

## Gospel + Faith = Salvation



To be saved, a person need only come as a guilty sinner and believe the Gospel. The only requirement is to admit that you are a sinner. Otherwise why would you need a Savior? The Gospel is that Christ Died on the cross for our sins, He was Buried, and the third day He Resurrected from the dead (1st Corinthians 15:1-4).

Turning over a new leaf is false repentance.

To be saved, a person must acknowledging being a guilty sinner in God's sight. This is far different than forsaking the sinful world and commit one's life to holy living. This has nothing to do with salvation, which is the gift of God by faith in Christ's death, burial and resurrection. A gift is free for the taking with no conditions or strings attached. Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

This is the Gospel:

Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He was buried, and He was physically resurrected miraculously from the dead 3 days later. (Hebrews 9:12,24;12:24). The price of sin has been paid in full!

All that God requires for salvation is that we receive Jesus' death, burial and resurrection from the dead (three days later) as full-payment for our sins. Believe the Gospel is to admit that you are a guilty sinner in the eyes of a holy God for breaking His law.

Concerning salvation, "repentance" does not mean to cease from sinful bad habits, nor turn over a new leaf, nor make a full surrender to Christ, nor to forsake the world. A person may do all of these things and yet never have believe the Gospel at all. The Gospel is Good News to simply be believed; and not conditions to be achieved or met. Jesus bore the heavy weight of our sins, so we wouldn't have to.

There are a lot of false preachers today who teach their own version of the corrupted Lordship Salvation lie that requires some amount of works to validate one's faith to be saved. That is, they mandate forsaking sinful bad habits and departing from the heathen world in order to be saved. They demand that a person feel sorry and decide to turn over a new leaf or else they cannot trust Christ. It is a false way of salvation.

We cannot make amends for our past sins, nor can we undo the damage of our bad decisions and sins from the past. The very idea that we need to stop sinning as much as we used to in order to be saved is an insult to God. In effect, the Lordship Salvation crowd demands a changed life as a prerequisite to placing faith in Jesus Christ. Such blasphemy goes against everything the Bible teaches for salvation.

We're not saying that anyone has God's permission to get saved and continue living in gross immorality. God forbid *Romans 3:31*. What we're saying is that the Bible teaches salvation is without works, and a man's faith is counted in place of righteousness *Romans 4:5-6*.

"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." *Ephesians 2:8-10*

If a person must surrender their life in lordship to Christ, and depart from every sinful bad habit formed over a lifetime to be saved, then how terrible and heavy is such a horrible burden!!!

In sharp contrast, Jesus said His burden is light, because the Lord carried the heavy load of our sins upon Himself at Calvary. Our part in Salvation is only to believe (trust) upon the name of Jesus. God does everything else.

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit (i.e., the Spirit of Christ, *Romans 8:9*) is what changes us.

Biblical repentance means: A sinner repents of unbelief, which compels them to believe the Gospel. That's all that repentance means, that is, a change of mind.

**Anyone** who receives the Gospel as full payment for their sins is saved immediately, irrevocably and eternally.

**Salvation** is *receiving*, not giving. It is a **free** gift!

**Faith** is *receiving* the Lord's death, burial and resurrection as full-payment for our sins.

Notice that the object of repentance in Mark 1:15 is to “Believe the Gospel.” The Bible doesn't say “Repent ye, and forsake your sins”; but rather, “Repent ye, and believe the gospel.”

The Gospel is that Jesus Christ DIED, was BURIED and RESURRECTED from the dead three days later (1st Corinthians 15:1-4).

If you receive Jesus' sacrifice on the cross as full payment for your sins, then you are saved.

But don't I have to repent? Yes, of course! Biblical repentance is “a change of mind” that causes a person to believe the Gospel. Repentance is not a desire to stop sinning. Repentance is realizing that you are a sinner and need the Savior, and so you believe the Gospel and are saved. Repentance is “changing your mind” about whatever was previously hindering you from completely resting in Jesus for salvation.

Repentance, as it relates to Jesus, means to change our minds about Him, who He is and what He's done to provide forgiveness, and deliverance from our sins. When we place faith in Jesus as having taken our place personally on the cross and borne the penalty due our sins, then we're automatically repenting, because we couldn't accept Him in this way without having to change our minds in some way concerning Him.

When someone “repents,” they see themselves as an unholy sinner in the eyes of a holy God, and by **faith** receives the Gospel as payment for his sins.

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