

HOW TO BE SAVED FOREVER  
AND KNOW IT

BY MISSIONARY/EVANGELIST

JIM FELLURE

PRINTED BY  
VICTORY BAPTIST PRESS  
MILTON, FLORIDA USA  
© 2002 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED  
[www.victorybaptistpress.com](http://www.victorybaptistpress.com)

## **How To Be Saved Forever And Know It!**

If this were your last day to live on planet Earth where would you go? Most people are enjoying this life so much and are so busy with the cares of this world that they fail to ever think about eternity. If you will carefully read the following study and give serious thought to your relationship to God and your future state in eternity, it could help you make the most important decision you have ever made in your life.

### **Where Do You Stand With God?**

Most of us see some good in one another. We like to be around certain people who, to us are, “good people.” I personally have many friends that in my eyes are wonderful people, but the Lord doesn’t look at people like you and I do. You and I might see one another as being good, but God declares, “... *there is none that doeth good, no, not one*” (Rom. 3:12).

- *“The LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart” (I Sam. 16:7).*
- *“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD” (Isa. 55:8).*

You see, God is perfectly holy. The prophet Habakkuk wrote, *“Thou [God] art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: ...”* (Hab. 1:13). Not only is God holy, He demands that you and I be holy also. *“Be ye holy; for I am holy”* (I Pet. 1:16). **But** here is a problem! The same God that commands us to be holy declares over and over in scripture that we are not holy.

Consider the following statements from the Bible describing man’s condition in the eyes of God.

- *“For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not” (Ecc. 7:20).*

- *“If thou, LORD, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?” (Ps. 130:3)*
- *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” (Rom. 3:23)*
- *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (I John 1:8).*
- *“If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us” (I John 1:10).*
- *“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; ...” (Isa. 64:6)*
- *“Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity...” (Ps. 39:5)*

There is no doubt about man’s condition before God. He is described as a sinner, unholy and out of fellowship with God. The question then is, “What happens to people in this condition?” The Bible gives the answer: *“The soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezek. 18:4, 20).*

Man is a sinner; therefore, he must die. *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”* (Rom. 5:12). The truth that sin brings death could not be any clearer than in Romans 6:23 which says, *“For the wages of sin is death; ....”* All of us could testify to the reality of death. If it hasn’t touched your immediate family yet, you know that it soon will. Every cemetery, mortuary, hearse, obituary column, coroner, death certificate and the records at every courthouse in the world tell us that death will eventually come to us all.

So far, we have briefly but clearly seen from scripture that all men are sinners, and because of sin all must die a physical death. However, the Bible also talks about another death called the second death. This second death is found in the book of Revelation.

*“And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death”* (Revelation

20:14). *“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and horemongers, 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”* (Revelation 21:8). The thought of a person leaving this present world through death and then being in a conscious state of torment and fire for eternity is such a terrible thought that it even hurts to write about it, but it is true. The Bible uses the word “hell” fifty-four times. Consider just a few of those scriptures.

- *“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God”* (Ps. 9:17).
- *“The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath”* (Pro. 15:24).
- *“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.”* (Matt. 10:28).
- *“Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?”* (Matt. 23:33)

- *“And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, ...”* (Luke 16:23).
- *“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 ... And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: ... Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. ... And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: ... Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched”* (Mark 9:43-48).

Because God doesn't deal with our sins the moment we commit them, does that mean that He didn't notice them? Human nature causes us to believe that sin must be judged immediately or it never will be. Solomon, the wisest man that ever lived said, *“Because sentence against an*

*evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil*” (Ecc. 8:11). Many think that because it was a “little sin”, just a “slip of the tongue”, a “little white lie” or a brief evil thought, God will let this one go, while the bigger sins like murder, adultery, rape, or robbery might force God to execute judgment. The truth of the matter is that God will never overlook sin no matter how small we may judge it to be nor let one sin or sinner slip by unnoticed.

- *“The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good”* (Pro. 15:3).
- *“... God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil”* (Ecc. 12:14).
- *“But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment”* (Matt. 12:36).
- *“For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known”* (Luke 12:2).

So far, the Bible has given us a bleak and despairing picture of man's condition. He is a sinner, out of fellowship with God, and if he dies in that condition he will have to face a God who demands absolute holiness. His eternal state will be torment in the flames of hell and the lake of fire forever. But that is not the end of the story!

## **God Has Provided A Remedy For Your Sins!**

If you were dying with a terminal disease and someone told you of a remedy for that disease, you would no doubt call it the best news you had ever heard and take the remedy as soon as possible. Well, I am glad to report to you the greatest news this world has ever heard.

The Apostle Paul put it like this in I Timothy 1:15: *“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”* Now when Jesus Christ came into this world, He came without sin. Christ *“knew no sin”* (II Cor. 5:21), *“did no sin”* (1 Pet. 2:22), and *“in him is no*

*sin*” (I John 3:5). But if Jesus Christ was totally and completely without sin, then why did He die? The answer is that He died for others! Part of the lyrics of one good song we sing is, “We owed a debt we could not pay; He paid a debt He did not owe.”

