase and sign the papers applying for a loan. After checking our credit and finding it good, we are handed the keys to the car and we drive off. In these days, it is 4 to 5 years before that car is actually paid off.

In Genesis 3:15, God promised to take care of man's sin debt. Since His word is good credit, the Old Testament Believers were saved back then even though their sins were not paid off until hundreds or thousands of years later by the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



The second truth which "*propitiation*" declares is found in Romans 3:26, which says in part:

**"TO DECLARE, I SAY AT THIS TIME HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS . . ."**

**2. It is by the propitiation of Jesus Christ that God declares the New Testament Saints Righteous.**

We have taken note of the phrase "*SINS THAT ARE PAST*" in verse 25. Now notice the phrase "*AT THIS TIME*" in verse 26. In verse 25 we have seen the basis through which God can declare the Believers of old *righteous*. Verse 26 now declares that same basis to be true today. God declares the Believers--who live after the cross--*righteous* as well. The only difference is that we now know how God can be just in saving believing sinners, whereas those before this age did not know.

***GOD IS (BOTH) JUST, AND THE JUSTIFIER OF THEM WHICH BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST!***

Since the one time full payment and satisfying sacrifice for sins has been made, there is no longer any need for animal sacrifices, nor any works on man's part to be offered to God for his sins. Roman's 3:27,28 concludes the whole matter. Since our salvation was accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ's work on the Cross and not by our works and since God declares the believing sinner righteous upon faith in the blood of Christ, then there can be no boasting on our part. We are just sinners saved by grace. The conclusion is:

***"...A MAN IS JUSTIFIED (DECLARED RIGHTEOUS BEFORE GOD) BY FAITH WITHOUT THE DEEDS OF THE LAW!"***

### **PRACTICAL POINT:**

Are **You** a *Believer*? A conclusion has been made in the Scriptures. It is not in agreement with many churches, religions, or denominations, but it is the *truth* because it's God's conclusion. The Bible says: (Romans 3:4)

***"LET GOD BE TRUE, BUT EVERY MAN A LIAR"***

Make sure you're not trusting in your religion, church, your baptism, your upbringing, your background, morals, ethics, or your goodness to save you, because they can't. Trust only in Jesus Christ and His work on Calvary to save you. It's the **ONLY WAY!**

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*If Jesus Christ died for the sins of whole world, what change has it accomplished?*

## **READ ON!**

**DEFINITION #10**

**ROMANS 5:10**

### **"RECONCILIATION"**

**RECONCILIATION:** means *To Restore to Friendship and Fellowship.*

Apart from the words used in Romans 3:21-28 clarifying the gospel message for today, is another word used in Romans 5:10 - "**RECONCILED**." This is actually the theme of God's message to man today. Mankind, because of his sin and rebellion against God, has been cut off from any relationship with God. This is what we mean when we say, "*man is a poor lost sinner.*" In fact, he was more than that. As a result of man's rebellion against God, he has become an enemy of God.

Obviously, for man to have God as his enemy is a lost cause for man. Since God is *holy* and *just* and *righteous*, the fault of this breakdown in the relationship was on man's part. So God does not need to be reconciled, man does. But what can man do? He is incapable of righting his wrong. He is in need of a mediator, and God in His grace has provided one; the *God-Man*, who is the Lord Jesus Christ. His death (which was for the complete payment of our sins) is the basis for our reconciliation back to God. Roman 5:10 says:

***"FOR IF, WHEN WE WERE ENEMIES, WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD BY THE DEATH OF HIS OF HIS SON, MUCH MORE, BEING RECONCILED, WE SHALL BE SAVED BY HIS LIFE."***

As the Bible unfolds the wonderful message of reconciliation, the problem is traced all the way back to the first man, Adam. By his disobedience all mankind became sinners (Romans 5:12,19). On the other hand, by the obedience of our Lord Jesus Christ the provision has been made for all mankind to be made righteous.

When we speak of the work of reconciliation in behalf of **ALL** of mankind, we are speaking of something unique to this present age. In the book of Genesis, from chapters 1 to 11, Nations were formed. These are the Gentiles. As a whole the Gentiles turned from God in rebellion and God cut them off from Himself. From Genesis 12, all the way through the balance of the Old Testament and into the New Testament until mid-way through the book of Acts, God had created and chose to deal with only one Nation - Israel. During this time the Gentiles were God's enemies (see Ephesians 2:11,12). Israel was His people. But they too rebelled against God when they failed to receive all that God promised them through the prophets. When this happened God did something no

prophet ever predicted. God cut off Israel (for a time) from being His people. Romans 11:28-32 reveals God's purpose in this. In writing to Gentiles, Paul says:

**"AS CONCERNING THE GOSPEL, THEY (ISRAEL) ARE ENEMIES FOR YOUR SAKES...FOR GOD HATH CONCLUDED THEM ALL IN UNBELIEF, THAT HE MIGHT HAVE MERCY UPON ALL."**

With both Gentiles and Israel cut off from God as enemies, the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ became the means to reconcile *both* unto God in *one Body* (the Body of Christ) in this present age (see Ephesians 2:14-16).

According to II Corinthians 5:18-21, Jesus Christ has accomplished *reconciliation* in behalf of everyone. God is not holding anyone's sins against them today; and if anyone will receive this *reconciliation* (by faith in Jesus Christ) they shall be *reconciled* unto God in a permanent way. God will never condemn a believer for his sins because as II Corinthians 5:21 says:

**"FOR HE (GOD) HATH MADE HIM (CHRIST) TO BE SIN FOR US, WHO NEW NO SIN; THAT WE MIGHT BE MADE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN HIM (CHRIST)."**

As God's ambassador, and pleading with you in Christ's behalf, the Apostle Paul urges:

**"BE YE RECONCILED TO GOD!"**

God is waiting for your response. Will you by faith believe and receive what Jesus Christ has done for you, or will you continue to rebel?

### **PRACTICAL POINT:**

There is a limit of time and space in the writing of this book to tell all of what Jesus Christ has done for us. However, it is my prayer that your eyes have been placed on the Lord Jesus, and your mind has been expanded to see that Christ's death on the Cross has accomplished more than you may have ever realized. In fact, we ought to spend the rest of our lives ever learning and appreciating *Him!*

Compare Ephesians 2:8,9 and Romans 3:27. In both passages, after the gospel is explained, human boasting is put down. *Why?* Because everything is ours through the Lord Jesus Christ and He is everything!

