

I DON'T WANT TO DIE LOST AND GO TO HELL

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

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Written by Pastor Keith Joel Walker

Introduction

In a world filled with various beliefs and interpretations of spiritual truths, the quest for salvation remains paramount for many. The Bible provides a clear and definitive plan for salvation, emphasizing the necessity of repentance, baptism in Jesus' name, and the receiving of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. This booklet aims to outline the biblical basis for these beliefs, focusing on the urgency of obeying the Gospel to avoid eternal separation from God.

Understanding Hell and the Second Death

The Bible teaches about hell as a place of eternal punishment, reserved for the devil, his angels, and those who reject God. Revelation 20:14-15 describes the second death, which is the lake of fire, signifying the ultimate judgment for those who are not saved. This serves as a sobering reminder of the consequences of sin and the importance of seeking salvation.

Scriptures on Hellfire in the New Testament

1. Matthew 5:22: "But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."

2. Matthew 10:28: "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

3. Matthew 13:41-42: "The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

4. Matthew 25:41: "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

5. Mark 9:43-48: "And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."

6. Luke 16:23-24: In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, it describes the rich man in hell: "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame."

The Rich Man in Hell: What He Sees and Feels

In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), the rich man experiences several things in hell:

- Torment: He is in agony and suffering (Luke 16:23).
- Thirst: He feels an intense thirst and asks for a drop of water to cool his tongue (Luke 16:24).
- Sees Abraham: He sees Abraham and Lazarus afar off, indicating a sense of awareness and recognition (Luke 16:23).
- Despair: He pleads for mercy and expresses regret for his previous life choices (Luke 16:24-25).
- Isolation: He is aware of a great chasm fixed between him and those in paradise, indicating a sense of separation from God and comfort (Luke 16:26).
- Desperation: He asks Abraham to send Lazarus to warn his brothers, showing his concern for their fate (Luke 16:27-28).

This parable illustrates the severe consequences of rejecting God's ways and the reality of eternal torment in hell.

The Biblical Plan of Salvation Acts 2:38

The foundation of salvation is clearly laid out in Scripture. Key verses include:

1. Acts 2:37-38: "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

2. John 3:3-8: Jesus emphasizes the necessity of being born again of water and Spirit to enter the kingdom of God.

• John 3:3: "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

• John 3:5: "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

• John 3:6: "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

• John 3:7: "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

• John 3:8: "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every

one that is born of the Spirit."

3. Mark 16:16: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

4. Romans 10:9-13: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

5. Acts 4:12: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

6. Titus 3:5: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."

7. Ephesians 2:8-9: "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."

8. 1 Peter 1:18-23: "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver

and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

9. Acts 10:44-48: "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ Acts 10.48 NIV Revised Standard Version . Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."

10. Acts 19:1-6: "And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied."

11. 1 Corinthians 6:20: "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

12. Galatians 3:26-27: "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

13. John 1:12-13: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

14. Romans 6:3-4: "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his

death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

15. 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

16. Hebrews 10:22: "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

> The Importance of Repentance Acts 2:38 — Luke 24:47-48

Repentance is the first step towards salvation. It involves a sincere turning away from sin and a commitment to follow Christ. Acts 3:19 states, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." This transformation is crucial for receiving God's grace and forgiveness.

Baptism in Jesus' Name

Baptism is not merely an outward act but a vital part of the salvation experience. Acts 4:12 declares, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Baptizing in the name of Jesus Christ is essential for the remission of sins, as emphasized in Acts 2:38.

Throughout the New Testament, every recorded baptism was performed in the name of Jesus. Acts 2:41 states that those who gladly received the word were baptized, emphasizing the joy and acceptance of this practice. There is no record of any apostle or believer being baptized using a trinitarian formula. Historical accounts indicate that the early church consistently baptized in Jesus' name until changes were made in later centuries.

Matthew 28:19, often cited for baptism, emphasizes the singular "name" of the Father is Jesus, Jesus is the son, and Jesus is the Holy Ghost, which, according to the revelation of Scripture, is the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 2:36, Acts 2:21, John 5:43, John 1:12-13.) The early church understood and practiced baptism in this name, as affirmed by historical admissions regarding the practices of the first church.

Receiving the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues (Acts 2:3-4, Mark 16:16-17, Acts 2:17-18, Acts 10:6-48, Acts 11:14-17, Acts 19:1-6, Ephesians 1). The promise of the Holy Ghost is for all believers. Acts 2:39 states, "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Receiving the Holy Ghost is evidenced by speaking in tongues, as demonstrated in Acts 2:4 and further emphasized in Isaiah 28:10-13 and 1 Corinthians 14:21. The apostles and early believers were not added to the body of Christ until they received the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues in 1 Cor. 12:13 and water baptism in Jesus Name for remission of sins as stated in Acts 2:38, which confirms the necessity of this experience for salvation.

The Oneness of God

The understanding of God's nature is fundamental. The doctrine of the Oneness of God asserts that there is one God who manifests Himself in the flesh. Jesus is the Father, Jesus is the Son Son, and Jesus is the Holy Ghost and he is the only one true God And his Name is Jesus. Scriptures such as Deuteronomy 6:4 and Colossians 2:9 affirm this truth. Jesus is not a separate entity but the fullness of the Godhead in bodily form. This understanding is critical for recognizing the authority and power in the name of Jesus.

Conclusion: The Urgency of Salvation

The message of salvation is clear and urgent. Acts 2:21 proclaims, "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." It is imperative to respond to this call without delay. The time to act is now; do not wait until it is too late.

Call to Action

If you desire to be saved and avoid eternal separation from God, take these steps:

1. Repent of your sins and turn to God.

2. Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins.

3. Seek the infilling of the Holy Ghost, evidenced by speaking in tongues.

Remember, salvation is not found in religious titles or affiliations but in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). Choose today to follow His path and secure your eternal destiny. Do not risk dying lost; embrace the truth of the Gospel and the biblical plan of salvation.