

Hope, Forgiveness and A New Start

Ever wished you could start over in life? Ever wished things could be made right between you and your Creator? There is hope and there is a way!

Before we can look at the really good news, there is bad news. Once you deal with this, the good news will be sweeter and achievable. Most people don't get to enjoy the good news because they won't deal with the problem. The truth is, below the feelings, relationships, hurts, problems and issues of life - is the same problem for us all. *Sin!* When we deal with this correctly - there is hope to be found, as well as, forgiveness and a new start. How awesome is that!

First, the bad news

These truths come from the pages of Scripture - right from the lips of God in heaven.

Because of sin, we are born separated from God. Without intervention, we are ineligible for Heaven. This applies to the entire human race. You and I are not alone.

1) In the eyes of the holy God of heaven - we are sinners.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23)

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:" (Romans 3:10)

"For the wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23)

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone:" (Revelation 21:8)

2) There is no amount of good works we can do to save ourselves from being eternally separated from God.

*"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)

To be separated from God forever, simply do nothing. To ignore or reject God's son is the only sin that can keep a person out of Heaven and the only alternative to Heaven is eternal torment in the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:15, 2 Thes. 1:7-9).

"He that believes on Him is not condemned: but he that believes not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:18)

Now the GOOD NEWS!

There is a simple and free way to be reconciled with God and it is made possible by God's only son, Jesus. A blood sacrifice was needed to pay for your sins and Jesus was sent to become that sacrifice. He was nailed to a Roman cross to shed His blood in payment for your sin. Then three days after His death, He rose from the dead, validating once and for all His qualification to be our only Savior.

1) Placing your complete trust in Jesus' death, burial and resurrection is God's one and only means of salvation.

Jesus said of himself: *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."* (John 14:6)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:16 & 17)

2) The Bible clearly tells us how to be saved (to be made right with God, delivered, set free).

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 10:9-10)

3) This is a free gift from God because He loves you.

"but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23b)

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

This is so simple most people miss it. Sadly, many have never heard this GOOD NEWS. God wanted you to hear it and to have a chance to have hope, forgiveness and a new start (He calls it - "being born from above", which means, *it's new life!*).

You can have this free, life changing gift - right now. Are you ready to believe right now? If so, simply tell God what he asked you to confess. Here is a sample prayer you can pray or talk to Him in your own words.

"God, I admit to you that I am a sinner, and I know I cannot do anything to earn my way to Heaven. I truly believe that Jesus died on the cross, was buried and rose from the grave. I put my faith in His sacrifice to pay for my sin in full. I want hope, your forgiveness and a new start today. Amen"

If you choose to call upon Him to be your Savior - please let us know. We want to hear the good news and we want to send you a brief email to give you guidance for your ***New Journey of Faith***. BBNbi@bbnmedia.org