

may be a trade or a purchase, but it is not a gift. Salvation is a gift.

Will you this very moment tell God you are sorry for your sins against Him, and then tell Him that you now accept His free gift?

1 John 5:13 assures us, *“These things have I written unto you **that believe on the name of the Son of God**; that ye may **know** that ye **have eternal life.**”*

If you sincerely asked the Lord to be your Savior, here’s how to “follow through” to become a strong Christian:

1. Follow Jesus Christ by studying and obeying the Bible, God’s Word. (John 8:31–32)
2. Pray often for guidance, strength, and purpose. (Philippians 4:6–7)
3. Go to an active Bible teaching church every Sunday. (Hebrews 10:25)
4. Tell someone every day about Jesus and His wonderful gift of eternal salvation. (2 Corinthians 6:2)

Bad News Good News



Man’s earthly predicament
and God’s solution

First, the bad news

God might be very angry with you

because of your attitude toward Him and the way you are living: *“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men,”* Romans 1:18.

Did you know that there are people who actually hate God and anything or anyone that reminds them of God, and that they spend much of their lives avoiding God or rebelling against His will and causing trouble for others who may love and want to obey God?

“Shouldst thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? Therefore is wrath upon thee from the Lord,” 2 Chronicles 19:2.

Did you also know there are people in this world that have let themselves think that God does not even exist? *“The fool hath said in his heart, ‘there is no God;’”* Psalm 14:1.

There are also people who think God does not know about what they are doing (Proverbs 5:21), or that He does not care about their problems (Matthew

10:28–31). Some even think that God will not hold them accountable for the way they are living (Revelation 20:14).

Yes, God might be very angry with you

all day every day: *“God is angry with the wicked every day,”* Psalm 7:11. There is indeed a day of reckoning, a day of judgment: *“For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil,”* Ecclesiastes 12:14. *“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire,”* Revelation 20:15.

Now, the Good News!

Though all of us have sinned and none of us deserves to be forgiven here or to go to Heaven after this life, God loves us and made the way for us to be pardoned and inherit eternal life. Romans 5:8 declares, *“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”* If Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins, that means we do not have to pay if we turn

from sin and humbly-desperately accept His gracious, full, and authoritative pardon as urgently and sincerely as a drowning man would call for a lifeguard: *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved,”* Romans 10:13. *“Therefore there is now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,”* Romans 8:1.

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.

John 3:16

The gospel—the good news—is 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:”* 1 Corinthians 15:3–4. Because He lives, we live through Him.

Further, Romans 6:23 says, *“The wages of sin is death: but*

the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.” In the true sense of the word, a gift has been purchased by the giver, and has been offered without charge or obligation to the intended recipient. The gift can be refused or received, but if anything is given in exchange for the gift, it is no longer a gift; the transaction