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*Now that I know and believe that Jesus Christ died and rose again for me, how does that make me different?*

# READ ON!

DEFINITION #11

I CORINTHIANS 1:30

## "SANCTIFICATION"

**SANCTIFICATION:** means *To Separate, To Set Apart As Holy Unto Go*

The term "**Sanctification**" is a term that designates ownership. A person, place, or thing is *separated* from it's prior owner and becomes the possession of it's new owner. Also, in the process of transferring the ownership there is a cleansing. Since the new owner is God, the person, place, or thing must be consecrated (*holy*).

The Bible speaks of the *sanctification* of persons, places, days, seasons, objects, the first born of Israel, the Levites, the priests, the altar, the offerings, the Sabbath, and so on. All of these were *set apart unto God*. They were His!

The emphasis of this definition is not the Old Testament sanctification of *things*, but the New Testament sanctification of the *Believer*. The moment a person puts his trust in the finished work of Jesus Our Christ, he is *sanctified*. The Cross is the means of cleansing and purifying the Believer from his sins and by it he is sanctified. Notice in the following verse that the Believer has already been sanctified! (Hebrews 10:10)

**"BY THE WHICH WILL WE ARE SANCTIFIED THROUGH THE OFFERING BY THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST ONCE FOR ALL"**

After listing a sample of the sins that keep people from inheriting the Kingdom of God, I Corinthians 6:11 says:

**"AND SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU; BUT YE ARE WASHED, BUT YE ARE SANCTIFIED, BUT YE ARE JUSTIFIED IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS, AND BY THE SPIRIT OF OUR GOD."**

Believers are cleansed from their sins and have been *set apart unto God*. We are His! This is called:

**"Positional Sanctification":** *I stand "In Christ", Complete!*

Now, because the Believer belongs to God, God instructs the Believer to live a life of separation. We are to live a pure life because we are saved, not in order to get saved. This is called:

**"Practical Sanctification":** *The State or Condition of my Christian Walk.*

II Corinthians 6:17 says:

**"COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE SAITH THE LORD..."**

II Corinthians 7:1 continues:

**"HAVING THEREFORE THESE PROMISES, DEARLY BELOVED, LET US CLEANSE OURSELVES FROM ALL FILTHINESS OF THE FLESH AND SPIRIT, PERFECTING HOLINESS IN THE FEAR OF GOD."**

The Believer should never forget God saved him for His own glory and for His own purpose, and that we are saved unto good works. II Timothy 2:19,21 makes this clear:

**"NEVERTHELESS THE FOUNDATION OF GOD STANDETH SURE, HAVING THE SEAL, THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS. AND, LET EVERY ONE THAT NAMETH THE NAME OF CHRIST DEPART FROM INIQUITY."**

**"IF A MAN THEREFORE PURGE HIMSELF FROM THESE, HE SHALL BE A VESSEL UNTO HONOUR, SANCTIFIED, AND MEET FOR THE MASTER'S USE, AND PREPARED UNTO EVERY GOOD WORK."**

We as believers belong to God *NOW!* Therefore we ought to live for Him *TODAY* and every day the Lord gives us. Finally the time will come when the Lord shall give a shout and we shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. This will be our *final sanctification*. We will once and for all be *set apart* from this world, and:

**"SO SHALL WE EVER BE WITH THE LORD".**

- See I Thessalonians 4:13-18; and II Thessalonians 2:1-14.

### **PRACTICAL POINT:**

As a Believer, I am a "*Sanctified One*." This is why the Bible calls all Believers "*Saints*." A Saint is not someone who has done deeds worth remembering and therefore classified a "*Saint*" by a certain church.

The Bible declares all who have trusted in the blood of Christ to save them to be "*A Saint*." In fact, the Corinthians were the least likely people in the world to be called "*Saints*" that Paul ever wrote to. But just the same, he addressed them as saints - see I Corinthians 1:2. He could do this because--according to I Corinthians 6:11--Jesus Christ *sanctified* them.

Man loves to judge. Many think they can tell who is a Christian and who is not. But if they were to see people living like the Corinthians they would certainly say, "*They're not saved!*" Yet Paul knew better.

Don't get caught up in that, and don't judge *your* salvation on that basis either. Christians can get caught up into sin just like anyone else. The difference is that--as a Christian--we ought to know better. The answer for the people of Corinth was in the book of I Corinthians. They were to read it and obey it. That is the answer for other disobedient Christians as well.

God knows how to use His Word effectively in the life of a believer. The Word of God is the source of power for us today. II Timothy 3:16,17 says:

***"ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, AND CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS: THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE PERFECT, THOROUGHLY FURNISHED UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS."***

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*If you want to be a vessel of honour, fit for the Lord's use, and prepared unto every good work, you know what you need to do?*

**READ YOUR BIBLE!**

## **QUESTIONS CONCERNING SALVATION**

Now that we understand the meaning of these biblical terms, we ought to have a deeper understanding of "**Salvation**" So let's go back to the five questions asked at the beginning of this book and see how we can answer them confidently.

### **QUESTION #1**

#### **IS A PERSON SAVED THROUGH FAITH ALONE?**

We understand "**SAVED**" to mean *Saved from God's wrath against sin*. To be saved from the judgement of our sins, we need to be found **RIGHT** in God's sight. So "**JUSTIFICATION**" (*being declared righteous before God*) is our salvation.

Romans 3:28 concludes everything that Paul was teaching in the first three chapters of the Book of Romans and particularly in verses 21-27 of chapter three. The conclusion was:

**"THEREFORE WE CONCLUDE THAT A MAN IS JUSTIFIED BY FAITH WITHOUT THE DEEDS OF THE LAW."**

So the answer is **YES!** A person is saved through faith and faith alone. Remember, "*faith*" is in the saving blood of Christ - Romans 3:25. Since salvation is through faith and faith alone, God has excluded any human boasting according to Romans 3:27.

Before I leave this question, someone may be wondering about *Water Baptism*. Perhaps you remember Mark 16:16 which says, "**HE THAT BELIEVETH AND IS BAPTIZED SHALL BE SAVED,**" or Acts 2:38 which says, "**REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS...**" How can salvation be through faith and faith alone if these verses teach salvation and forgiveness through faith and water baptism?

