

BIBLICAL SALVATION

Lesson One

Memory Verse: *Matthew 4:4*

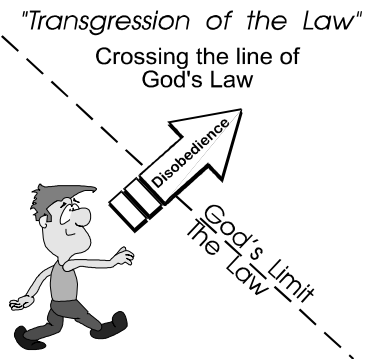
Lesson Verses: *1 John 5:11,12*

“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” 1 John 5:11,12

I. Introduction

The decision to trust Jesus Christ as the Saviour of your soul is the greatest decision you could ever make! This lesson will briefly explain what happens when a person gets *saved*, and how the decision to trust Christ forever affects their relationship with God.

WHAT IS SIN?



II. Is Anyone “Good?”

A. The *spiritual* condition of **everyone** is described as what? Look in *Romans 3:10*, and *23*, where we are described as _____.

B. What does the Bible say “**sin**” is? (*1 John 3:4*) _____
 To “*trans-gress*” is to “cross a line” that God laid-out showing what is right and wrong. When we cross **His** laws (break through them), we sin. We call it “breaking God’s laws.” Everybody could be doing something, but if God said NOT to do it, and we go ahead anyway, then we have sinned.

C. God says, “*There is _____ righteous; no not one*” (*Romans 3:10*).

III. God’s Absolute Laws of Right and Wrong

A. Most everyone agrees that we all break a few of God’s laws here and there, but hardly anyone believes these sins are serious enough to keep them out of heaven. The Bible says otherwise!

B. God laid out the requirements for entrance into His heaven in a simple list, and that requirement is perfection - having NO sin in us at all.

C. If you think you don’t sin, then God says you are _____ (*1 John 1:8*)!

D. If you want to try and prove that you don’t sin, take the following test:

The Big Ten		Never	Occasionally	Most of the Time	All the Time
1	Have I made something in my life more important than loving and obeying God?				
2	Have I <i>bowed down</i> to a statue, or an idol?				
3	Have I used Gods’ (or Jesus’) name flippantly?				
4	Have I worked on the Sabbath?				
5	Have I dishonoured or disobeyed my parents?				
6	Have I killed somebody?				
7	Have I committed adultery?				
8	Have I stolen ANYTHING, EVER?				
9	Have I told a lie?				
10	Have I coveted something?				

E. The above list is not anything new. What do we call this list? Not the Ten Suggestions, but God’s Ten _____. You find this list in every Bible in *Exodus chapter 20, from verses 1 through 17*.

F. So, to be classified as a sinner does not only mean being a *murderer*, or a *thief*, but it means when a person does ANY sin (*James 2:9,10*; like *stealing, cursing, rebelling,*

hating, dishonouring, coveting, etc.). Therefore, anyone who sins at all, is a **sinner** in God's eyes, and needs to be saved.

- G. Compare this truth to a tree – a small tree can be known for what it is, even when it has no fruit. The fruit (let's say, *apples*) comes later, but the tree will produce apples because it is an APPLE tree. In the same way, a person *sins* because he/she is a *sinner*.
- H. Note that if you ticked NEVER in number 6 above, remember that God says “*Whosoever _____ his brother is a _____: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.*” (1John 3:15)
- I. If you ticked NEVER in number 7 above, remember that Jesus said, “*But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to _____ after her hath committed _____ with her already in his heart.*” (Matthew 5:28).
- J. Even if you only ticked a few of the above **NEVERS**, then you probably are a pretty good person in man's eyes, but in God's eyes, you still are a **SINNER** (a law breaker), and you have proven God to be correct, and ought to now realise the truth that you need something to save you from the coming penalty for your sin.

