

## Accept Jesus in your heart and be saved



Who has not heard those words during an evangelistic meeting when the invitation was given to respond to the message? We have all witnessed it how those words were gently spoken into the microphone: “Accept Jesus in your heart and you will go to heaven, you will be a Christian, you will be saved”.

But is this really the message of the gospel?

There is not 1 single Verse in the entire Bible which tells us that we have to accept Jesus into our hearts in order to be saved.

How can our salvation be based on such a prayer, such an invitation when such a verse simply does not exist? There is no scriptural support of the sinner’s prayer anywhere in the Bible.

And yet this is the message of the modern day church.

Where did we go wrong?

Jesus himself never preached such a message. He had never asked anyone to accept him into their hearts. He never made this a condition of our salvation.

The message of salvation in scripture is very plain and simple.

It is entirely focused on the cross.

It was on the cross that God reached out to all of us and offered forgiveness for our sins. On the cross God reached down from heaven with the offer of forgiving all our sins.

On the cross God had reconciled everyone to Himself who is willing to accept His sacrifice as an atonement for his or her sins.

On the cross Jesus took the full burden of our sins upon himself.

The blood which he shed on that cross was the divine 'sin offering' which has the power to eliminate mankind's sins throughout all ages.

On the cross Jesus not only died for the sins of the past but his death was also a ransom for the sins that would one day be committed at some point in the future.

The blood that was spilled on the cross contained a 'future dimensions' otherwise it would have been of no value to us.

On that cross everyone since the creation of Adam until the last men left standing on earth has been reconciled to God providing they have accepted this sacrifice as atonement for their own sins.

True reconciliation with God can only be found on the cross.

Such reconciliation requires two kinds of responses from us.

First it requires genuine repentance.

Without repentance there can be no forgiveness of sin. It does not matter how often we have prayed the 'sinners prayer' and how many times we have accepted Jesus into our hearts, if it was not preceded by genuine repentance then it was nothing else then a 'spiritual mantra' that will never bear fruit.

Such a confession, such a prayer will leave a person completely untouched and unchanged on the inside.

A 'changed life' will only become evident when a person is either totally desperate, when he cries out to God in complete desperation or when a person comes before God with full awareness of his true sinful state.

In either case we acknowledge our total and complete dependence on Him and we have confessed with our lips that only He can save us from our hopeless state of depravity that we are in, that rules over our heart.

In either case a person will confess and will recognize that Jesus is the only person who is able to save him.

As we grow as Christians our awareness of what was achieved on that cross will continue to grow.

Spiritual growth and Christian maturity will always lead us closer to the cross.

On the cross we discover more and more of the true dimensions of who we really are but never for the sake of our damnation.

This revelation only takes place because it reveals more and more of the depth of God's love.

Unless we continue to see our need for His love and acceptance and see our need for His daily forgiveness we will never truly understand the depth of His love.

On the cross God's love and God's mercy take on an unlimited dimension, the depth of which we can never be fully understand with our minds. The more we meditate on it the greater His love and his mercy becomes.

The nail prints on the hands and feet of Jesus were still visible on his resurrected body.

It is very doubtful that our bodies will reflect any of the scars of our sufferings that we had to endure back here on earth. (one day he will wipe away all our tears and heal our memories as well. There will be nothing that will remind us of past suffering and pain)

The cross is so sacred to God that it will even be present in the next life as a reminder of His eternal love for us.

Every time when we will look at those nail prints we will also see a reflection of that cross in front of our eyes.

While many of our memories will have faded in a million years from now on, the sign of the cross will never leave us, will never let us forget what God did for us because of His love.



In the cross, in the cross