

Surrender

A simple definition of the word “surrender” means to yield or give up; to resign in favor of another. There are different types of surrender such as an unconditional surrender or conditional surrender, but the result is the surrender of one party yielding or giving up to the power of another. In time of war when one army surrenders to that of another, the army surrendering does not dictate the terms under which it will surrender. The terms of surrender are written by the army being surrendered to and the surrendering force simply agrees and yields to those terms.

When it comes to the matter of salvation and going to Heaven, God has laid out His terms and they are **NOT** negotiable. In His Word, the Bible, He has been very clear about this. There are many people who do not believe these terms; they want to argue about them, try to rewrite or redefine them, and some even try to dictate to God their own terms. My friend, God does not argue or debate with people; He says what He means, and He means what He says and that settles it. If people want the forgiveness of sin and to go to Heaven when they die, then it is on His terms and His terms alone; no discussion and no debate. What are God’s terms? Very briefly God’s terms are ...

1. Realize that you are a sinner. “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:” {Romans 3:10} “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” {Romans 3:23}
2. You are a sinner because of the sin nature inherited from Adam when he disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. {Genesis 2:16-17; 3:6} “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} You are a sinner and “... the wages of sin is death;” {Romans 6:23}.
3. Even though you are a sinner and worthy of death {physical and spiritual}, God has a great love for you; a very great love. “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 love of God is so great that He does not want anyone to die and go to hell. “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” {2 Peter 3:9} This is why God the Father sent His son Jesus Christ to shed His innocent blood died on the Cross of Calvary where He literally paid your sin debt, my sin debt, the sin debt of all humanity. “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:” {1 Peter 1:18-19} As you read these lines Jesus Christ is bodily in Heaven. “But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;” {Hebrews 10:12}
4. Before Jesus died on Calvary, He told people, “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” {Luke 13:3} Repentance is an absolute requirement for forgiveness of sin and for salvation. To repent simply means to admit to sin and turn from it or, as one man said, it means to take God’s side against your sin.
5. Salvation is free, a gift from God; you do not deserve it, nor can you earn it – it is all by faith alone in Jesus Christ. “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 2:8-9} [*Read again 1 Peter 1:18-19 above.*] Faith to believe comes from God and salvation is the result of trusting Jesus Christ.
6. **EVERYTHING** you need for the forgiveness of sin and for salvation has already been taken of in the person of Jesus Christ; what remains is for you to repent and by faith alone in His shed blood, you trust Him as your Saviour. God promised salvation to all who call upon His name. “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” {Romans 10:13} He also said, “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” {John 3:36} “And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. 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, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.” {1 John 5:11-13} These are God’s terms of surrender; you will either accept them or you will reject them. If you say, “not now” or “maybe later,” then you have in effect rejected them. Friend, please remember that you are only a heart beat away from eternity. Please, for the sake of your eternal soul, do not delay; repent and trust Jesus Christ as Saviour **TODAY!**

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/August 2019

All Scripture references are KJV