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# *Salvation 101*

*by*

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How can I know I am saved? What does it mean to be saved? I have seen others on fire for God and then in no time they drift away back into the world; how can I be sure this does not happen to me? These are some of the most prominent questions and fears in our minds and hearts when it comes to salvation and our faith.

First of all, I'd like to make a basic point. It is the Father who calls you. You must begin by seeking His face. We must ask, seek, and knock to find Him. He never drifts from us, it is us who leaves Him.

There are no "dry" times with God. If you are dry, it is because you have wandered away from Him, it is as simple as that. Like a plant without sun, you will begin to shrivel and die.

Never fear, all you need to do is get back into the sunshine! God is more than willing to meet you if you will but turn your face to Him, little flower. So let's begin our journey from your beginning to gain an understanding of what an awesome thing the Lord has done for us through His only begotten Son Jesus Christ. It is my hope that when we are through your spirit will be on fire in such magnitude that we may have to call the fire department just to contain it.....!

## **Lesson 1**

## **Your Birth...Your Beginning**

As in any good story, one must start at the beginning, your beginning! Here you are, a tiny helpless baby wrapped in a blankie.....and yes, sadly mortal. Spirit and soul living in a flesh body....flesh condemned and destined for death and in doing so, taking your soul with it.

### **1. The first scripture I want you to look at is Rom. 5:12**

**Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin: and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned:**

This means that you didn't actually have to do anything to die, yet death reigns because you are simply born into it for it is the realm in which you live. As you grow, your mortal sinful nature and all that lovely help from the demonic realm makes it nearly impossible to do right and since you have no righteousness of your own, you cannot defend yourself or save yourself, even if you wanted to. You are at the mercy of a Mighty God and King, who thankfully loves you dearly.

### **2. Now, look at Rom. 5:8.....**

**But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

.....Our Heavenly Father knew this would happen and Jesus Christ was ordained to save us from the beginning of the world. Try and understand that Jesus is God and He Himself who made us came and died for us while we were yet sinners. He didn't wait to see if you would believe in Him. He loved you first and always has. He didn't say, I'll only die for the ones

who are pretty good, No, he looked right at you while you were in your most disgusting moment in life and said.....I will die for you, right here, right now. I will take your punishment on Myself. I will take your stripes and I will taste death for you so you don't have to. He looked at you from your beginning to your end and He said....."I love you" ....He spread out His hands willingly and let them nail Him to that cross, a cruel and horrible death meant for the worst and most hardened criminals.

**3. Matt. 10:28 says, And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

This is where you will go without His help, your body and your soul will be destroyed, forever. He, Almighty God, fights for you. He comes down out of His lofty habitation and rushes to your side. All your life He has tried to get your attention. "Please" he pleads, "choose life" ...."listen to Me, my child.....If you don't grab hold of Me you will die and enter a world of no mercy, you will burn and hurt for ever if you turn your face from Me, you'll never make it."

He says....."I am all there is.....there is no other One to help you, no other God. All you have to do is just believe and give me your life. I will help you. I will come and live in you and help you. I will give you my peace and my love in that world you live in. You will one day come home.....I promise. I who cannot lie, I promise you eternal life and I will wipe away every tear from your eye and you will know true peace and everlasting joy! Just don't turn your face away from Me. I give you life and it is My gift to you.....all you have to do is take it.....take hold of Me and don't let go."

What does God give you when you are born?

#### 4. Deut. 30:19

**I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:**

God is fair and just and Holy. He gave you free will. You have a right to choose. No one can make you choose. No demon in hell can take your free will away from you. God Himself will not cross this line for He keeps His word, His promises, and has NEVER lied even once in all His eternity!

So here you are, born in sin.....what if you die before you are old enough to choose life? He is fair and there is an age of accountability. Some have argued it to be 13. But through demonic encounters it appears to be 11. Can you imagine entering the realm of death and torment at 11? God forbid. May we all take this to heart and cry out to help the young ones.

There is a spiritual responsibility on parents to raise their children by and into the Truth.

**Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**

When we raise them up in religion (man's opinion of God) we kill their souls. Which is why you often hear of 'pastor's kids' being the wildest. Truth is not religion, God is Truth.

## Lesson 2

### Law vs. Grace

So what is this I hear about the Law vs. Grace?

Under the Law we had to do works, had to obey laws, offer sacrifices to cover our sins, and ordinances were hard to keep with our hearts of stone. When law exists so does punishment for breaking the law. Between my sinful nature and demons running rampant what do you think my chances of survival are? Very slim and very difficult, I'm sure. Who will save us and redeem us from the law of sin?

1. Rom. 5:13-17 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similtude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. But not as the offense, so also is the free gift. For if through the offense of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offenses unto justification. For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one,

## Jesus Christ.)

The kindness and love of God always amazes me. He knows we are but dust and watches patiently as we struggle to find Him, tripping and faltering and making a mess of things on a consistent basis. Keep in mind that Almighty God is so huge that He can't fit into the universe, He measures it with the span of one hand and All-Power belongs to Him....yet He knows my name, how many hairs are on my head and my every thought.

