

"How can I be Saved?"

John 3:16

Introduction: This morning, we are stepping away from 1 Kings and we are going to consider a message in which I will explain to you how you can be saved. There are many people that attend church and carry a Bible on Sunday mornings but they are lost. If they died at this very moment they would open their eyes in the torments of hell. They are RELIGIOUS but they are not saved. Maybe that is you. You come here and listen almost every Sunday but you have never been saved. It is my goal today to give to you a clear picture of how a sinner is saved. Before we get to how to be saved, we must first of all consider what the Bible says about man's condition as a sinner.

➤ **We are all sinners.**

Romans 3:23

¹⁰ *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*

¹¹ *There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.*

¹² *They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*

¹³ *Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips:*

¹⁴ *Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness:*

¹⁵ *Their feet are swift to shed blood:*

¹⁶ *Destruction and misery are in their ways:*

¹⁷ *And the way of peace have they not known:*

¹⁸ *There is no fear of God before their eyes.*

²³ **For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**

There is not one person here today that has not sinned. You are also a slave to your sin.

Proverbs 5:21-23

²¹ For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.

²² His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.

²³ He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.

➤ Your sin has separated you from God.

Isaiah 59:2-3

² But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

³ For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.

There is a barrier between you and God and it is your sin. Your sin has separated you from God even to the point that He does not hear your prayers. And the Apostle described your condition in the book of Ephesians.

Ephesians 2:11-12

¹¹ Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

¹² That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

➤ You will stand before the Lord to be judged one day.

Hebrews 9:27

²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Romans 2:16

¹⁶ In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

The judgment is coming after you die and you do not know when your day of death will come. That also is appointed.

Job 14:1-2, 5

Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble.

² *He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.*

⁵ *Seeing his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass;*

➤ **Your sin MUST be paid for before you die.**

Romans 6:23a

²³ *For the wages of sin is death;*

Isaiah 3:11

¹¹ *Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.*

If you die unforgiven then the payment will be eternal separation from God.

Revelation 20:12-15

¹² *And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*

¹³ *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.*

¹⁴ *And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*

¹⁵ *And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

If you stopped sinning today you would still go to hell because all your past sins MUST be paid for.

- You cannot earn forgiveness.

Isaiah 64:6

⁶ But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast.

- It is only the shedding of blood that will forgive sin.

Genesis 3:7, 21

⁷ And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

²¹ Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

The fig leaves we not acceptable so God killed an innocent animal to cover their sins.

Hebrews 9:22

²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

This is why there were so many animals sacrificed in the Old Testament. But the blood of those animals could not take away sin.

So, if the Bible stopped here we are certainly damned. We have absolutely no hope on our own. This brings us to the greatest news ever known.

- Jesus Christ came to save you.

Luke 2:10-11

¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 19:10

¹⁰ For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Jesus is seeking you today because you are lost. He has brought you here this morning to hear this message because He loves you. How much?

➤ Jesus died to pay for all your sins.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

³ For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

John 1:29

²⁹ The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Jesus has paid for all sin. Y have tw responsibilities.

➤ You must repent.

This is a change of mind. It is realizing that you are on a path too eternal destruction and then turn from that path toward Jesus.

➤ You must believe that Jesus took your place on the cross.

Acts 16:29-31

²⁹ Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

³⁰ And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

³¹ And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

John 3:14-18

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

¹⁵ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

¹⁶ *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

¹⁷ *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

¹⁸ *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

Conclusion:

John 14:6

⁶ *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*