IV. The Need for Salvation

- A. Ok, so we are sinners – we break God's laws. We break a lot of them! But, so what? Well, there is a **BIG penalty** for all our sins. What is it? _____ (Romans 6:23).
- B. Notice the word “*wages*” in Romans 6:23. Wages are what we earn - they are the result of our actions, whether on a job, or as we live our life. So, every sin we commit, we are only earning “_____”. And, that is NOT what we want is it?
- C. And there are two deaths to worry about. The first death is the end of your physical life, but it is not the end of your existence. What lies beyond a person's death is **eternity**. And if a person dies in their sins, they are condemned to die for an **eternity** IN A PLACE CALLED HELL.
 - 1. No one normally believes they will end up in a devil's hell. They would never accept that they deserve such punishment. But what does the Bible say?
 - 2. The Bible says *hell* is a real place where Satan, his angels, and all sinful people will spend **eternity** suffering eternal punishment and separation from God.
 - 3. It is no joking matter: There are 162 clear references to hell in the New Testament alone, and 70 of these were made by Jesus himself! They include: **Matthew 13:41,42; 5:29,30; 10:28; 11:23,24; 16:18; James 3:6; Revelation 20:13,14.**
- D. **But WHY did God create Hell?**
 - 1. God created hell because He is a righteous and holy God and cannot allow *sin* in His Heaven (Revelation 21:8).
 - 2. Since all men and women, boys and girls are sinners, **God's Son** came into the world to save us from hell's punishment. How did Jesus do that? By living a perfect sinless life that none of us could ever live, and then die a death in place of all mankind, be buried for three full days and nights, and then triumphantly raised again from the grave! Jesus did all this so that sinful people could receive the free gift of eternal _____ (Romans 6:23), and thus have free access to heaven.
 - 3. It is only by believing Jesus' *finished work* on the cross that sinners such as you and I can ever be allowed into Heaven. But those who do not accept what Jesus did for them are destined to go to hell because they remain in their sins (John 3:18,36)!

V. The Way of Salvation is found in a *Person*, Not a Religion

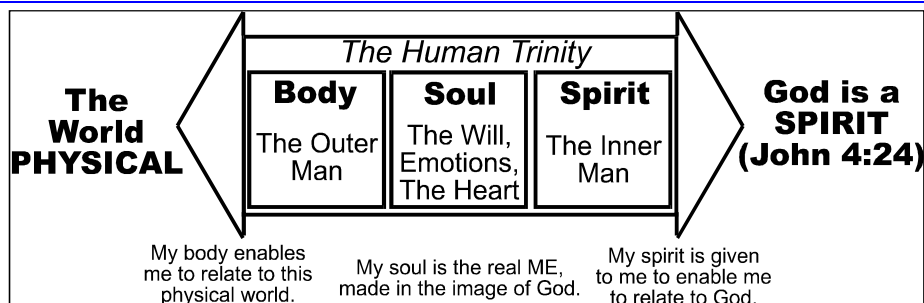
- A. When Jesus died on the cross, What did God make available to everyone?
 - 1. “_____ *life*” (John 3:16,17) – think about it! Instead of an eternity in hell!

2. But to get eternal life, Jesus said we “*must be born _____*” (John 3:3,7).
 3. Read **Romans 6:23** again. Thankfully, God doesn’t just show us our condition (as sinners), and then abandon us – He offers us a free gift. The “_____ of God” (which CANNOT be earned) is the opposite of the wages of our sin!
 4. Specifically, that free GIFT that God offers is called, “_____ life.”
- B. Jesus was God’s gift to us, like an innocent lamb, taking the place of a sinful world. John the Baptist cried out “*Behold the _____ of God which taketh away the _____ of the world*” (John 1:29). **Jesus** is our substitute in death so that we can receive the gift of eternal life!
- C. What does salvation cost?
1. God’s gift is given to us freely, requiring only a *committed choice* on our part **to accept it**. Take it as your own.
 2. God’s gift of eternal life is provided FREE to you through the willingness of Jesus Christ to take your and my place in death and God’s judgment on the cross! There is no other way to heaven than *through Jesus alone* (John 14:6)!
- D. Did you know that **Ephesians 2:8,9**, says it is **impossible** for a sinner to save themselves from the penalty of their sin through *good works*?
1. Notice getting saved is “*not of _____, lest any man should boast.*”
 2. What do we normally think are good works that should get us into heaven?

