

NEW CHRISTIAN BASICS – Part Two: SALVATION

You don't get cleaned up to come to Jesus. You just come and He will clean you up.

When Adam and Eve sinned against God by their own free will, this earth was then turned over to satan.

2 Cor. 4:4 - In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

When we come to Jesus and give Him our lives, we will be protected and blessed by Him to serve His purpose for our lives. Even though we live in a fallen and wicked world with satan as it's god, satan is not the god of Christians.

You have heard it said, there is a heaven to gain and a hell to shun. This is true. We will all live eternally, the spirit never dies. If we choose Jesus and believe in Him and live for Him by giving our lives to Him, then we will live eternally in heaven in peace and happiness and blessing all the days of our lives when we die. But if we don't come to Him and believe, which is not just in our minds, but in our hearts, then we will go to hell and then eventually be thrown into the lake of fire and be punished for all of eternity.

God doesn't want you to choose hell and be tortured and punished but it is your choice.

2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish (go to hell), but that all should come to repentance.

Jesus and John the Baptist preached repentance. That is more than confessing your sins and asking forgiveness. To repent means you stop the sin, you stop what you are doing that displeases God and you go in a different direction, you go in God's direction. You seek Him and ask Him to direct your paths.

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.

This is a picture of being saved and then water baptized. Water is also used to represent the Holy Spirit and God's Word.

Eph.5:26-27 - That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, That he might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

John 4:14 - But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

Not only for yourself, but to others as you grow and witness to them and share what you know, plant seeds and work in God's harvest.

Matt.10:42 – And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

We should have a heart to give and help others, such as clean water to those in third world countries and even in our own country. But as well as a natural cup of water, we should give spiritual water too. That comes through reading and studying God's Word and drawing closer to Him.

HOW TO BE SAVED

Acts 16:30-34 – (The jailer when Paul and Silas were in prison) And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house (if those in your house believe – they will be saved too). And they spake unto him the Word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his (household), straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

Romans 10:9-11 – 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.

v. 13 – For whosoever (anyone) shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

This is true, even for the person on their deathbed. If you never lived for Jesus but you called out to Him with a sincere heart on your deathbed, then yes, you would be saved. However, if you go on living after you get saved then you are expected to obey. Many fight against obedience. They say all you have to do is call on the name of the Lord and be saved. They don't have a heart for God, they don't have His Spirit in them. When you hear talk like this you can easily discern their rebellious spirit and to God rebelliousness is sin just like witchcraft. In the old testament witches were put to death, that's how serious God is about rebelliousness.

John 14:15 - If ye love Me, keep My commandments. (OBEY)

Matt.22:37 - Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

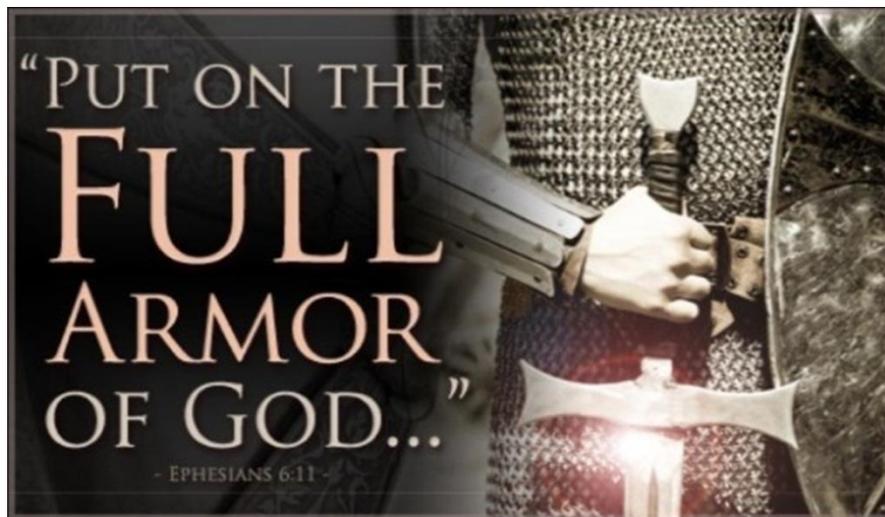
John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

If you ever doubt that God loves you. Remember this scripture. Jesus died for you, that's how much He loves you. This is not a light thing or a flippant thing to say. Usually all Christians go through wondering if God loves them. Think about Jesus on that cross and know He loves you that much!