Because I am His, He tries my heart, counts my tears, and fights those who rise up against me. He never forsakes me, has written my name in the palm of His hand, and calls me His son. How can this be? For who am I.....? I am nothing. How much of my life I have spent on myself and all the while, You Lord, waiting for me just to notice that I am mortal, headed for death and hanging off every action, hoping I will just look up. Thank you Lord for saving me! Thank you Lord for waiting for me! Thank you Lord for not giving up on me when all the rest of the world did. Grace is what you gave and Love is what you are and Your throne is called the "Mercy" seat.

Mercy is what He had on us when He took our sins upon Himself and died in our place. Grace is what He gives to us while we stumble around in the dark trying to find our way home. Salvation is what He gives to all those who believe and trust in Him.

## Lesson 3

### The Cross

Okay, back to law vs. grace. So here you are. If you are a Jew, you have the laws, otherwise you are simply a heathen. Not a pretty picture if you ask me. But God's master plan is still underway. Here comes a new baby, born of a virgin, predestined before the world began. Yes, God knew all this would happen, saw it all, and said it was good. He came to earth and His name was Emmanuel, God **WITH** us! Not against us.....

Jesus, born of a virgin, fathered by the Holy Spirit, lives without sinning even once! He teaches the disciples and leads and heals the people. He fulfills the scripture written years ago about Him, and he shows us the Father's love and how to pray.

He shows us how to live as we should and tells us to love one another just like He loves us. He tells us that He will be killed for our sins, that He is the sacrificial Lamb, and that He will be raised again from the dead and death will be conquered by Him. Not only that, but He will send the Holy Spirit to comfort, teach, and guide us and that He will put His Spirit within us and give us a heart like His so we will be able to do all things through Him.

He is gentle and He is kind. He is our Shepherd. And He does all He says, keeps every word spoken to us and never leaves or forsakes us. This is our

Christ, our Savior, our Lord and King whom we serve. He's not like an ordinary man or even an angel, but He is and was before the world began, He is God.

**John 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.**

So, just what happened at the cross?

Satan who had the right to punish the wicked was about to be judged and imprisoned and his heirarchy of fallen angels bound! Not only that, Jesus took a bunch of people to heaven with Him who were stuck in hades when He took satan's key's away!

You see, something the old serpant Satan overlooked a very important fact. Gleefully, he thought he was about to be god by killing God, but in his greed, he forgot something, it is against the Law of God to kill someone who has committed no sin. And as Jesus could not be born into sin as Mary conceived of the Holy Ghost, Jesus was born sinless.

So when Satan killed Jesus, Satan broke the law. He killed an innocent man. Satan was judged for his disobedience and crime! Jesus took away Satan's power, locked up the fallen angels and satan became....just the devil. Where is satan now? Some say he's stuck to the ground in Tartarus. Where ever he is is of little relevance as he is a defeated foe. Not only did Jesus defeat death and sin for us....but just look at what Jesus gave us after he trashed Satan and his heirarchy.....!

**Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.**

Serpents and scorpions are demonic powers and anything evil that comes against you. Hmmmm.....do I have any reason to fear? How much power is **given** to me? And what can hurt me when God Himself is living inside of me?! **NOT A THING!** I have the right and authority to cast out demons, heal the sick, and raise the dead!

Let's recap.....you were born into sin, saved by the blood of Jesus, because He gave His life in your place. How do you make Him Lord? You must give Him your life and repent!

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Repent means to turn from your sin. God is saying, "Turn from your wickedness and accept and follow the Truth, and you will be saved. If you truly repent, God will forgive you."

### **Salvation Prayer:**

"Heavenly Father, I confess I am a sinner. I cannot save myself and I am sorry for my sin. Please forgive me for all the wicked evil things I have **EVER** done. Your word says that 'whosoever' calleth upon the name of the Lord will be saved, therefore I cry out, save me Lord Jesus, save me! I

give you my life, I make you my King and I repent for my sins that I have done against You. Forgive me Lord, fill me with Your Holy Spirit, Father, so that I am able to serve and obey You and do that which pleases You for the rest of my life."

## Lesson 4

### Baptism

**Acts 2:38** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

This is very important. Baptism actually places you into Christ. Have someone who is Spirit-filled baptise you when you are ready. You must understand what it means to be "in Christ". It is very important that you receive the gift of tongues speech. Only those who are filled with the Holy Spirit are God's children, for it is God in you that saves you.

Baptism must be by submergence to represent the death of your flesh and your new life in Christ. You must understand that as you go under the water, it represents that you have died and that as you come up out of the water you have risen, never to die again, just like Christ.

**Rom. 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us that were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?**

So baptism is a washing away of your sins and your new life in Christ has begun. You are now in Christ. From now on you live and move and have your being and existence in Him (Acts 17:28). Now you must go through a renewing of the mind (Rom. 12:2). For though your sins are forgiven and though God's Spirit is within you, your carnal mind is still present.