 3. Notice in **Titus 3:5** that it is “*not by works of _____...*”
 4. Have you tried to live righteously for any length of time? **Yes, No** (circle one). Was any of your righteous works good enough to get you saved? **Yes, No**.
 5. The gift of Salvation is only obtained by **surrender to Christ** - allow Jesus to do all the saving of your soul – with you no longer trying to do all the right things to earn heaven. So stop working at being good, and just finally accept what Jesus did for you in your place. Believe it with all your heart that Jesus did it for YOU!
- E. Just WHO are you going to trust?
1. An honourable man, named Jesus of Nazareth, who lived 2,000 years ago in Galilee? Who did amazing miracles like raising the dead, and healing blind and deaf people; who taught people how to pray, and how to love one another; who died at the hands of the Roman soldiers on a cross? Are you trusting in Jesus the MAN?
 2. Or are you trusting the *GOD who became a man*, who willingly took your and my place in death on the cross *as a Man*, in the place of all men and women everywhere, and who raised Himself out of the tomb and lives forevermore to give LIFE to all that believe on Him? Are you trusting Jesus the Son of God?
 3. One belief will leave you lost and unconverted. The other will transform your life!

VI. Let's explore the *two births* the Bible talks about

- A. Our first birth is our **PHYSICAL** birth (read all of **John 3:1-7**):
1. The first birth is a **water** birth (**John 3:5**). It is not baptism. We all start our life in water. Every human is born out of a *water sack* in the womb.
 2. Your first birth comes from your *physical* parents. Their “flesh” produced your _____ (**John 3:6**).
 3. But that is not all there is to you! You are more than just bone and muscle and blood and brain.
 4. Take a look at the chart below.



5. You are a THREE-part being, with a body, a soul and a spirit.
 6. The most important part of You is the box in the middle labelled SOUL:
 - a. Your soul is the real you – the part that feels, wishes, dreams, and chooses.
 - b. Your body is what God gave your soul to interact with this world.
 - c. Your spirit is what God gave your soul to interact with Him.
 7. In simpler words, the real you (your soul) is invisible, inside you, using your body to interact with this world, and using your spirit to attempt to interact with God.
 8. What is the Soul?
 - a. The soul is part of the trinity of man (1Thes 5:23). Each part of you is vital, but Jesus said the _____ is the most important (Matt 16:26)
 - b. It is called the *hidden* or the *inner man* (1Peter 3:3,4; 2Corinthians 4:16-18)
 - c. The soul is the source of your emotions, your will, the ability to reason, and understand. It is your awareness of yourself.
 - d. In other words, your soul is **the real you** – what you really are, what you think, how you feel, and why you feel that way.
 - e. It is separate from the body – an immaterial, invisible part of you (2Cor 4:18).
 9. Everything would be fine, except the part of you that is supposed to be able to communicate with God (your spirit) is DEAD.
 - a. Sin by our first parents killed that part of us on the inside (Gen 2:17). Who were our first parents? _____ and _____.
 - b. The only way to *regenerate* (give life to) the spirit is by being born again, but this time, on the inside (Ephesians 2:1; Titus 3:5)!
- B. The second birth is your **SPIRITUAL** birth (John 3:5,6):
1. Your first birth only gave you human life – not eternal life. You HAVE to have a SECOND birth.
 2. This birth can only come from God. John 4:24 says that “God is a _____.” He is not *flesh* like we humans are. According to John 3:6, His Spirit will produce _____ in the life of a sinner if they would just fully believe on His Son, Jesus Christ (John 7:37-39)!
 3. The second birth involves trusting God’s _____ to be **true** (1Peter 1:23). You *can* fully and completely trust the death of Jesus Christ to be your payment for your sin, **because** God said in His word you could, and that He would give you a free gift, eternal salvation - eternal life!
 4. If you didn’t have God’s perfect word to discover all this, how could you know what to believe at all? Everyone’s guess would be as good as another’s. No wonder there are so many religious wars!
- C. Therefore, there are only two “births” that a person can experience.
1. The first birth gives only temporary life - it came from temporary parents didn’t it? And it ends in death because of _____ (Rom 5:12) in all of us.