After you have believed in Jesus in your heart, believed that He died for you so that you could be forgiven of your sins, but that He rose from the dead and that He lives. Confess you are a sinner and ask forgiveness for your sins and ask Jesus to be the Lord of your life. Ask Him to help you to live for Him and serve Him all the days of your life. All of this is what is considered the prayer of salvation. After praying that prayer, you should begin to see a change in your life. People in your life should notice a change in you. You will receive an impartation of the Holy Spirit upon salvation. He will begin to help you to change your ways and your thinking.

Romans 12:2 - And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

You renew your mind by reading God's Word and learning His will. His will is written down for us. He speaks to us by His Word. You are developing your relationship with Him and getting to know Him when you read His Word and when you pray. Every time you read God's Word pray for discernment, for Him to give you eyes to see and ears to hear. Ask Him to open your understanding.



As a new Christian, you are now in the fight for your life, for your soul. You are fighting a spiritual battle, there are only two masters. The Lord God Almighty or

satan. This is about who you will serve and where you will spend eternity. As you grow in Christ, He will teach you more and more how to fight and recognize the enemy.

James 4:7 - Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

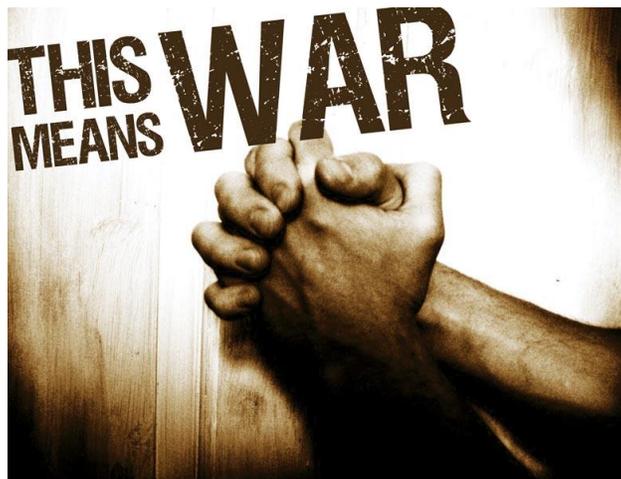
John 16:33 - These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Matt.10:34 - Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes *shall be* they of his own household.

Matt.10:37 - He that loveth father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

2 Tim.2:3 - Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

Eph. 6:11 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. I did a two part teaching called "Armor of God."



Prayer is a powerful weapon, it enlists God's help and shows your faith and trust in Him and builds your relationship with Him.



Reading His Word is another weapon, you equip yourself by reading His Word, getting it down on the inside of you so that it can come out and minister to others and the Holy Spirit can bring it to your remembrance at the right time when needed. You will need His Word to fight just like Jesus fought the devil in the wilderness with God's Word. When you read with your family, whatever your family unit consist of, that is even more powerful.



Worship God. There are many ways we worship Him but one of the most powerful and humble ways is to kneel upon our knees and reverence Him.



Sing to Him, let Him know how good and wonderful and awesome He is!!!

As soon as you get saved, the devil is mad because you have switched sides. He will be out to discourage you, make you think it isn't worth it, no fun, etc. He will try to bring disasters and problems and trials on you. Keep standing and growing and believing in Jesus Christ no matter what satan pulls. You didn't notice these things as much when you served satan because you were his and he was probably blessing your life to keep you away from God and keep you deceived believing you were being blessed by God by being a good person. But that was all a lie.

CLOSING

Don't worry about not knowing everything all at once. Just lean on Jesus and continue to ask God to teach you and to strengthen you.

1 Peter 2:2 - As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious. (because you have tasted of the Lord's goodness)

PRAYER