It may help you to review the comments made under the section "**ANOTHER REASON FOR CONFUSION**" at the beginning of this study.. There we pointed out that there was a different gospel (*good news*) being proclaimed by Jesus Christ and his Twelve Apostles while He walked the earth. That gospel was called "**THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM**". Acceptance into the Earthly Kingdom promised to Israel required faith and water baptism. However Israel rejected the Kingdom, even after the resurrection of their King - The Lord Jesus Christ. When they did, God set Israel (as a nation) aside and postponed that promised Kingdom. This is what Romans 11:11,12,15, & 25 is about. Rather than God sending the prophesied judgement of the tribulation upon them, He set that *Kingdom program* aside and began a *NEW AGE* which was never prophesied to come. It is referred to as "**THE MYSTERY**" and is called "**THE AGE OF GRACE**" - see Ephesians 3:1-11 and Colossians 1:24-27.

The Apostle Paul was miraculously saved in Acts Chapter 9 to be God's chosen vessel to reveal this *new age of grace* which affects the Gentiles as well as the Jews. Before the Apostle Paul was saved and given the revelation of this new age, Gentiles could only be saved through the nation Israel, based upon Israel receiving her promised Kingdom. But today it is different. Paul does not preach the *good news of the Kingdom*, but the *good news of the Cross* - Galatians 6:14,15. Part of the new revelation given to Paul is the good news of *salvation for this age* - see Galatians 1:11,12; 2:1,2,9.

This new revelation given to Paul explains fully how the Cross saves sinners. Paul's explanation of *justification* began in Romans 3:21 with the words "**BUT NOW.**" Things are different today because of the new revelation given to Paul concerning this new age of grace. Today water baptism has nothing to do with our salvation. More is said in the following appendix of this booklet where the term "*Baptism*" is defined.

## QUESTION #2

### ARE WORKS PART OF SALVATION?

Since salvation is through faith and faith alone, then, "NO," works are not part of salvation at all.

The word "**GRACE**" takes care of this question. Grace is receiving something you don't deserve and cannot earn, and Ephesians 2:8,9 says *salvation is by grace*. Therefore you cannot do a work to deserve it, nor earn it. That is why Ephesians 2:8,9 says salvation is a "**GIFT**," and the means of receiving this gift is "**FAITH**" - believing in Jesus Christ as your Savior.

Romans 11:6 is a tough verse to read, but simple to understand. It basically says that salvation is either by *grace* or by *works*, but it cannot be by a mixture of both grace and works.

Read carefully Romans, and you will see that if a person chooses to work for salvation, he will not be saved. But if a person gives up thinking his works can save him and only trusts in Jesus Christ, god will save him.

As we've said, Romans 11:6 says that salvation cannot be a mixture of *grace* and *works*. It must be one or the other, and Ephesians 2:8,9 spells it out plainly for us:

***"FOR BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED THROUGH FAITH; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD: NOT OF WORKS LEST ANY MAN SHOULD BOAST."***

Yet many who believe that their works are a necessary part of their salvation quote James 2:20 "***FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD***," as a defense for their belief. I've often wondered how they rationalize this contradiction in their minds. they compare two passages of Scripture that seem to say the opposite of each other, as a way of proving a point. But it proves nothing. It's just a way of using Scripture to confuse people into thinking they have a point. However, God is not the author of confusion, nor does scripture contradict itself.

In James 1:1, we are told clearly to *whom* James is writing:

***"THE TWELVE TRIBES (OF ISRAEL) WHICH ARE SCATTERED ABROAD."***

James writes to the believing remnant of Israel who were scattered among the Gentiles because of the persecution going on in Jerusalem. James writes to them concerning the "***TRYING OF YOUR FAITH***" (1:3) and about being "***DOERS OF THE WORD AND NOT HEARERS ONLY***" (1:22). Part way through chapter two he reminds them about the judgement which Jesus Christ will render to them upon his return and rewards they will receive then for their faithful service.



For those who have not shown mercy, they will receive no mercy. Therefore at this judgement, a *Kingdom Saint* will need more than faith. His works are being tried. Reward will follow faithful service, so that faith alone is not enough to save him from "**JUDGEMENT WITHOUT MERCY**" (2:13) when being judged by the "**LAW OF LIBERTY**" (obedience to God's Word). The Lord Jesus Christ taught Israel this in His sermon on the mount in Matthew 5:7:

**"BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL: FOR THEY SHALL OBTAIN MERCY"**

Just as mercy is something you "*show*" to others, so is the "*faith*" that James is writing about. He challenges his readers to show their faith without works. This is impossible. The only way to show others your faith is by your works - says James 2:18. So when James writes and says, "**YE SEE THEN, HOW THAT BY WORKS A MAN IS JUSTIFIED, AND NOT BY FAITH ONLY**" (2:24), he is speaking of being justified (declared righteous) in another man's sight. The example given (2:21) from Abraham's life is an event that took place at least 30 years after God declared Abraham righteous by faith. The record of Abraham offering up his son Isaac to God demonstrates to man the faith which God saw in Abraham 30 years earlier (2:23). James also uses "**RAHAB THE HARLOT**" (2:25) as one who was "**JUSTIFIED BY WORKS**". Of course, he was not referring to the life of a harlot as an acceptable life style to God. She was an example of a Gentile who was *declared righteous* by Israel because of her works in helping the spies escape Jericho.

The point is that James is speaking about *justification in man's sight by works*. Whereas, in the matter of **salvation**, Paul is speaking of *justification in the sight of God*. Read carefully Romans 3:20;4:1,2 and Galatians 3:11; and notice how Paul clarified his statements by including the words: "**IN THE SIGHT OF GOD**"! "*Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart,*" says I Samuel 16:7. Therefore God justifies a man upon faith alone.

### QUESTION #3

#### CAN A PERSON KNOW FOR SURE HE IS SAVED?

Remember the meaning of "*faith*"? Faith is *taking God at His Word and leaving the consequences to rest upon His faithfulness*. Since God is faithful, He cannot lie, and He always does what He says. Therefore, on the authority of God's Word, I can know I'm saved and going to Heaven when I die.

Being saved by faith is believing what God said Jesus Christ has done for me. HE died on the cross for my sins and was raised from the dead for my justification. I believe that. Therefore, I am saved, forgiven, and justified.

I John 5:9-13 ought to be read with this question in mind because it says that by not believing God's Word we are calling him a liar. Furthermore, it says, by believing the record God gave of His Son, we can "KNOW" WE HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

#### QUESTION #4

##### WHAT IF A PERSON SINS AGAIN AFTER BEING SAVED?

There really is no question about it, you will sin again after being saved. I was saved at about age eight. Therefore, the majority of sins I've committed have been since I've been saved.

