

## **Few Subjects explaining How to become a Christian:**

### **Birth, Death & Happiness**

“Behold for I [the archangel Gabriel] bring to you good news of great happiness which is available to all people. Today in the city of David, a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord, and this is the sign for your benefit: you will discover a child wrapped in death-clothes and lying in a manger.” (Luke 2:10b-12)

Great happiness is available to all people of every background and nationality. God’s desire is for the peoples of the world to have this great happiness in living, even in dying and for the everlasting future. This happiness came out of Bethlehem, the city of David, for in that city a Savior was born, the humanity of Jesus. At the instant of his birth, the Lord, that is the Son of God united with the humanity of Jesus. From this union we get the name Lord Jesus Christ. Lord means God which explains why the Jewish people called him Emmanuel which means in the Hebrew “God with us.” Jesus means savior and is a reference to His humanity; he bore the penalty of our sins on his human body on the cross; Christ, a Greek word means the anointed one, the Hebrew, Messiah a reference to His future as the God-Man.

The birth of Jesus and his death on the cross combine to bring you the greatest present one could ever receive namely happiness with God for all eternity. If you would like to receive this eternal present, it is as simple as expressing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Father, I am believing in Jesus Christ as my Savior. The Father will honor that decision and make you a child of God forever.

“For God loved the world so much so that he gave his uniquely born son with the result that whoever believes in him will not perish [into eternal judgment] but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

## **It is Free!**

Do you know that the greatest possession in life is free? You can be guaranteed a free trip to heaven, to live with God forever after you depart from this earth. It doesn't require gold, silver or any other valuable possession. You might ask, "Well, what do I have to do?" The answer is nothing. For example, you don't need to do a lot of good or attend a Christian Church. Also, you don't need to stop doing anything! For example, you don't need to stop going to a Buddhist temple or any other temple as a prerequisite for the free gift of salvation; you don't need to stop drinking etc. A gift is a gift, and a gift is free.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith and this [salvation] is not from yourselves; it is a gift from God, not from works lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8b, 9).

It is free for all members of the human race since Christ paid the price for you. 1 Peter 2:24a states, "And he [Jesus Christ] himself carried our sins on his body [on the cross]." Then, how can one receive this free gift? Do you have to go to the nearest department store to pick it up? No, it is much closer than that; it is in your thinking. Just use your soul to express faith in the Lord Jesus Christ: 'Heavenly Father, I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior.' After praying that simple prayer, you will live with God forever.

He saved us [provided a free ticket to heaven] not on the basis of deeds which we have done in (human) righteousness, but according to his loving kindness [He offers you this gift] (Titus 3:5a).

## **One Mediator**

God the Son in eternity past desired all mankind to be saved and to have an opportunity to live with him eternally in heaven. "This is good and

acceptable in the sight of Our Savior and God who desires all mankind to be saved” (1 Timothy 2:3, 4a). He wants the best for you.

The Lord Jesus Christ was always God and became man in circa 4 BC. Infinite God united with true humanity. Because of this union of two natures, he is now one person equal both with God and with perfect humanity. This is true of no one else and so makes him the only mediator between God and mankind.

For there is only one God [in essence] and One Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus who gave himself as a ransom for all mankind [he received your punishment that he might pay for your freedom] (1 Timothy 2:5,6a).

Only a mediator between God and man can solve the problems of mankind. So, as the only mediator, Jesus could say, “I am the way [to heaven], the truth, and [eternal] life; no one comes to the Father [in heaven] except through me” (John 14:6b).

### **What is Faith!**

Why are we told to believe in Jesus Christ for our salvation? You see, faith is a system of perception which requires no merit, not like rationalism or empiricism. By putting your faith in the person and work of Christ for your heavenly ticket, you are recognizing that you can do nothing for this free ticket into heaven. God the Father honors this non-meritorious faith since all the work was already done on the cross.

