

# *Step by Step*



**A Biblical Guide to  
Assurance of Salvation**

# Step by Step

## Help for the Seeking Soul

- Be a follower of Jesus –

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### Friend, would you like to be sure that your sins are forgiven?

- ❖ Do you want to be sure that you will go to heaven one day?
- ❖ Do you want to know that you are saved?
- ❖ Do you want to be sure that you are a child of God?
- ❖ Do you want to know how you can become a new creature as promised in the Bible? – 2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: Behold, all things are become new." (2 Cor. 5:17)

If so, here are several easy steps, which many have found to be helpful in finding assurance of salvation.

Before we do so let us pray together and ask the Lord to reveal to you the truth of His Word. May this be the sincere prayer of your heart:

"Lord Jesus,

Please help me to understand what you want to do in my life. Help me to be obedient to your Word as I discover I'm a lost sinner and my need to know and except You as my Saviour. Please give me assurance of salvation. AMEN"

**TURN TO YOUR BIBLE:** It is very important that you read a number of verses in order to learn what the Scriptures say about salvation. Follow these verses carefully.

## 1. 1 John 5:12 (NIV)

*“Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.”*

He who has the Son has .... LIFE

**What kind of Life is this?** See verse 11

**ETERNAL LIFE!**

“He who has the Son therefore has ETERNAL LIFE.”

**What is ETERNAL LIFE?**

It is living for an eternity.

**If you have eternal life what does that mean?**

You (your soul) will be in Heaven with the Lord forever!

## 2. 1 John 5:13 (NIV)

*I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

**What is being offered in these verses?**

**ETERNAL LIFE**

**How do I obtain this Eternal Life?**

By believing in the Son (Jesus Christ)

In other words: Once you have received Jesus Christ by faith, you receive Eternal Life.

### **How can I be sure?**

The verse says: *I write these things... that you may know that you have eternal life*

The answer to knowing, is by receiving Jesus Christ the Son of God

However, a lack of assurance comes from a lack of Jesus Christ in your life.

## **3. Luke 19:10**

*“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”*

### **Who did Jesus come for?**

For those who are lost.

### **What is His Wish for them?**

To save them.

### **Who are the lost ones?**

All are born lost and unsaved in their sins. See Rom 3:23.

### **What is the destiny of a sinner?**

**Exodus 34:7** “... *He will by no means clear the guilty.*”

### **What does that mean?**

All sinners will be punished.

See **Revelation 20:14-15** “*And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*”

### **Whose name is not written in the Book of Life?**

*All those who have sinned and are still unsaved.*

### **Who has sinned?**

*“For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God”*  
(Romans 3:23)

**ALL OF US ARE THEREFORE DESTINED FOR ETERNAL DAMNATION.**  
But praise the Lord! Jesus came to seek and save those who are lost. (Luke 19:10).

Friend, Jesus came for you! And took your punishment on Himself.

But how did He obtain Salvation?

#### **4. Isaiah 53:5 (NIV)**

*“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed”.*

**Who is the prophet speaking of?**

Jesus Christ

**What is the prophet describing?**

Jesus's death on the cross

**Do you know why it was necessary for Him to die on the cross for our sins?**

I will try to explain it in a very simple manner:

*Let us imagine a dialogue between God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ regarding a very crucial and important Biblical truth. Isaiah 53:5 and John 3:16 is very relevant in this conversation in which they discuss the creation and everyone that will be born through the ages and inhabit the earth (Ephesians 1:3-6). The all-knowing God knew you, among other things, would be living on earth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and your name also comes up in the dialogue. Say you, for the purpose of this explanation, are John or Linda.*

● DIALOGUE ●

Father: Here is John (Linda) who will live in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I love him dearly (*John 3:16*). I would truly like him to be with us at the end of his life (*Ezekiel 33:11*)

Jesus: Yes Father, I also wish he could enjoy everlasting life with us.

Father: Unfortunately, this is not possible because John (Linda) will commit many sins because he is born a sinner. He will swear, steal, lie and be unclean. He will hate Me who created him. I am compelled by My justice to judge him. He will therefore have to pay for his sins, unless I can find someone who is willing to take his place. There is only One who could do this, and that is you, My Son (*John 3:16* and *Acts 4:12*)

Jesus: Father, I am willing to accept full responsibility for all the sins that John (Linda) will commit one day. You can hold Me responsible for all his sins, as long as he can be with us in Heaven (*2 Corinthians 5:18*).

Father: Very well, my Son, then I will hold you responsible for all John's (Linda's) sins. But you will have to go to earth and become a human being in order to bear the punishment which I have determined for John (Linda). This will mean that You will be cursed and die on a cross and that I will forsake you and leave you to bear the pain and agony of sin.

Jesus: Father, I am willing to pay the full price for all John's (Linda's) sins. I will go (*Philippians 2:5-8*). 2000 years ago Jesus did precisely this – not only for you John (Linda) but for all sinners.