The very basic understanding of the gospel answers this question. The gospel is the good news that Jesus Christ died for my sins. Jesus Christ paid for all of my sins - past, present, and future. He left no sin unpaid. This is the very meaning of "**REDEMPTION**" - I'm free from hell because Jesus Christ paid the price for my salvation. "**PROPITIATION**" tells me that I am accepted in to the family of God because God the Father was satisfied with the payment Jesus Christ made for me on the cross. Therefore I can enjoy total and complete forgiveness from the moment I trusted in Jesus Christ as Savior. This is what the term "**REMISSION**" has taught us.

The Scriptures teach me that if (or when) I sin, I ought to recognize it to be contrary to what God would have me to do. Thank Him for the forgiveness in Christ. Correct the wrong, and go on living for the Lord.

#### QUESTION #5

##### CAN A PERSON LOSE HIS SALVATION?

**No!** If he could, then he only had "**PROBATION**" and not "**SALVATION**"

The very meaning of "**SALVATION**" is being *saved from the penalty of my sins* (which is death in hell) and instead, possessing eternal life.

**If I'm Saved From Hell,**

**Then I Will Never Be In Hell!**

**If I have Eternal Life,**

**Then I Will never Suffer The**

## **Second Death - The Lake Of Fire!**

The assurance of our salvation is not left up to reasoning, thank the Lord. God has promised us salvation upon faith in His Son and He keeps His promise all of the way. The guarantee is given in Ephesians 1:13,14 where it is not only written down for us but we have already been given a security deposit -

**"IN WHOM (CHRIST) YE ALSO TRUSTED, AFTER THAT YE HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH, THE GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION; IN WHOM ALSO AFTER THAT YE BELIEVED, WE WERE SEALED WITH HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE, WHICH IS THE EARNEST (DOWN PAYMENT) OF OUR INHERITANCE UNTIL THE REDEMPTION OF THE PURCHASED POSSESSION UNTO THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY."**

This security deposit lasts until Jesus Christ comes and takes possession of (us) His purchase. By the Holy Spirit, therefore, we are: (Ephesians 4:30)

**"...SEALED UNTO THE DAY OF REDEMPTION."**

After teaching the doctrine of our salvation in the first eight chapters of the Book of Romans, Paul asks four questions and gives four answers which guarantee that our salvation cannot be lost.

1) Romans 8:31 **"IF GOD BE FOR US, WHO CAN BE AGAINST US?"**

Paul argues that God has not held anything back from us. He has already given the dearest thing to Him--His Son--for our salvation. Therefore, if he has already given His Son for us, He is not going to lose us now!

2) Romans 8:33 **"WHO SHALL LAY ANYTHING TO THE CHARGE OF GOD'S ELECT?"**

Here Paul argues that if it is God who has declared the believer righteous, then no one can say otherwise!

3) Romans 8:34 - **"WHO IS HE THAT CONDEMNETH?"**

Now Paul argues that if Jesus Christ died to save us, and He is risen, making intercession for us, then no one is capable of lodging a complaint against us.

4) Romans 8:35 - **"WHO SHALL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST?"**

Finally Paul argues that nothing can separate us from Christ's love. Remember, death is separation from God. The very meaning of not being separated from Christ's love implies not being separated from Him! The reason given for the impossibility of being separated from Jesus Christ is because we are...

## **"MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM THAT LOVED US"**

In Roman 8:38 Paul says he has a settled conviction about *Eternal Security*. No *person*, (not an angel nor yourself) will get between Jesus Christ and His love for you. Not even *time* ("**THINGS PRESENT, NOR THINGS TO COME**") will change anything. That's security.

\* \* \* \* \*

Concerning verses that seem to teach a person can lose his salvation, let me say this. there are verses in Matthew, Mark, and Luke that indicate a person must "**ENDURE TO THE END**" to receive life. The book of Hebrews also warns against "**FALLING AWAY.**" Here again, "**RIGHTLY DIVIDING**" the Scriptures is a must.

The "*enduring to the end*" is a reference to the future tribulation that will come upon the earth as a means of judgement upon Israel for rejecting her Messiah. It is also a means whereby God will weed out and destroy the unbelievers from the earth to purify Israel and to set up the promised Kingdom on earth. We who live in this present age of grace will not even be on earth during this time because God has promised that we will "**OBTAIN SALVATION**" before this time begins - see I Thessalonians 5:9 and II Thessalonians 2:13, 14. So again, God has completely provided for our security.

Concerning the warning of "*falling away*" in the book of Hebrews, first know that the Book of Hebrews is written to the *Hebrews* – Israel. Secondly, the Book of Hebrews follows the Books of Romans through Philemon which are the revelation of the interruption in God's dealings with Israel. When the *age of grace* is over (and the Believers of this age are raptured into heaven) God will continue where He left off dealing with the nation of Israel. Therefore the Book of Hebrews is a warning to the Nation of Israel not to "*fall away*" from following Jesus Christ during the tribulation.

According to II Corinthians 6:2, *today* is not a day of God's wrath (the tribulation); but instead:

**"...NOW (TODAY) IS THE DAY OF SALVATION."**

Today God's grace is holding back His anger, allowing mankind a timely opportunity to be saved. Today is your opportunity to trust Jesus Christ--and His payment for sin--to be *your* salvation. Please don't call God a liar. Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior today!

# "BAPTISM"

**BAPTISM:** means *To Place Into, or On; For The Purpose Of Identification*

It is a surprise to many people, including Christians, to learn that the word "**BAPTISM**" does not mean to immerse into water! Of course there is a "*water baptism*" in the Bible, but the word "**BAPTISM**" does not mean to place into water. "*Water Baptism*" is only *one* (1) of *twelve* (12) different baptisms spoken of in the Scriptures. Years of tradition have taught most people to think of "*water*" every time they read the word "*baptism*" in their Bible. This has caused great confusion.

Just a simple examination of the usage of the term "**BAPTISM**" in the Bible will teach us **NOT** to think of *water* as part of the meaning of the word, but to substitute the meaning "**PLACE INTO**" or "**PLACE ON**." The context in each case will determine what it is that someone or something is being placed into.