2. The second birth is only experienced by a person who turns to Christ for **salvation from** sin. It *never ends* because it came from an eternal Parent – _____ (1John 5:1)!
 3. The first birth makes you physically a child of your parents. The second birth makes you spiritually and eternally a child of _____ (John 1:11,12).
- D. A person desperately needs Jesus Christ to save them, because without Him, there is **no other** _____ to God (John 14:6). You cannot look to Allah, or Buddha, or Mary, etc., to get to God!
1. It is SIN that _____ all of humanity from God (Isaiah 59:2).
 2. And no one can take away sin except _____ (John 1:29).
 3. If a person dies without having their sin paid-off by faith in what Jesus Christ did on the cross, there is only one destiny for them (John 3:36; Matthew 23:33; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10-15).
 - a. What is that destiny? _____
 - b. That's why God calls upon everyone everywhere to _____ (Acts 17:30) and be saved when? _____ (2 Corinthians 6:2)
 - c. "Succoured" means *to help you*. That means, God will even help you believe His Son when you don't know how!
- E. Salvation is NOT a "process" - it is **instantly** given (Luke 18:9-14).
1. The Pharisee thought he was good enough.
 2. The Publican (a public official, greedy tax collector) easily admitted he was a "_____ " (Luke 18:13).
 3. There is always a process to the humbling of a person, but when they know they are lost, and in need of forgiveness, once salvation is asked for, it is **INSTANTLY** given as a free gift by God – because of Christ (Rom 6:23)!
- F. What must a person do in order to be saved from hell (born again)?
1. _____ (Acts 20:20,21; 2Peter 3:9). Repentance is a determined **choice** to turn away FROM sin, and turn TO Jesus Christ for salvation. It is being *very sorry* for your sin, and hating it! It is different from "*penance*" which is you trying to PAY for your sinfulness. You cannot pay for your sins - **only Jesus can!**
 2. _____ (John 1:11,12; John 5:24; 6:28,29; Acts 16:30,31).
 - a. What does it mean to "*believe on Jesus?*"
 - 1) Not just agree with the Bible with our head (even "*the devils also _____, and tremble*"; James 2:19)
 - 2) But it means to understand from the heart that the only payment God will accept for your sins is the death of Jesus in your place (1John 2:1,2; 5:4,5).
 - 3) And it means to accept by faith His payment for your sins and allow Him to come into your heart and save you FROM your sins!
 - b. The word "**propitiation**" in 1 John 2:2, means "*full payment.*" God had to do more than just "forgive" sins, He had to completely pay-off all the broken laws that had mounted up against us, and that is what Jesus' death did - it paid *in full* all our sin debt!
- G. Read carefully Romans 10:13,17. Can you be **sure** Christ will save you if you ask Him to do so? **Yes**, or **No** (circle one)
1. Would you agree that if **God said it - that should settle it?** Then believe it! That is all Jesus asks of us – just believe with all your heart!

2. Faith is “*confidence*” in God’s promise, that He will never lie to you! He promises in His word over and over that He can and will save you!

Have you ever asked the Lord Jesus to **save** you from your sin and make you a child of God? _____. *When* was that? _____. **If you have not, will you ask Him, now?** (**Revelation 3:20**) **Yes**, or **No**. He stands at the door of your heart, knocking, and waiting. The handle is on YOUR side of the door. Open it, and let Him in! THAT’s when you become BORN AGAIN.

VII. The Four ‘R’s of Salvation - Learn these well! You can use these four great truths and Scriptures to explain to anybody how to become a born again believer in Jesus Christ!

- A. **Realize** you are a sinner, and are without the necessary righteousness to earn your entrance into heaven (**Romans 3:23**). God’s law proves that we sin, and that we are in eternal trouble with God because of our sin! So, none of us are good enough to live with God as we are! We **HAVE** to be **changed** from condemned to forgiven. But how?
- B. **Recognize** that you cannot fix yourself, but only by God’s specific intervention can a person be saved from coming punishment (**Titus 3:5**). None of us have the ability to pay off our sins, no matter how much we try to go to church, say our prayers, and be nice to people! The truth is, no one can be “good enough” to make up for all the bad.
- C. **Repent** of your life, and all the sin that filled it (that means, hate the sin that separates you from God, and stop trusting your attempts to be good), and then, give all that you are (sin and all) to the One who loves you and gave Himself for you on the cross (**2 Corinthians 7:10**). No one truly repents unless they first see themselves as a law-breaker, separated from God, and deserving of hell (**John 3:36**). Once you have repented, you are then empty of all self-righteousness, and are now ready to...
- D. **Receive** the priceless free gift of eternal life from God by simple *faith*, asking in prayer for God to save you, all because of Jesus (**John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8,9; Romans 10:13**)! You will need to ask *specifically* to be saved - don’t be vague or shy with God! And remember: you can ask simply because Jesus Christ paid for all your sins, past, present, and future! Nothing could be more important than knowing these four truths!