John 3:16 (NIV) *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life”.*

## **5. Now let us take another look at Isaiah 53:5**

*“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed”.*

**Therefore, what did Jesus do?** Jesus bore the punishment for our sins

**Who did Jesus die for?** For you

**Do you believe that Jesus paid for your sins on the cross?**

**If you would like to learn/understand more about Jesus on the Cross please contact the Pastor at the Grain Shed Church of Christ to have a chat. We would love to help you on your spiritual journey.**

**WE NOW UNDERSTAND WHAT JESUS DID 2000 YEARS AGO. LET’S SEE WHAT HE WANTS TO DO FOR YOU NOW.**

## **6. 1 John 1:7**

*“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin”.*

Pay special attention to the second half ... *“and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”*

**What is meant by the blood of Jesus?**

*“In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness”.*  
(Heb. 9:22)

It refers to Christ's death on the cross. His blood was shed on the cross. This shows the sacrifice He made for us. It is the sacrifice a Holy God demands for the redemption and our transgressions.

**What does the word "purify" mean?**

It means that He completely removes (cancel) our sins and no longer holds it against us.

**From which sins does Jesus cleanse us?**

From ALL sins.

**Are there sins in your life from which Jesus cannot cleanse you?**

NO. He cleanses from ALL sins by His blood.

**Now what must we do?**

Isaiah 53:5 *"But he was wounded for our transgression, he was bruised for our iniquities ..."* The good news is that Jesus Christ; God's Son received the "death penalty" in our place. "The wages of sin is death ..." (Rom 6:23)

**What is required of me to repent and confess my sin?**

## **7. See 1 John 1:9**

*"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

**What must we therefore do with our sins?**

We must confess them.

**And what does God do with sin if we confess?**

He forgives us.

*But now the Bible says that God forgives, but will never leave sin unpunished (Exodus 34:6, 7). If He then forgives sins, surely He must still punish the sinner! Who bore the punishment?*

**Jesus did!**



**See Isaiah 53:5,6** *“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”*

### **How do I confess my sins?**

The word confesses means to “acknowledge”. We must acknowledge our sins and ask God’s forgiveness. Acknowledge my sins means that I am accusing myself before God because I hate my sin and regret them. Conversion means “to turn away from”. I therefore turn away from sin with the honest resolve never to commit sin again. From now on I intend serving the Lord to the best of my ability and to part with my sinful life.

### **Why is it necessary to confess your sins?**

The following true story will illustrate it clearly: Mr Brown, a very good friend of mine and his son Paul took a drive one afternoon. Paul was only 16 years old. Along the way his father allowed him to drive the car. Unfortunately, they were stopped by a traffic officer who fined Paul \$200 for driving without a license. My friend also received a fine for \$200 for allowing Paul to drive the vehicle. The next day Mr Brown went to the office where he had to pay the \$400 fine. The official gave him an admission of guilt form to complete. He then gave Mr Brown a receipt of \$200 as well the other \$200. Very surprised Mr Brown said: “I don’t understand, didn’t we have a fine of \$400?” “Quite right” the official said “but your son must complete his own form for admission of guilt. “ Mr Brown: “But my son is a minor, can’t I sign the admission on his behalf?” “No sir”, the clerk said “you cannot admit someone else’s guilt, even if it is your own son. Only the guilty party can admit his own guilt. You can, however, pay his fine, but I can only accept the \$200 once he has signed the admission of guilt.”

### **All of a sudden Mr Brown realised:**

But that is what Jesus did! Jesus has paid our “fine”, but God can only accept this “fine” once we have made an admission of guilt.

The \$400 fine he paid made him realise and understand why it is necessary for us to confess our sins.

God can only forgive us once we have confessed our sins. But HE can only forgive us because Jesus paid for those sins.

### **Is it enough to merely confess my sins?**

No, because God can only forgive me once my penalty has been paid. *The only penalty payable for sin is that which Jesus paid on the cross. And because that penalty was paid also for me, I can go to God now and confess my sins. The penalty which Jesus paid on the cross will then also count in my favour and God will forgive me.*

### **How do I become part of this penalty which Jesus paid for me?**

To completely identify with Him, by accepting Him in my heart and by accepting the price He paid for me on the cross.

## **8. Read 1 John 5:12 again:**

*“He who has the Son has life”*

### **How do I “have the Son?”**

The following should illustrate it clearly:

*Jack White fell in love with Susan. After they had been dating for a while, Jack decided to ask Susan to marry him. Susan said: “For a long time I have wanted to become Mrs White. I will therefore belong to you, Jack.”*

*The next day someone asked Susan why she looks so happy – had she perhaps inherited a fortune? “Yes” she said: “I now have someone to share my life with.”*

*Note very carefully she said: “I now have” What did she mean? She now has someone to whom she has given her heart. She had committed to a relationship with someone.*

### **When did she acquire Jack?**

*When she said “Yes” When she gave herself to him – when she gave her heart to him.*

### **When do you receive Jesus?**

When you say “Yes” to Him. When you give your heart to Him. When you identify with him in faith.