We do not have the space to look into all twelve (12) different usages of the term, but we will look at five (5) of them. There are three (3) "**BAPTISMS**" found in just one verse, Matthew 3:11, which says:

**"I INDEED BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER UNTO REPENTANCE: BUT HE THAT COMETH AFTER ME IS MIGHTIER THAN I, WHOSE SHOES I AM NOT WORTH TO BEAR: HE SHALL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH FIRE."**

## BAPTISM #1

### "WATER BAPTISM"

*(John Baptized with water)*

John the Baptist placed people into water or, as some may prefer it said, John placed water on people. Either way John's Baptism was a "*water baptism*." Its purpose was to identify the believing remnant of Israel with their Messiah - Jesus Christ. (By the way, the reason Jesus Christ was *water baptized* was for the same reason, only in reverse.) According to John 1:31, Jesus Christ was identified to Israel, and Israel to Him, through *water baptism*. John the Baptist was the forerunner of Jesus Christ who announced to Israel His coming and prepared them to be received by their King through the cleansing of *water baptism*. This is why John announced that one greater--with a greater baptism--was coming.

## BAPTISM #2

### "BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT"

The greater person John was speaking of was the Lord Jesus Christ. According to the testimony of John, when Christ came He would have a *greater baptism*. John baptized with water, but Jesus Christ will *baptize with the Holy Spirit*. This was a reference to the Day of Pentecost which took place after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ back into heaven - see Acts 1:5-8 and Acts 2:1-5. From heaven, the Lord Jesus Christ "**Poured Out**" or placed His Spirit on that believing remnant of Israel, just as John promised and as was predicted in Joel 2:28-32.

## BAPTISM #3

### "BAPTISM WITH FIRE"

John not only introduced and identified the believing remnant of Israel to Jesus Christ, he also warned unrepenting and unbelieving Israel that Jesus Christ would have *two* (2) baptisms when he came. Believing Israel would be baptized with the Holy Spirit, which is the imparting of Life. Unbelieving Israel would be *baptized with fire*. This "*baptism of fire*" is the judgement of the fires of hell, according to Matthew 3:12. This will take place when Jesus Christ shall place unbelievers into the fires of hell. Thank the Lord, Jesus Christ has saved us who believe from that baptism!

Already in this one verse we have seen *three* (3) different types of **BAPTISM**; baptism with water, baptism with the Holy Spirit, and even baptism with fire. Notice *only one* involved water!

Let this be a lesson to you. Do not think of "*water*" every time you read the word "*baptism*." Let the Bible tell you what the baptism is into. Then be sure to believe what the Bible says and not what some men will say the Bible means.

## BAPTISM #4

### "BAPTISM INTO DEATH"

For the *fourth* (4th) baptism, see Mark 10:38,39,45. In this passage a baptism yet laid ahead for the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the future for James and John as well.

When our Lord spoke of a baptism that he was facing, he was speaking of his death on the Cross. He was placed on the cross for the purpose of having our sins placed on him. And, by identifying Himself with our sins, He paid for them in His death. Jesus Christ was *baptized into our death*. This is also spoken of in Luke 12:50 and again in I Peter 3:21. It is called:

**"THE BAPTISM THAT NOW SAVES"!**

In the case of James and John this baptism speaks of their martyr's death. Jesus Christ prophesied and history has recorded that both James and John were placed into death preaching the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. They died for the sake of others - so that others may hear the gospel and be saved. This is the baptism that Paul was speaking about in I Corinthians 15:29.

**BAPTISM #5**

**"BAPTISM INTO CHRIST"**

The fifth (5th) and final **BAPTISM** we shall look at is a baptism which is taught exclusively by the Apostle Paul in his epistles. It is the fact that the Apostle Paul mentions *water baptism* only one time in all of his epistles. This one time is found in I Corinthians 1:13-17. As water baptism continued into the New Gentile age, it brought confusion and division (just as it is doing in the churches today). Paul's solution was simple: **stop water baptizing!** But how could he decide to stop? Didn't Jesus Christ command him to baptize? **No!** After Paul thanked God and he didn't baptize more than he did, he states in verse 17:

**"FOR CHRIST SENT ME NOT TO BAPTIZE BUT TO PREACH THE GOSPEL: NOT WITH WISDOM OF WORDS, LEST THE CROSS OF CHRIST SHOULD BE MADE OF NONE EFFECT."**

Paul was the Apostle of a *new age of God's grace*. His message and ministry to the Gentiles was distinctly different from the message and ministry of the Twelve Apostles to Israel. Water baptism belonged to the message God had for the nation of Israel. However, there is a baptism taught by the Apostle that is for this age. Be careful to notice it is **not water baptism**. Paul writes in I Corinthians 12:13.

**"FOR BY ONE SPIRIT ARE ALL BAPTIZED INTO ONE BODY, WHETHER WE BE JEWS OR GENTILES, WHETHER WE BE BOND OR FREE; AND HAVE BEEN ALL MADE TO DRINK INTO ONE SPIRIT."**

The baptism that the Apostle Paul taught was a *baptism into Christ*. This baptism is the placing of the Believer (today) into the Body of Christ. It is important for you to realize that in I Corinthians 12:13 (just quoted), the baptizer is not a minister but God the Holy

Spirit. From this verse, we can also see that the Holy Spirit does not place the believer into water but into Christ! Here again, we need to remember to believe what the *Bible say*, and not what men say the Bible means.

This "***Baptism I into Christ***" is the baptism that identifies the Believer with the saving work of the Cross. Romans 6:3-5 teaches this baptism so clearly. The moment I trusted in Jesus Christ as my Savior, the Holy Spirit of God placed me into Christ's death (the cross where my sins were paid for) and into His burial (the payment is complete) and into Christ's resurrection (where I now have a new life in Christ). Since this "baptism" is the work of the Holy Spirit, some have properly termed this "*Spiritual Baptism*." Without a doubt it is this baptism that Paul teaches throughout his epistles as seen in Romans 6:3-5, I Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:27, Ephesians 4:5, and Colossians 2:10-13.

Our *baptism into Christ* is the basis for our forgiveness of sins. This is the real baptism that supersedes any ritual baptism previously taught. It is the reality of all that God has accomplished in my behalf through Jesus Christ!

To protect the truth of this baptism, God instructs us in Ephesians 4:1-6 to:

**"KEEP (GUARD) THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT..."**

We guard this unity by holding to, and defending His sevenfold unity:

**"THERE IS ONE BODY, AND ONE SPIRIT, EVEN AS YE ARE CALLED IN ONE HOPE OF YOUR CALLING; ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM, ONE GOD, AND FATHER OF ALL, WHO IS ABOVE ALL, AND THROUGH ALL, AND IN YOU ALL."**

According to this verse, there is only *one* (1) baptism today for the Believer which we are to hold and guard. This baptism is not water baptism. It is the ***BAPTISM BY THE SPIRIT INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST***. It is the work of the Holy Spirit Himself which has created a spiritual unity all of the Believers today, in Christ. Anyone who is still water baptizing is causing confusion and division by practicing a baptism which we have not been told to continue doing in the church epistles; and by believing in at least *two* baptisms for today, when the Scriptures tell us to keep the unity of the Spirit by holding to His *one* baptism.

