

Saved Today BUT Lost Tomorrow??

The Bible clearly teaches that before people can go to Heaven, they **MUST** be born again; we often say they must be saved. Being “born again” is a spiritual birth that takes place when people repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as Saviour. No religion or religious ordinance can do this; it is all of God. This is what Jesus was talking about when He spoke to a religious man named Nicodemus. “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” {John 3:3} Salvation {being born again} is necessary because **ALL** of us are born with a sin nature that we inherited from Adam when he disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. “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:” {Romans 5:12} Even though we are sinners by birth, God has **PROMISED** to forgive and save anyone and everyone who will repent [a *true sorrow* for sin and turning away from it] and call on Him for forgiveness and salvation. “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” {Romans 10:13} When people do this, God has **PROMISED** that they are forgiven and saved for eternity. We have God’s Word for this! Please consider these Bible verses: “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** [*emphasis added*].” {John 3:16} “He that believeth on the Son **hath everlasting life** [*emphasis added*].” {John 3:36 a} “And this is the record, that God hath given to us **eternal life**, [*emphasis added*] and this life is in his Son. ... 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**, [*emphasis added*] and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.” {1 John 5:11, 13} Speaking to religious people Jesus Said, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, **hath everlasting life**, [*emphasis added*] and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” {John 5:24}

Baptism does **NOT** have any saving merit; it is an ordinance that God gave for those who have truly trusted Jesus as Saviour. The **ONLY** baptism the Bible teaches is a complete immersion in water **AFTER** people have trusted Jesus as Saviour and not before. This is what Philip did to the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8:36-39. Baptism was performed **AFTER** the eunuch believe on Jesus for salvation. If a person is truly saved but has not been baptized before passing away, that person will still go to Heaven. Please consider if you will, the thief on the cross who believe in Jesus. To him Jesus said, “And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.” {Luke 23:43} The thief believed but was not baptized.

There are so many verses in the Bible that, when taken in their proper context, clearly teach that once a person has truly repented of sin of by faith alone in His shed blood {His sacrificial death on the Cross of Calvary where He paid our sin debt}, he is immediately saved at that moment and for all eternity. There is **NOT** any verse anywhere in the Bible that teaches that a **TRUE** Christian can possibly lose salvation. Anyone who says otherwise does not understand God’s Word or, worse yet, does not believe it. To say or teach that a person can be saved today and be lost tomorrow is, absolutely, false! The Bible does have much to say about how Christians are supposed to live, that we are to live in such a way as to bring honor and glory to our Saviour. “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.” {1 Corinthians 6:19-20} Consider also Romans 12:1-2; 1 Peter 1:15; “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” {Corinthians 10:31}

Because our Saviour, Jesus Christ, is alive today and eternally, we can rest in the promise He gave when He said, “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.” {John 14:3} As the Apostle Paul said, “We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.” {2 Corinthians 5:8}

Friend, if you **have truly** repented of sin and by faith alone in the shed blood of Jesus, you have trusted Him as Saviour, then do not believe the lie of Satan that you can lose your salvation. If you **have not truly** repented of sin and by faith alone in the shed blood of Jesus, you have trusted Him as Saviour, then I most sincerely encourage you to do that today, before it becomes eternally too late. You only have God’s promise of today because tomorrow may be too late. “... behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” {2 Corinthians 6:2 b}

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/April 2020