

THE PATH *to* SALVATION

A Biblical Perspective

ACTS 2:38



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Introduction

In a world filled with confusion about salvation, the Bible provides a clear and concise path for those seeking to be saved. This booklet outlines the essential steps to salvation as revealed in Scripture, emphasizing the importance of repentance, baptism in Jesus' Name for the remission of sins, and receiving the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

Restoring the Apostles' Doctrine: The True Bible Plan of Salvation

In the quest for spiritual truth, the Apostles' Doctrine stands as a foundational pillar for understanding salvation. Central to this doctrine is Acts 2:38, where the Apostle Peter outlines the essential steps for receiving salvation. This teaching is not just a historical account; it is a living guide for all believers seeking a relationship with Jesus Christ. In this booklet, we will explore the significance of Acts 2:38 and the steps it outlines for entering into the fullness of salvation.

The Apostolic Foundation

The Importance of Doctrine

Doctrine refers to the set of beliefs held and taught by a religious group. In the early church, the Apostles' Doctrine was the teaching that Jesus imparted to His disciples, which they faithfully passed on to the early Christians. This doctrine emphasized the importance of repentance, baptism, and receiving the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38: The Key Verse

Acts 2:38 states: "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."

This verse encapsulates the essential steps to salvation and serves as a blueprint for all who desire to follow Christ.

The Steps to Salvation

1. Repentance

Repentance is the first step in the process of salvation. It involves a heartfelt turning away from sin and a sincere acknowledgment of wrongdoing. In Luke 13:3, Jesus emphasizes the necessity of repentance: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Repentance is not merely feeling sorry for one's sins; it is a transformative decision to change one's life direction. It signifies a commitment to turn towards God and away from sinful behaviors.

2. Baptism in Jesus' Name

The second step is baptism, which is a crucial aspect of the salvation experience. Acts 2:38 specifies that we must be baptized "in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins."

Baptism is more than a symbolic act; it is an essential step in the process of being saved. It signifies the believer's identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Romans 6:4 states: "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."

Baptism in Jesus' name invokes the authority and power of Jesus, which is essential for the remission of sins. The early church consistently practiced baptism in the name of Jesus, as seen throughout the Book of Acts.

3. Receiving the Gift of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues

The final step outlined in Acts 2:38 is the promise of receiving the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues and water baptism in Jesus name for the remission of sins is essential to Bible Salvation . This is not just an optional experience but a vital part of the believer's new life in Christ. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to live according to God's will and equips them for service.

In John 3:5, Jesus states: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Receiving the Holy Ghost is often accompanied by the evidence of speaking in tongues, as demonstrated in Acts 2:4, where the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The Urgency of the Message

The Call to Action

The message of salvation is urgent. Acts 2:40 states: "And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation."

This call to action is as relevant today as it was in the

early church. The world is filled with distractions and false teachings, but the true path to salvation remains unchanged.

The Consequences of Ignoring the Message

Ignoring the Apostles' Doctrine and the plan of salvation can lead to eternal consequences. The reality of hell and separation from God is a sobering truth that should motivate individuals to seek the true path of salvation.

Conclusion

Restoring the Apostles' Doctrine is essential for understanding the true Bible plan of salvation. Acts 2:38 provides a clear and concise outline for repentance, baptism in Jesus' name, and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost.

As you reflect on these truths, consider your own relationship with God. Have you repented of your sins? Have you been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ? Have you received the Holy Ghost?

The path to salvation is available to all who seek it. Embrace the fullness of the Apostles' Doctrine, and secure your place in the kingdom of God. Remember, the decision is yours, and eternity is too long to be

wrong.

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- The urgency of responding to the call of Jesus
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Understanding Salvation

The Necessity of Repentance and Confession

To be saved, one must first experience a genuine death to self and sin. This requires true repentance—an acknowledgment of sins and a heartfelt confession

of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. As stated in Romans 10:8-9 and Acts 16:31-32, we are called to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation.

As stated in Acts 2:38, we are called to repent and be baptized in Jesus' name for the remission of sins and to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues. This is the whole Bible plan of salvation.

The Role of Baptism

Baptism is not merely a symbolic act; it is a vital experience of being "born of the water." In Romans 6:4, we are reminded that through baptism, we are buried with Christ, signifying our identification with His death and resurrection. Water baptism is not just a ritual; it is the experience of being born of the water in baptismal regeneration in Jesus' Name.

The act of being baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ is essential for the remission of sins, as it invokes the saving name of Jesus. Those who were sprinkled or baptized using titles such as "Father," "Son," and "Holy Ghost" did not interpret the Scriptures clearly. These terms are not names; they are titles. The name of the Father is Jesus, the name of the Son is Jesus, and the name of the Holy Ghost is Jesus.

The first baptismal service in the New Testament Church demonstrates this clearly. All the apostles and the 3,000 who were baptized on the Day of Pentecost were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. This same pattern is echoed throughout the New Testament.

