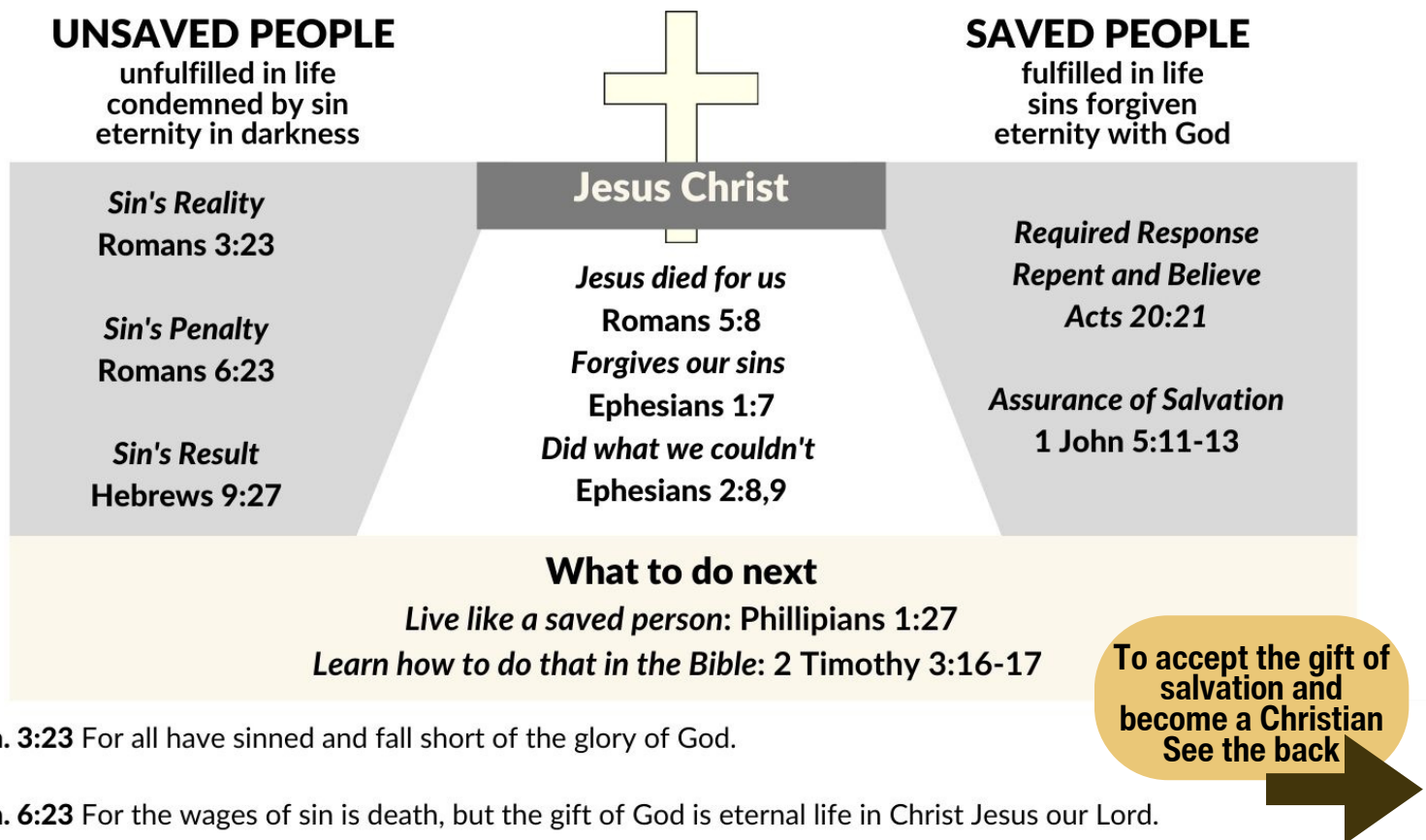


Christian Salvation



Rom. 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hebrews 9:27 People are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.

Titus 3:4-5 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Ephesians 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.

Acts 20:21 I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

1 John 5: 11-13 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Phil. 1:27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

If you would like Jesus to become the Forgiver and Leader of your life, if you would like Him to be your Savior and know you are saved from the penalty of your sins, you can ask Him to do that.

I'll explain how to do that in more detail in a minute, but before you do that, you need to carefully consider what you are doing. Becoming a Christian is not merely a fire-insurance policy to escape the possibility of hell and then where you go on living your life any way you want. When you ask Jesus to forgive your sins, you are doing business with the Creator of the universe. It is not a step to be taken lightly. The Bible says that He gave His life for you, and if you want His salvation, you must give your life back to Him.

The Bible talks about becoming Jesus' disciple and the definition of a disciple is someone who wants to become like their master. There are other lessons on Bible805.com (and in the Bible overall) that explain what it means to be a disciple, you may want to look at some of them first.

Becoming Jesus' disciple means you are no longer in charge.

That is what it means to truly repent of your sins (remember sin is going your own way). Now you are committed to going God's way and you'll learn more and more what that means as you go along.

As a Christian, God is now in control of your life, not you. Most of all you need to read your Bible to discover what God wants you to do and that includes going to church, praying, and being with other Christians. You are now part of the family of God and you have family responsibilities. You will learn them gradually, but you must be willing to do that. But you also have incredible joy, peace, freedom from sin, and a promised forever with Jesus.

When you become a follower, a disciple of Jesus

Your life will not suddenly become easy, wealthy, and trouble-free. The TV preachers or religious authors who promise this are not telling the truth.

The Bible (which is the only source of truth) tells us that Jesus promised, *"In this world, you will have troubles," but he also said, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world!"*

Life is seldom easy as a Christian, but as a Christian, you are now assured that your troubles have a purpose and that someday they will be over, and you are assured of heaven where there will be "no more pain, tears, or death."

If you are ready to commit your life to Jesus, either out loud, or in your heart, you can pray something like this:

Dear Jesus,

I confess that I am a sinner and that I have chosen to live my life apart from you, to do what I wanted above all else. I don't want to do that anymore. I believe that Jesus was God and that He came to earth, died on a cross, and rose from the dead to pay the penalty for my sin, my going my own way. I am now committing my life to you and asking you to be my Forgiver and Leader. Help me to learn to pray, to read my Bible, to find a good church, and to follow through on my commitment to you by publicly acknowledging my decision in baptism. Thank you for loving me and coming into my life. Amen.

If you have prayed that prayer—You are saved! Welcome to the family of God!