Paul said, "I die daily" and what he meant was every day a little bit of the old Paul was replaced by Christ (Truth). While you are going through spiritual sanctification God gives you grace so that even though you make mistakes, you simply pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and keep going. God knew that it was a process and has extended you plenty of grace and mercy.

What you must do now is strive for the Kingdom of God. You must seek, knock, and ask. Your spirit will grow daily as your flesh (carnal man) dies daily. Spiritual sanctification is a life long process, however, you are saved even if you should die 2 seconds after making Him the Lord of your life, why? Because He promised that "whosoever" calls on Him and puts their trust in Him, would be saved. It is just that simple.

Lesson 5

## Staying on Fire

Once you are filled with the Holy Spirit and feel His love and joy surging through your veins your outlook on the world begins to change. Not every moment will be spent in euphoric delight, but I can tell you this. When you align your heart up with God, you will feel joy to the point that it will be like a surging sensation upwards into your chest area. There are times when it will take your breath away! This sensation will come regardless of many obstacles you may face in life.

Sin is what separates us from the Father. When we sin, we are pulling away from God, as He is the Truth. Sin leads to death, whereas obedience leads to Life. Of a truth, we are much like a daydream of God. We came from His thoughts. When you do evil, God does not think about evil, so if He quits thinking about You, you simply begin to fade away, and one day will cease to exist.... forever forgotten will be all of those who love and do evil.

You stay on fire for God by daily, moment by moment, drawing near to Him. In every thought, action, and deed you begin to do the right things, say those things that please Him, and do all those things that make Him smile. It truly is, "repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is near".

Every time you repent, it means you have seen the Truth and turned from something wicked or wrong. It might be jealousy, anger, greed, etc. You

listened to your convictions and you did the right thing. Everytime you do this, your spirit is strengthened and your light grows stronger and stronger. The kingdom of heaven, which is love, peace, joy, wisdom, power, sound mind, etc. grows.

You are either growing towards God, or away from Him. You cannot just remain an observer. For your actions will follow one or the other. God says that only those who "obey" Him are His. This is the Truth. You may call yourself anything you like (priest, pastor, saved etc.), but it makes little difference as it is God who decides who is His and who isn't. You will only fool yourself if your heart is far from Him.

Only those whom He "knows" will enter heaven's gates and rule the earth with Him one day. How can you know God? He is the Truth. He is all that is good and pure and righteous. If one were to spend their time being "religious" it simply isn't enough! You must love God! You must love the Truth!

I hear people say they are seeking God and cannot find Him. Truthfully, they don't want Him, though most don't realise consiously what they are doing, it is true. Many are unable to bear the fact of who they really are and what they have really become. Pride won't let them see it.

How do you grow cold and dry in your walk with God? How do you lose the fire of your salvation? It is simple, just walk away from Him, the Truth.

Follow after the world and its ways and soon your joy, love, peace, and salvation will be just a thing of the past. This usually is a gradual process in most people. The cares of this life and our own lusts choke out the Word, the Truth in us. So if you want to remain close to God and to abide in the joy of the Lord, you must pay heed who you are listening to and live a life that pleases the Father.

Prayer, "Father, give me your wisdom to know what is right and wrong and give me the strength to do that which is right. I know that on my own I can do nothing. That all my efforts will just be in my flesh if you do not help me. You are my strength, You are my wisdom, You are my joy and my peace. Send your angels to minister to me and to set a hedge about me. Fill me without measure with your Holy Spirit. Give me understanding and help me. I ask in Jesus name".

**2 Sam. 22:3 The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my savior; thou savest me from violence.**

So you see, this little baby all wrapped in a blankie, had a most wonderful Creator. He who made him also made a way for him. All that that little one needs to do is seek the Lord, the Truth. To humble himself and cry out to his mighty Creator.

## **7 Things That Feed your Spirit**

- 1. Spend at least 1 hour a day praying in tongues, two is better.**
- 2. Meditation is a must! Get free meditation cd and booklet!**
- 3. Read your bible every day!**
- 4. Thank God as often as you can for all He has done. This is affirmation.**
- 5. Spend time talking to others who are on fire for God.**
- 6. Listen to praise music, but not hypnotically. Just enjoy the songs.**
- 7. Fasting is crucial. Get booklet on fasting so you understand it and use it!**

## **7 Things That Drain your Spirit**

- 1. Television is not good for you. Creates fixations.**
- 2. Reading fiction books with bad content (romance, violence, etc.) again fixations.**
- 3. Speaking evil of others with criticism, slander, and gossip.**
- 4. Overeating and shopping etc... (enacts lust and greed).**
- 5. Worry and doubt (pull back from these and watch them**

**shrink!)**

**6. Secular music, it reinforces wrong thinking.**

**7. Angry aggressive behaviour (has a bad chain reaction!)**

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