VIII. The Completion of A Person’s Salvation

- A. Salvation is a one-time event that changes your **destiny** forever (from hell, to heaven). It is NOT a “*continual process*”, nor a “*journey*” that a person is on! It occurs when a person decides to fully believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to save them from the punishment of their sins! Just like your first birth was a one time event, so also is your second birth! Have YOU experienced such an event? **Yes** or **No**?
- B. Would you think that your salvation is now dependent upon your ability to live a *sinless, perfect* and *holy* life? (see **Galatians 3:11**) **Yes** or **No**? No one can live sinlessly, even after getting saved.
- C. So, what **KEEPS** a person saved? **JESUS!** He *intercedes* with God, as _____ on behalf of a Christian who yields to temptation in a time of weakness? (**1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 2:1,2**). Don’t ever believe that a Christian is perfect - only forgiven.
- D. We therefore can **never** *lose* our gift of salvation once we have been born again! (**Romans 8:37-39; John 10:27-29; Jude 24**). Let’s examine why not!
1. Because we have been _____ into God’s family - taken from being condemned sinners, and made into *children of God*, and heirs of everything that God has (**Romans 8:15-17**)! We are in God’s *family* now!
 2. Because we are fully **Forgiven** - **all** our sins (past, present and future) were paid-for completely at the cross by Jesus Christ! There is **NO** further payment necessary for us to pay (**Ephesians 1:7; Acts 13:38,39**)!

3. Because we have been _____ - we *exchanged* our sinfulness for the righteousness of Jesus Christ ([Acts 13:38,39](#); [2 Corinthians 5:21](#))!!! Jesus did not justify *our sins*, but instead, justified *US* – made us right with God!
4. We will learn more about this in Lesson 2.

IX. Dealing With Sin Once You Are Already Saved

- A. Okay, but what happens now, when a Christian sins?
 1. The Holy Spirit first shames us, and makes us aware we are doing wrong. It is called “reproving” or convicting us – making us know we are guilty ([John 16:7,8](#)).
 2. We won’t enjoy the sin like we used to ([Psalm 32:1-5](#)).
 - a. Notice in how disobeying God will affect us. Iniquity is another word for sin:
 - b. You will age faster.
 - c. God’s _____ will be hard against you, not blessing you.
 - d. You will basically “dry up” on the inside like a desert.
 - e. So, Can a Christian be happy while disobeying God? **Yes** or **No**?
 3. We will be lovingly chastised by God. [Hebrews 12:5-11](#) explains that God always endeavours to make us mature, and holy in our lives by chastening us when we sin.
 - a. Chastening means “correcting” NOT punishing. God brings trouble into your life to get you back “*on the strait (hard path) and narrow*”
 - b. God chastens His children because He _____ them.
 - c. If a person never experiences God’s **chastisement**, it is evident that person never became a Christian at all and is a _____ ([Heb 12:8](#)) – God calls them *illegitimate* – not the real thing – a faker.
- B. What should a believer do when they sin?
 1. _____ ([1 John 1:9](#)). To “confess” means to **agree** with God about the sinfulness of your life, and especially about specific acts where you broke His direct commandments!
 2. _____ ([Proverbs 28:13](#)). What do you think “forsake” means?

X. Concluding Questions - Fill in these questions from memory.

- A. The Bible was written for us to know that we are _____, and that as sinners we needed God to reach down to us (not for us to reach up), and to save us from _____.
- B. God has revealed absolute truth through the _____ alone.
- C. What has separated all of humanity from God? _____
- D. Who can actually completely take away the sins of the whole world? _____
- E. Instead of trying to pay off all our sins ourselves with our own good works, our salvation depends only upon whether we are by faith willing to let the _____ of Jesus Christ be sufficient to pay off all our sin-debt to God.
- F. The term “*born again*” refers to what? An **external** or an **internal** birth? (Circle one).
- G. When Jesus died, whose place was He taking? _____
- H. When a person repents of their sins, and calls upon Jesus Christ to save them from hell, how long does it take before they are forgiven of all sins, past, present, and future?

- I. Have you **let Him** take *your* place, and been born again yourself? **Yes** or **No**
- J. Is Jesus Christ worthy of you living your life by following Him and obeying His word from now on? **Yes, No.**

Well done! Lesson One is completed!

Date Lesson Completed _____	Discipler _____
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