The Significance of Receiving the Holy Ghost

Upon obedience to the Gospel, believers are promised the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38 assures us that this gift will follow our baptism, and believers can expect to receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues (Acts 2:4). This baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, with the evidence of speaking in tongues, is being born of the Spirit (John 3:3-5, 7-8; John 1:12-13). It is a transformative experience that empowers believers to be saved and provides power for service to be a witness and live a life in accordance with God's will.

Biblical Foundations

The Scriptures provide a solid foundation for understanding the steps to salvation:

- Acts 2:37-39: “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.”

- John 3:3-8: Jesus emphasizes the necessity of being “born again” of water and the Spirit.
- Mark 16:16-17: “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
- Luke 24:47-48: The message of repentance and remission of sins must be preached in Jesus’ name.
- Romans 6:1-23: Paul discusses the significance of baptism in relation to the believer’s new life in Christ.
- Acts 19:1-6: The importance of proper baptism is illustrated through the experience of the Ephesian disciples.
- Acts 10:43-48: Peter’s preaching leads to the Gentiles receiving the Holy Ghost.
- Acts 11:14-17: Peter recounts how God gave the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues to the Gentiles.
- Acts 22:16: “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”
- Galatians 2:20: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.”
- Galatians 3:13-14, 26: We are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.
- Galatians 4:4-7: Believers are adopted as sons and

daughters.

- John 1:12-13: Those who believe in His name are given the right to become children of God.
- 1 Corinthians 6:10-19: The body is the temple of the Holy Ghost.
- 1 Corinthians 3:17: “If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy.”
- Titus 3:5: “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us.”
- Romans 8:9-17, 26-27: The Spirit bears witness with our spirit.
- Ephesians 1:13-24: The Holy Spirit is the seal of our salvation.
- Ephesians 2:8-9: Salvation is a gift of grace through faith.
- 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.”
- Revelation 20:14-15: “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”
- Matthew 7:13-14: “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

Scriptures on Hell, Lake of Fire,

and Final Judgment

1. Luke 16:19-31: The story of the rich man and Lazarus illustrates the reality of hell and the consequences of one's choices in life.

- Luke 16:23: "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom."

2. Matthew 25:41: Jesus speaks of the eternal punishment prepared for the devil and his angels.

- "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."

3. Revelation 21:8: A list of those who will face the second death in the lake of fire.

- "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

4. Matthew 10:28: Jesus warns about the fear of God who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

- "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."

5. Mark 9:43-44: Jesus speaks of the seriousness of sin and the consequences of hell.

- “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. 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9: The punishment of those who do not obey the gospel.

- “In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.”

7. Revelation 20:10: The fate of the devil.

- “And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

8. Revelation 20:11-15: The final judgment before the great white throne.

- “And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was

opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”

The Steps to Salvation

Death to Self and Sin

Repentance is the first step toward salvation. It involves turning away from sin and acknowledging our need for a Savior. This is a heartfelt decision to die to self and sin, as emphasized in Galatians 2:20.

Burial through Water Baptism in Jesus’ Name for Remission of Sins

Baptism in the name of Jesus Christ is essential for the remission of sins. It is not just a ritual; it is a transformative experience. As stated in Romans 6:4, we are buried with Him through baptism. This act symbolizes our identification with Christ’s death and resurrection, and it is crucial for being born of the water, as outlined in John 3:5.

Resurrection through the Holy Ghost with the Evidence of Speaking in Tongues

Receiving the Holy Ghost is the promise of new life. As believers, we can expect to receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in

tongues (Acts 2:4). This experience is not merely an option but a vital part of being born of the Spirit, as stated in John 3:6-8.

The Importance of Obedience

Faith without works is dead (James 2:26). Our faith must be accompanied by action—repentance, baptism in Jesus' Name in water, and receiving the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. As believers, we are called to obey the Gospel and trust in the saving name of Jesus.

The act of faith involves not just belief but also the tangible steps of repentance and baptism, as emphasized in Romans 6:1-4. We must understand that saying a so-called “sinner’s prayer” or merely lifting a hand does not equate to true salvation. The Bible is clear on the work of the Holy Ghost to convict us of our sins and draw us to repentance.

Conclusion

Today is the day of salvation. Jesus is calling you to repent of your sins and obey Acts 2:38. Be water baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins, and you will receive the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Remember, there is no other name under heaven by which we can be

saved (Acts 4:12).

The baptism in the titles of “Father, Son, and Holy Ghost” has no power, authority, or blood to save; these are titles. The name of the Father is Jesus, the name of the Son is Jesus, and the name of the Holy Ghost is Jesus. If you were sprinkled or baptized in titles, you need to be rebaptized in Jesus’ name to be saved.

Eternity is too long to be wrong. Those who die without true Bible salvation, or who adhere to a denominational false plan of salvation based on easy believism, will face eternal consequences. If you are not born again of the water and Spirit, you are not in the kingdom of God (John 3:3-8).

The reality of hell is real, and the second death, the lake of fire, awaits those who do not follow the biblical plan of salvation. How long is eternity? It is forever. Choose to follow the path laid out in Scripture, and secure your place in the kingdom of God.

Where will you spend eternity? The decision is yours.