Let me explain:

Jesus approaches you and says: “ Jack / Susan, I love you. I also died on the cross for you and paid for your sins. I wish to claim you as my own. *Will you belong to me forever?”*

### **What is Jesus waiting for?**

For your answer. Before Susan gave her answer to Jack, she did not yet belong to him. But when she said “yes”, from that moment she belonged to him.

### **When do I therefore have the Son?**

When I wholly give myself to Him and identify with Him. The moment I accept Him, then I have Jesus and I also know that I have everlasting **LIFE**. Read 1 John 5:12,13 again.

Revelation 3:20 (NIV) *“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.”*

## **9. What should one do to be saved?**

You must:

- ❖ Acknowledge that you are a sinner, that you need to get saved and that Jesus came to save you.
- ❖ Believe that Jesus died on the cross for you.

- ❖ Accept Him as your Redeemer and Saviour and give your heart to Him as you invite Him into your life.
- ❖ Confess your sins and ask God to cleanse you from all iniquities and purify you through the blood of Jesus.

**Do you wish to settle the matter with God?**

If you truly desire to do this, there is really nothing to stop you, because God says that He will never reject you.

## **10. Isaiah 1:18, 19 (NIV)**

*"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. <sup>19</sup> If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land;*

## **11. John 6:37 (NIV)**

*"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away."*

Note the words: *"AND WHOEVER COMES TO ME I WILL NEVER DRIVE AWAY"*

## **12. Now say the following prayer:**

- ❖ "Lord Jesus, I am a lost sinner. I need you to save me.
- ❖ Cleanse me of all my sins that I confess before You. I ask forgiveness for my sinful life because you have paid for it.
- ❖ I understand and believe that You died on Calvary for my sins.
- ❖ I therefore accept you Lord Jesus as my personal Saviour. AMEN

Here is how you can be sure:

## **13. Read 1 John 1:9 again: (NIV)**

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*

**Are your sins forgiven?**

YES!

**How do you know your sins are forgiven?**

Because the Bible says so. The Bible promises that God forgives the sins which I confess. Because I have confessed in the name of Jesus, I know my sins are forgiven.

## **14. Now read John 3:36 (NIV)**

*“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him.”*

**Do you believe in the Son? Do you believe that Jesus died on the cross for you? Have you accepted Him into your life?**

YES.

**What do you have now?**

Everlasting Life

**How do you know this?**

It is written in the Bible.

- ❖ Christ is my advocate before God – *1 John 1:9*.
- ❖ God’s promise of forgiveness – *1 John 2:1*.
- ❖ The Holy Spirit’s confirmation in my heart – *Rom 8:16*.

## **15. Thank God**

Thank God for helping you to understand His plan for your life and for saving your soul.

### **Can you be lost again?**

No, you cannot. It is possible to stray from God, but then you can always go to Jesus and ask his forgiveness and be restored with Him. He will help you. But you can never be lost again.

## **16. What happen if I sin?**

See John 6:39. (NIV)

*“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.”*

**Jesus loves you too much to lose you.**

**Read His precious promise in John 10:27-29**

## **17. What of the future?**

- ❖ Now your Christian life has only started.
- ❖ There is still much to learn and many victories to be won.
- ❖ There are many temptations which you will have to withstand, with the help of Jesus.
- ❖ But thank the Lord you have started.
- ❖ Read your Bible and good Christian books to help you and spend time in prayer with Him.

### **THE FOLLOWING ADVICE IS VERY IMPORTANT:**

**Improve your knowledge** regarding Jesus and God and you will discover more of God's grace and peace. This can be attained by thorough and systematic Bible study.

1. Start off by studying all the verses quoted in this booklet again. Do systematic Bible study every day for at least half an hour, and pray that God will make everything clear to you. Start reading the Gospel of John. After that, read the other books of the New Testament and finally, the whole Bible.

*1Peter 2:2 "... crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,"*

2. Do not neglect daily prayer times and ask Jesus to be with you when temptations come. **Never forget the importance of prayer.** Jesus taught us to pray as follows:

*Matthew 6:13 "And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil..."*

3. Seek to **be filled with the Holy Spirit.** It is God's command, for which you must pray regularly.

*Ephesians 5:18 (NIV) "Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit."*

*Luke 11.13 (NIV) "If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"*

4. Unashamedly be a Christian. Do not be shy to **openly witness** to others about Jesus and what He did in your life.

*Matthew 10:32, 33 (NIV) "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.*

*<sup>33</sup> But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven."*

5. Seek the **fellowship of believers.** Never miss church services and prayer meetings. Heb. 10:25
6. Start **tithing** – see God's promises in 2 Cor. 9:6-8

*Malachi 3:10 (NIV) "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."*

7. **Lead others to Jesus.** There is rejoicing amongst the angels about your conversion. You too can rejoice with the angels when you lead someone to Christ by your testimony and prayers.

**Proverbs 11:30 (NIV)** *“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.”*

**Luke 15:7 (NIV)** *“I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”*

**WE WOULD LOVE TO HELP YOU ON YOUR SPIRITUAL  
JOURNEY**

**GOD BLESS YOU!**

## **Contact Details**

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