Putting it all together, this is what we see. John the Baptist offered the nation of Israel forgiveness of their sins through *water baptism*. Those of the nation who received the *baptism with the Holy Kingdom* and will be raised to go into the Kingdom which was promised to them and was being proclaimed by Jesus Christ in His earthly ministry. But the *baptism of fire* did not come as John said it would. The judgement of the *baptism of fire* has been postponed along with the offer of the Kingdom promised to Israel. In the meantime, God has raised up the Apostle Paul with a message of grace which goes out today to both the rejecting Jew and to Gentiles concerning an equal opportunity they have been given (through Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection) to be saved, justified,



and forgiven. Upon believing this message, *God the Holy Spirit is baptizing these Believers into the Body of Christ.* And "**IN CHRIST**" we have life, and hope, and an inheritance.

Israel was offered life, and hope, and inheritance according to the promises of God in the Old Testament. But we who are saved today were never promised these things. Yet they have been given to us by **GRACE**.

## **PRACTICAL POINT:**

If I have been made part of the Body of Christ through the baptism by the Spirit at the moment I believed the gospel; and if it were yet possible that I could lose my salvation and end up in hell, then part of the Body of Christ would be in hell.

This is not possible. I am secure *in Christ* because God the Holy Spirit put me there. I did not put myself there. Therefore I cannot take myself out. And since it is the Holy Spirit who also seals me in Christ, I am His forever!

II Timothy 2:11-13 teaches exactly this:

**"IT IS A FAITHFUL SAYING: FOR IF WE BE DEAD WITH HIM, WE SHALL ALSO LIVE WITH HIM"**

This is the guarantee we have from the Scriptures based upon Believers *baptism by the Spirit into Christ's death, burial, resurrection.* The verses continue:

**"IF WE SUFFER, WE SHALL ALSO REIGN WITH HIM: IF WE DENY HIM, HE ALSO WILL DENY US:"**

This verse promises us a reward of reigning with Jesus Christ if we are faithful to suffer for Him now. The second half of the verse warns that if we choose not to faithfully suffer for Jesus Christ in this life, then He will deny us the reward of a reigning position with Him in heaven. It does not mean He will deny us heaven because the previous verse has already guaranteed that "**WE SHALL LIVE WITH HIM,**" and the following verse explains why:

**"IF WE BELIEVE NOT, YET HE ABIDETH FAITHFUL: HE CANNOT DENY HIMSELF."**

If in our lifetime we depart from the faith--become unfaithful--even to the point of denying that we believe in Jesus Christ, the verse says, "**YET HE (CHRIST) ABIDETH FAITHFUL.**" We may be unfaithful to Him, but He will remain faithful to us and keep His word by giving us eternal life anyway. The verse explains why He would do this:

**"HE CANNOT DENY HIMSELF."** The believer is part of the *Body of Christ* and therefore cannot end up in hell. Jesus Christ will not allow it.

Does this security in Jesus Christ teach that we can now go out and live in sin? No, actually the Scriptures teach the opposite. This security in Jesus Christ will teach us not to live in sin. If you will keep reading all of Romans chapters 6,7, and 8, you will find out our baptism into Jesus Christ has freed us from the power of sin, so that we are no longer a slave to sin. No longer must sin reign in our lives. When sin raises it's ugly head, and we give in to it's temptation, we are forgiven for Christ's sake. But at the same time, the power to put away sin, and to go on living for the Lord, comes through ***KNOWING*** you are set free in Christ Jesus. Do as Romans 6:11 instructs - ***RECKON YOURSELF DEAD TO SIN AND ALIVE UNTO GOD!***

If you learn anything at all from this book, let it be this: you are hopeless and helpless in yourself to be good enough or to do anything that could please God enough to give you eternal life. However, because of what Jesus Christ has done for you on the Cross, God in his grace is free to receive you when your faith rests in the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. By trusting only in the blood of Jesus Christ for your Salvation, God is free to give you eternal life, declaring you righteous because he see you "***IN CHRIST***." (Philippians 3:9)

***"AND BE FOUND IN HIM (CHRIST) NOT HAVING MINE OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS, WHICH IS OF THE LAW, BUT THAT WHICH IS THROUGH THE FAITH OF CHRIST, THE RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH IS OF GOD BY FAITH."***

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## Chapter Tests

### Lesson # 1

## RIGHTEOUSNESS

1. Define what the word righteousness means and write out the verse in which it was found.
2. What is God's standard of right?
3. Who alone possesses absolute holiness?

4. By what characteristics is God identified in Isaiah 6:3 and Isaiah 57:15?
5. What does Isaiah 64:6 reveal about man's righteousness as seen through the eyes of God?
6. What are the two basic doctrines taught in Romans chapter one verse 18 through chapter 3 verse 20?
7. The Holiness of God demands that unrighteousness be dealt with on a just basis. In Romans 1:18, what do we find is revealed from heaven against the unrighteousness of man?
8. In Romans 3:9-12, how many are righteous? How many are good? How many are without sin?
9. Romans 3:19 says the law was given "...that every mouth may be\_, and all the world may become before God."
10. What does Romans 3:19-20 reveal as the purpose of the law?
11. Can a person who fails to keep the law perfectly, be saved by the law? How many keep the law perfectly? How many keep the law perfectly? How many then will be saved by keeping the law?
12. What does a person who is an unrighteousness sinner need in order to be saved?
13. Romans 3:21-22 begins to reveal God's solution to man's sin and guilt problem by saying "But now the of God\_the law is manifested....."
14. Romans 3:21-22 identifies this righteousness of God as being offered to all men but applied to only "...them that\_....."

## Lesson # 2

# IMPUTATION

1. What does the word imputation mean?
2. Since man "COMES SHORT" and cannot make himself righteous; righteousness will have to be to him from God.
3. Romans 3:22 teaches us that the God given righteousness (absolute perfection) is available to sinful man because of who's faithfulness?