The apostle Peter said Jesus Christ, “...*bare our sins in his own body on the tree, ...*” (I Pet. 2:24). The apostle Paul wrote in Romans 5:8, “*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*” Again, in I Thessalonians 5:9, 10 we read, “*For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, ... Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.*” The good news of the gospel is given in I Corinthians 15:1-4 as clearly as in any verse in the Bible: “*Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel....By which also ye are saved, ... For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ... And that he was*

*buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*

Nothing could be any clearer in the Bible than the fact that man is a sinner, and that if his sins are not judged and paid for, then he must die and face an eternal hell with no help or hope. Many people try to appease God with good deeds, church membership, or baptism, but no matter how hard we try, we do not have the means to pay for our own sins. Besides, the scriptures declare that salvation is not by works but by grace. Ephesians 2:8, 9 declares, *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ... Not of works, lest any man should boast.”* The good news is that Jesus Christ came to this world as God’s Son, lived a sinless life, went to the cross of Calvary where He shed His blood and died for our sins, was buried, and rose again the third day.

Imagine that you are in prison as a convicted murderer. You are sentenced to die soon in the electric chair, and you realize there is no hope.

One day a man visits who you do not know, but who seems to know everything about you. He questions you about your guilt; which you admit. You tell him how sorry you are for the murder you committed, and that if you had it to do again, you would never do such an awful deed. He can tell by your words and expressions that you are repentant. The conversation ends and the stranger promises to be in attendance when you are put to death. The day of your execution comes. As you are led toward the death chamber you see the strange visitor who had visited you just days before. As the guards prepare to lead you away, this man steps forward and offers to take your place. Even though this is highly irregular, a review is made of the man's criminal record and it is found that his record is completely clear. After an emergency call to the governor the warden decides to allow this man to step into your place and pay your debt of death. You are now pardoned and free, for he has taken your place.

My friend, that little scenario illustrates what the Lord Jesus Christ did for you and me. It was not in an electric chair but on an old rugged cross where He died and paid for the sins of the whole world. He had no sin of His own but He willingly died to pay for the sins that you and I are guilty of.

Another way to illustrate what Christ did for us would be to make two lists with the character traits of a couple of individuals. At the top of the first list could be the name of any person who has ever lived. For the sake of illustration, think of David: Israelite, son of Jesse, writer of psalms, giant killer, King of Israel. Yet his character traits also included adultery, deceiver, abuse of power in getting a man drunk, and conspiracy to have the same man killed. You will agree this is not a very good record. Then at the top of the second list we should consider Jesus Christ, the Son of God. His character traits include holiness, purity, honesty, righteousness, impeccability, and perfection. We will stop there but the good qualities of the Lord Jesus Christ would fill up more than all the books that have ever been written.

When God saves an unworthy sinner He simply switches names at the top of the list. We read in II Corinthians 5:21, *“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”* Make your own list: put your name at the top and then list all the sins that you can think of that you have ever committed. If you are like me, you would not even write some of the things that you have done for fear someone might find the list. Oh, what terrible sinners we have been! But when Jesus Christ becomes your Lord and Savior, God considers all your sins paid for by the death of Christ. At the same time, He will take all the righteousness of Christ and put that on your list. Now, if God should check your record there are no sins listed. They have been paid for by the sacrificial, bloody death of Jesus Christ. The Bible calls this justification. In Romans 5:1, we read, *“Therefore being justified by faith, [you must believe it] we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”*

It's very clear in scripture that we are all

sinners in the eyes of God. In our eyes some people are better than others and some sins are more wicked than others, but the Bible knows no such divisions among people. If you have had one wrong thought, said one wrong word or committed one wrong deed, you are a sinner. James 2:10 says, *“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”* John Bunyan once said, “One leak will sink a ship; and one sin will destroy a sinner.”

But how do we obtain so great salvation? What do I do to get God to forgive all my sins? Can this wonderful gift of eternal life be mine? Can I really be saved from the penalty of my sins? God is so good in giving us a detailed description of how to come to know Christ as our personal Lord and Savior. In Romans 10:13-15 we read, *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. ...How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they*

*hear without a preacher? ... And how shall they preach, except they be sent?...*” The chronological order of the verse would be that someone is sent to preach, so we can hear and believe and be saved.

Now, my friend, I may not have come to you in person but I have come to you through the printed page. God sent me to preach the gospel to you, and for the last several pages I have been preaching about how God loves sinners so much that He sent His only begotten Son into this sinful world to shed his precious blood and die a cruel death in order to pay for the sins that you and I have committed. If you truly believe the truth about Biblical salvation and would like to be saved forever and know it, then simply call upon the name of the Lord and the Bible declares that you shall be saved. You might want to pray from the heart something like this:

*Dear God, I know without a doubt that I am a sinner, and if I die in my present condition I will perish in the flames of*

*hell forever. I do not want to go to hell. I want to be saved from my sins. The best I know how, I repent of my sins and trust Jesus Christ to be my Lord and Savior. Please, forgive me of my sins and save me for Christ's sake. Amen!*

Now friend, if you believe the gospel and meant what you just said to God, according to His Word, the Bible, you are saved forever. Now thank the Lord for saving you and set out to live for Him. If this article has helped you to trust Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior and you would like more help in your Christian life, please contact the church or individual listed on the back of this pamphlet and they will send you more helpful information.