

Warranted for Life

When a product is purchased, it often comes with a **warranty**, the terms of which may vary. The **warranty** may be good for a 30, 60, or 90 day period or even as long as 1-year or more and cover such things as parts and labor. But, the **warranty** is only as good as its underwriter or broker, no matter how good the terms of the **warranty** may be. For example, let's say you bought something that had an unconditional, lifetime **warranty**. Alas, the item begins to develop problems, so you try to use the **warranty** to have it repaired, only to find out that there was a "fine print" clause, or that the company is no longer in business. Is the **warranty** worth anything? Obviously, it is not. Disappointment and frustration are bound to follow. After all, you did not get what you thought you did, and then when a defect showed up the **warranty** was no good. Disappointed? Yes! Frustrated? Yes! And there's nothing you can do about it - you're stuck with a broken product. Did you know that there is a "product" that you will never be disappointed with, and that it comes with a **warranty** that never expires, no matter what? That's right, it does exist but it cannot be bought for any amount of money. If you are interested, read on and I'll tell you how you can get it, for free!

The "product" I'm talking about is what we call *salvation*. *Salvation* means a deliverance from *the power and bondage of sin*. All of us, without exception, were born with a sinful nature and because of that nature, we do the various acts of sin (Rom. 3:23), whether it is rape, murder, robbery, homosexuality, or just telling a lie or being disobedient - there's no difference, for it's all sin. In the Bible, the Word of God, we are told that the payment for sin is eternity in the place the Bible calls hell (Rev. 20:15). You see, there is a payday for sin, and a thrice holy God has promised that "the soul that sinneth shall die." (Ezk. 18:4,20) That's the bad news, but it doesn't have to end that way. The good news is that this same God loves each and every soul so much that He has made provision for salvation (Jn. 3:16), and this is where the **warranty** comes in. The **warranty** is given by God in Heaven, and because He is eternal (Rev. 1:18), the **warranty** is also eternal. Here's how to have this **warranty**. The Bible declares that Jesus Christ is not only the Son of God (1 Jn. 4:15), but that He is also God (Jn. 20:28). He took to Himself the body of a man (Ph. 2:7; 1 Jn. 4:2) for the purpose of paying our sin debt by the shedding of His blood and death on the Cross of Calvary (1 Pe. 3:18). Although He was not a sinner in thought or deed (1 Pe. 2:20-23), He loved us so much that He, in every sense of the word, paid our sin debt (1 Pe. 2:24). Someone has said that, "He paid a debt He did not owe; we owed a debt we could not pay." When a person sees themselves as the sinner they are and repents and turns to Jesus Christ and by faith alone in His shed blood, they receive Him as personal Saviour, the Bible warrants (promises) that they will be forgiven and saved for all eternity. Even though once saved for all eternity, we do not have a license to do what we want; we have a responsibility to live our lives in such a way as to bring honor and glory to our Saviour (1 Co. 10:31; 1 Co. 6:19). Is it possible to have confidence that once you have received Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, that you have been truly saved? Yes, it is and here's proof from God's Word: "*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)

After you have received Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, you are encouraged to read your Bible daily, spend time in prayer, and seek out a good, independent, fundamental Baptist church to attend regularly. As you are faithful in church attendance, you will be spiritually fed and grow in the Lord.

-Richard A. Ciarrocca