4. Whose faithfulness does God look to when offering his righteousness as a free gift to sinful man?

5. Read Galatians 2:16 in your King James Bible. By whose faith are we justified?

6. Read Galatians 2:20 (also in KJ version). By whose faith are we to live the Christian life?

7. In Romans 3:22 we find that this gift of God's righteousness is available for how many?

8. According to 1 Timothy 1:15 and 1 Timothy 2:4, how many did Christ die for?\_How many does God desire to save?

9. In "time past" (prior to the Dispensation of Grace) the provision of the cross was limited to who? See Isaiah 53:4-8, Matthew 20:28, Matthew 26:28.

10. Because of a change from to the Dispensation of the law to the Dispensation of Grace, the provision of the cross is now available to who? See 1 Timothy 2:5-7.

11. While God's righteousness is available to everyone, it is "imputed" (remember the definition) only to who?

12. We learned in lesson #1 that man is unrighteous and therefore is guilty before God. Man needs perfect righteousness in order to be saved. How, as learned in this lesson, does man get that righteousness?

This speaks of a application.

13. If you have believed the gospel, what has God imputed to your account?

14. Give an example from your own life that will illustrate what the term "Imputation" or "Impute" mean.

### Lesson # 3

## JUSTIFICATION

1. What does the term justification mean? Write out the verse in which our study word is found.

2. In ourselves are we righteous or unrighteous?

3. 2 Corinthians 5:21 states that "He (God the Father) hath made Him (God the Son) to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God.

4. How does Romans 3:28 answer the question found in Job 25:47?

5. The moment a person believes the gospel, what does God do?

6. Who is the source for our justification?

7. Who is the basis for our justification?

8. What is the means of our justification?

9. How do we appropriate, or take hold of, this justification?

10. What is the guarantee of our justification?

11. In the courtroom of God's Justice (where righteousness is the standard), since we are unrighteous, God must pronounce us GUILTY. However, when we simply believe in what Christ accomplished for us on the cross, what does God do?

12. What now will the verdict from God be?

13. Is this great news or not???

14. Is God for you or against you? (See Romans 8:31)

15. Once you have been Justified, is there any sin that you can commit that will condemn your soul to hell?

16. Have you been Justified?

#### **Lesson # 4**

## **GRACE**

1. What does the word grace mean?

2. How would you describe mercy?

3. What would be the difference between these two words?

4. If Grace is unmerited/unearned favor, can you earn it?

5. Is God's salvation earned or is it a Free gift? Give scripture to back up your answer.
6. Read Romans 11:6. What does this verse tell us about the compatibility of works and Grace?
7. What happens to Grace if a system of "works is attempted to be added to it?
8. If a sinner is Justified by Grace, what part, if any, do works play in his justification?
9. Read Ephesians 3:1-5. What does God call the particular Dispensation in which we live?
10. Read I Timothy 1:11-16. In verse 16, what is the reason Paul gives for his having obtained mercy from God?
11. Whose conversion/salvation is a pattern of salvation of salvation by Grace alone?
12. If God were to give us the wages we deserve for our works, what would He have to give us?
13. Once I have received God's free gift of eternal life and have a standing in God's grace, what is His attitude towards me if I sin? In other words, does He still deal with me on the basis of His Grace or does He now deal with me on the basis on my works?
14. Does salvation by grace alone mean that God doesn't care how I live my life after I'm saved?
15. What do we learn from Titus 2:11-12 that the Grace of God does in order to help us live godly lives?

## Lesson # 5

# REDEMPTION

1. Define the word Redemption and write out the verse in which this word is found?
2. What is the one great event that made it possible for God to Justify a sinner freely by His Grace?
3. Though all the blessings we have "in Christ" have been given to us freely, was there a price that had to be paid in order for those blessings to be available to us? If so, who paid the price and what was the price that was paid?

4. Each one of us was bound up in the slave market of sin. What did Christ have to come and do in order to free us from this slave market?
5. The law of redemption as found in Leviticus 25:25-27 identified three conditions that had to be met in order for one person to redeem another person. What are these three conditions?
6. Why is it that mankind cannot redeem himself?
7. In what ways did the Lord Jesus Christ satisfy these three requirements enabling Him to be the redeemer of mankind?
8. Which is of the greatest value to God, man's "works" or the work of Christ on the cross of Calvary?
9. What does the perfect work of Christ (His perfect obedience in life and death) show about your own works?
10. In addition to paying the price for my sins, He has freed me from the of my sin. Therefore, I can live my Christian life with a conscience, knowing that all of my sins have been completely dealt with by Christ on the cross.
11. Read Colossians 2:11-13. If you have been saved, how many of your sins have been forgiven?
12. How does this understanding of the redemption and total forgiveness affect you? In other words, does it lead you have a desire to go out and live any way you want to live or does it lead you too want to serve The Lord out of a heart of thankfulness and love?

## Lesson # 6

# PROPIATION

1. What does the word propitiation mean? Write out the verse in which our study word is found.
2. When we sin we offend which attribute of God?
  - a) His love
  - b) His patience
  - c) His justice

d) His longsuffering

3. Explain what justice is.

4. What penalty does the justice of God demand for sin?

5. The blood of Christ provided in behalf of mankind, and provided\_in behalf of God the Father.

6. Christ's blood shed at Calvary satisfied the demands of God's .

7. According to Hebrews 10:4, could the blood of bulls and goats take away sin?

8. According to Romans 3:25, what is it that satisfies the justice of God as the payment for our sin.

9. If Almighty God is satisfied with the blood of Christ as the payment for our sin, what should our attitude toward the blood of Christ be?

10. According to Romans 3:25, where should we as sinners place our faith in order to be justified?

11. Since the justice of God is completely satisfied with the blood of Christ as the complete and total payment for my sin, is there any sin that I can commit after I am saved that will send me to Hell?

12. What does this teach you about your security "in Christ"?

## Lesson # 7

# FAITH

1. What is Faith? Write out a verse in which our study word is found.

2. Is Faith a work? How does Romans 4:5 support your answer?

3. Upon whom is the righteousness imputed? (Rom. 3:22)

4. Romans 3:24 says that we are "...justified\_by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus".

5. If something is given to you freely, do you have to work for it?



6. Why can God justify us freely? In other words, how has the price for our sin been paid?
7. What does God ask us to place our faith in for the remission of our sins? (Rom. 3:25)
8. Romans 3:27 says that because we are justified BY FAITH, boasting is excluded? Would this be true if any work on our part gained our justification?
9. What does God say is the only thing we should boast (glory) in? (Galatians 6:14)
10. What are the three elements that faith incorporates?
11. Why is the KNOWLEDGE important in order to have faith?
12. In order to have faith one must accept the fact as truth. This is called . (Which element of faith)
13. Why can we live in FULL ASSURANCE that we have been justified, redeemed, and reconciled to God?
14. God has promised eternal life as a free gift based on the work of the Lord Jesus Christ at Calvary. How do you receive this free gift?

