



# Understanding Salvation

You are not here by accident! You are made by God and for God. He wants you to have a personal relationship with Him through Jesus, His Son. God wants to be active in your life now and He want to prepare you to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. God says that if you believe in His son, Jesus, you can live forever with Him in glory.

## **John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

There is just one thing that separates you from God. That one thing is sin. The Bible describes sin in many ways. Most simply, sin is our failure to measure up to God's holiness and His righteous standards. We sin by things we do, choices we make, attitudes we show, and thoughts we entertain. We also sin when we fail to do right things. No matter how good we try to be, none of us does right things all the time.

## **Romans 3:10-11**

As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; <sup>11</sup> There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.

People tend to divide themselves into groups – good people and bad people. But God says that every person who has ever lived is a sinner, and that any sin separates us from God. No matter how we might classify ourselves, this includes you and me. We are all sinners.

## **Romans 3:23**

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Many people are confused about the way to God. Some think they will be punished or rewarded according to how good they are. Some think they should make things right in their lives before they try to come to God. Others find it hard to understand how Jesus could love them when other people don't seem to. But I have great news for you! God DOES love you! More than you can ever imagine! And there's nothing you can do to make Him stop! Yes, our sins demand punishment – the punishment of death and separation from God. But, because of His great love, God sent His only Son Jesus to die for our sins.

## **Romans 5:8**

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

For you to come to God you have to get rid of your sin problem. But, in our own strength, not one of us can do this! You can't make yourself right with God by being a better person. Only God can rescue us from our sins. He is willing to do this not because of anything you can offer Him, but JUST BECAUSE HE LOVES YOU!



### **Titus 3:5**

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.

It's God's grace that allows you to come to Him – not your efforts to “clean up your life” or work your way to Heaven. Salvation is a gift you receive not a paycheck you earn.

### **Ephesians 2:8-9**

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast.

For you to come to God, the penalty for your sin must be paid. God's gift to you is His son, Jesus, who paid the debt for you when He died on the Cross.

### **Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin *is* death, but the <sup>[a]</sup>gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus paid the price for your sin and mine by giving His life on a cross at a place called Calvary, just outside of the city walls of Jerusalem in ancient Israel. God brought Jesus back from the dead. He provided the way for you to have a personal relationship with Him through Jesus. When we realize how deeply our sin grieves the heart of God and how desperately we need a Savior, we are ready to receive God's offer of salvation. To admit we are sinners means turning away from our sin and selfishness and turning to follow Jesus. The Bible word for this is “repentance” – to change our thinking about how grievous sin is, so our thinking is in line with God's. All that's left for you to do is to accept the gift that Jesus is holding out for you right now.

### **Romans 10:9-10**

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Are you ready to accept the gift of eternal life that Jesus is offering you right now?

### **Romans 10:13**

For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

If it is your sincere desire to receive Jesus into your life as your personal Lord and Savior, then talk to God from your heart:

Here's a suggested prayer:

*“Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and I do not deserve eternal life. But, I believe You died and rose from the grave to make me a new creation and to prepare me to dwell in your presence forever. Jesus, come into my life, take control of my life, forgive my sins, and save me. I am now placing my trust in You alone for my salvation and I accept your free gift of eternal life.”*

“The Mission Church of Lexington exists to enlist unbelievers, equip believers and empower missionaries”