Faith always has an object. When you were a small child attending a math class, your teacher taught you that 2 plus 2 equals 4, and you believed her. Now, when you believed your teacher, you didn't do any work. Your teacher had all the ability regarding math. The same is true with the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. Jesus Christ did all the work. We merely believe in him; we put our trust in him for our salvation. “He saved us

not on the basis of deeds which we have done in (human) righteousness, but according to his loving kindness. . .” (Titus 3:5a).

When we believe in Jesus Christ, we are making a decision which excludes human work. You are making a decision which does not require any effort on your part. It is as simple as: ‘Father, ‘I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior.’ After praying that simple prayer, you will become a child of God forever.

Now, after John [the Baptizer] had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; change your mind [about Jesus Christ] and believe in the good news [salvation is a free gift, requiring only faith] (Mark 1:14, 15).

He who believes in the Son has eternal life [will go to heaven and live with God], but he who does not believe the Son will not see life [with God], but the wrath of God remains on him (John 3:36).

**Every Decision has a Time Frame: the longer the Time Frame, the more important it is.**

When I decide to eat a Hershey Chocolate bar with almonds, the time frame of that decision is less than 2 minutes for that is how long it takes me to devour it. In other words, that decision impacts me for a maximum of 2 minutes. One’s decision regarding an occupation or marriage may have a time frame lasting one’s entire life. Thus, it is an important decision, but still, it will only impact him for his temporal life. Your decision to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ regarding His work on the Cross or not is an eternal decision lasting for all eternity. So, it is the most important decision of all decisions.

## **The Issue in Salvation is not Sin but Righteousness:**

The penalty of sin has been paid in full on the cross. “He himself who bore our sins on his body on the cross. . .” (1 Peter 2:24a) Therefore, sinfulness does not send a person to hell (the Lake of Fire), nor is sinlessness the basis for going to heaven. If sin is not the issue in going to heaven, then what is? To live eternally with a perfectly righteous God, one must be perfectly righteous! Unfortunately, man cannot accomplish perfect righteousness. Fortunately, God has resolved this requirement by imputing His righteousness to the person who places his trust in the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ. “The righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ unto all who believe...” (Romans 3:22a)

## **To Live with Eternal God, we need His Life in an Eternal Body**

Human life functions in a mortal body in time only. In eternity, we need eternal life in an eternal body. Eternal life is promised in John 3:36 which states, “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life [given at the point of faith in Christ], but whoever rejects the Son will not see eternal life for the wrath of God remains on him.” At salvation, the person receives eternal life which life will function within an eternal body given in the future. 1 John 3:2b states, “. . .But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him [have a resurrection body, an eternal body in which eternal life will function]. In John 11:25, Jesus said to Martha, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me shall live [in eternity with an eternal body] even if He dies.” 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died [a substitutionary spiritual death] for our sins according to the Scriptures, (4) and that He was buried, and that He was raised [given an eternal body] on the third day according to the Scriptures,”

## **We should have great respect and awe for the Integrity of God.**

The integrity of God that is his righteousness and justice cannot be violated. The righteousness of God in eternity past demanded that every sin be punished. What the righteousness of God demands, the justice of God executes. So, the justice of God the Father punished the humanity of Jesus Christ on the cross for every sin of mankind. This freed the grace of God to offer salvation to all mankind as per John 3:16, “God loved the world [of people] so much so that he gave his uniquely born son with the result that anyone who believes in Him should not be perish [spend eternity in the Lake of Fire] but have eternal life [that he may live with God forever in an eternal body].” However, this same integrity of God must judge anyone who refuses this grace gift. “Whoever believes in Him is not judged, but the one who does not believe is judged already because he has not believed in the uniquely born Son of God (John 3:18). “If anyone’s name was not found in the Book of [eternal] Life, [because he had rejected Jesus Christ and His work on the Cross] he was thrown into the Lake of Fire.” (Revelation 20:15)

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Wednesday Service: 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
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Recommend Pastor R. B. Thieme Jr. of Houston, Texas. This man who is now in heaven was a Greek and Hebrew scholar who studied diligently for 53 years the Word of God. He had accumulated approximately 12,000 hours of Bible Studies on MP3s and DVDs. His website is [rbthieme.org](http://rbthieme.org).