## Lesson # 8

# REMISSION

1. What does the word remission mean? Write out the verse in which our study word is found.
2. Prior to the cross work of Christ, what type of forgiveness were men offered?
3. After the cross, through the ministry of the Apostle Paul, what type of forgiveness are men offered?
4. In Old Testament times, what were men told to do in order to have their sins forgiven? Was this forgiveness temporary or was it permanent and complete?
5. Read Leviticus 1:1-4. What were these people (the nation of Israel) told to do in order to make atonement for their sins?
6. Did God truly accept this on their behalf? (see Lev. 1:4)
7. Why did they have to keep bringing sacrifices each time they sinned?

8. Read Leviticus chapter 16. Explain how the two goats, brought by the High Priest on the Day of Atonement, pictured the forgiveness.
9. This whole ceremony was a type of what?
10. Under the ministry of John the Baptist and the twelve Apostles, remission of the sins was offered through and\_. See Matthew 3:1-6, Mark 1:4, Acts 2:38
11. During the dispensation of Grace (the age in which we now live) forgiveness of sins is offered on the base of what?
12. What part, if any, do animal sacrifices play in the forgiveness of sins today?
13. Could the blood of bulls and goats ever take away sins?
14. Read Ephesians 1:7, Ephesians 4:32 and Colossians 2:13. Based upon these verses, if you are saved do you need to ask God to forgive you of your sins or has He already forgiven you of all of your sins?
15. Do you really believe that all of your sins have been totally, completely, and forever forgiven by God?
16. If your sins have really been forgiven totally and completely by God, should you carry around any guilty feelings for your sins?

## Lesson # 9

# FORBEARANCE

1. What is forbearance? Write out the verse in which our study word is found.
2. What does the word remission in Rom. 3:25 refer to?
3. What two truths does the Propitiation (fully satisfying sacrifice) of Christ declare?
4. What does the phrase "*sins that are past*" in Rom. 3:25 refer to?
5. God forgave the sins of men who lived prior to the cross on the basis of His forbearance.

TRUE or FALSE?

6. Though the Old Testament saints were told to offer the blood of bulls and goats for their sins, what is the BASIS on which they were to be declared righteousness?

7. Explain what is meant by the forbearance of God as it relates to dealing with the sins of men who lived prior to the cross.
8. What does the phrase "*at this time*" in Rom. 3:26 refer to?
9. Is there any more need for animal sacrifices when dealing with sin today? Briefly explain.
10. What is the conclusion that the Apostle Paul arrives at in Romans 3:27-28.
11. Since salvation is by God's grace and not by our works, what happens to any attempt of man to boast in his works?
12. Is God just or unjust in saving sinners by His Grace?
13. Write out the verse from Romans 3 that will help support your answer to question # 12.
14. If a friend or relative or a religious denomination tells you that salvation is by faith PLUS works, are they right or wrong? Write out the scripture that will prove your answer.

## Lesson # 10

# RECONCILIATION

1. Define the term reconciliation and write out the verse in which the word reconciled is found.
2. As a result of man's rebellion against God, he (man) has become an of God.
3. Who is to be blamed for the breakdown in the relationship between God and man, God or man?
4. Who then needs to be reconciled?
5. Who is the only mediator that is capable of reconciling man to God?
6. According to Rom. 5:10 what is the means by which we have been reconciled to God?
7. What happened to the Gentile nations who lived during the time recorded in Genesis chapters 1 to 11

8. After the Gentile nations were "cut off" what was the one Nation that God was dealing with?
9. From Genesis chapter 12 all the way over to the middle of the book of Acts the Nation of Israel was God's chosen people. According to Ephesians 2:11-12, what was the status of the Gentiles during that time period?
10. The nation of Israel refused to respond in faith to the ministry of John the Baptist, the Lord Jesus Christ (Matt.-John), and that of the twelve Apostles (the early Acts period). What does Rom. 11:11 say happened to them as a result of their disobedience.
11. Read Rom. 11:28. Concerning the present day preaching of the Gospel, how does God view the nation of Israel today?
12. Since the time of Genesis chapter 11 the Gentile nations were alienated and considered to be enemies of God. During the time period recorded by the book of Acts, God concluded the Nation of Israel also in unbelief and alienated from Himself. What does Romans 11:32 tell us as the **reason** for God concluding His chosen people in unbelief?
13. What was the means that reconciled both Jew and Gentile unto God?
14. According to II Corinthians 5:18, what is the ministry called that has been committed to our trust.
15. According to the message of the ministry, is God holding man's sins against him today?
16. According to II Corinthians 5:20. "We are for Christ" and the message that we carry to the unsaved world around us is "\_"
17. Who became sin for us (II Corinthians 5:21)?
18. According to II Corinthians 5:21, why did this happen?
19. Have you responded in faith to God's plea for you to be reconciled?

## Lesson # 11

# SANCTIFICATION

1. Define the word Sanctification and write out the verse in which our study word is found.

2. Sanctification is a term that designates .
3. In the process of sanctification (transfer of ownership) there is a that occurs.
4. What are some of the things that the Bible speaks of as being sanctified?
5. What is the means by which the believer is sanctified?
6. In this lesson we learned of the three types of sanctification that refer to the believer. What are the three types of Sanctification?
7. Briefly explain these three types of sanctification.
8. According to I Corinthians 6:19-20 who does the believer belong to and who should we serve?
9. Why does the Apostle Paul refer to saved people as "saints"?
10. How does a sinner become a saint?
11. According to the Bible, which statement is true?
  - (A) People need to live good, holy, self sacrificing lives in order to become saints.
  - (B) People who trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour are saints and therefore should live  
holy lives
  - (C) In order to be a saint a person has to have lived a holy life and then to have been declared a saint by some religious denomination.
12. What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 tell us about the importance of the written Word of God for us as believers?

## **Lesson # 12**

# **QUESTIONS CONCERNING SALVATION**

1. Is a person saved through faith alone? Please explain.
2. Are works part of salvation? Please explain.
3. Can a person know for sure he/she is saved? Please explain.

4. What if a person sins again after being saved? Please explain.
  5. Can a person lose his/her salvation?
  6. Concerning the issue of baptism, when a person trusts in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, which baptism is it that places him/her into the body of Christ?
  7. What is the "one baptism" that the Apostle Paul speaks of in Ephesians 4:5?
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