

# The Good News God's Plan of Salvation

New Life Alliance Church 2008



## 1. What is man's problem?

**All have sinned, are separated from God, and are under his wrath.**

**Romans 3:10-12, 23 NIV** As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." ...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

**Romans 1:21-22, 25 NLT** Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. They traded the truth about God for a lie.

**We are all under the holy wrath of God; He is angry with sinners and will punish them.**

**Romans 2:4-5 NIV** Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

**Hebrews 9:27 NIV** Each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment.

**Revelation 14:10-11 NLT** "Anyone who worships the beast [those who reject Jesus Christ]... must drink the wine of God's anger. It has been poured full strength into God's cup of wrath. And they will be tormented with fire and burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and the Lamb. The smoke of their torment will rise forever and ever, and they will have no relief day or night..."

**Revelation 20:11-15 NLT** And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide. I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.

**We are unable to save ourselves. Salvation has been provided by God out of love and is a free gift, but it must be received.**

**Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast.

## 2. How is Jesus Christ and the cross the solution?

**John 14:6 NLT** Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

**Matthew 7:13-14 NLT** Jesus said, "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

**Acts 4:12 NLT** There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.”

**John 3:3, 16, 36 NLT** Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God. You must be born again.” For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. And anyone who believes in God’s Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn’t obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God’s angry judgment.”

### **What is the significance of Christ’s death on the cross?**

**Romans 5:8-11; 3:25 NLT** But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood.

**1 Peter 3:18 NIV** For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4 NLT** I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.

**Isaiah 53:5, 6, 11 NLT** But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins.

**2 Corinthians 5:21 NIV** God [God the Father] made him [God the Son, Jesus Christ] who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him [being united with him by faith] we might become the righteousness of God.

**Ephesians 1:7 NIV** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace.

## **3. What must I do to be saved?**

**Simply believing in God – believing the facts – is not enough to get to heaven.**

**James 2:19 NLT** You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

**This is an example of saving faith.**

**Luke 18:9-14 NLT** Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: “Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: ‘I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. For I don’t cheat, I don’t sin, and I don’t commit adultery. I’m certainly not like that tax collector! I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’ “But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’ I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be

humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

**Here are some verses that explain how to be saved.**

**Acts 17:30 NLT** God... commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him.

**Acts 20:21 NLT** I have had one message... the necessity of repenting from sin and turning to God, and of having faith in our Lord Jesus.

**Acts 16:31 NLT** Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.

**2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 NIV** ...from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel...

**John 1:12 NIV** ...to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

**Romans 10:9-13 NLT** If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

**Repentance, surrender, and commitment are essential ingredients of saving faith.**

**Matthew 16:24-26 NLT** Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? (Also see Luke 12:13-21; 13:1-5, 22-28; Matthew 10:34-39; 11:28-30; Luke 14:25-33; 18:9-30; James 2:19)

**We must choose to drink in Jesus in order to receive eternal life.**

**Jeremiah 2:13 NIV** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

**Revelation 22:17 NIV** Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

#### **4. What is salvation?**

...A loving relationship with the Lord

...A full and satisfying life here and now

...A guarantee that it will only get better when we are taken to be with Jesus

...Abundant life, satisfaction, fulfillment, security, acceptance, joy, peace, and purpose

...A new life, a new position, a new power, and a new purpose

...A certain hope; a guaranteed destiny

**2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT** Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

**John 5:24 NLT** Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from

death into life.

**John 10:10 NASB** I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly.

**John 7:37-38 NIV** Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”

**Romans 8:1 NIV** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**Romans 15:13 NIV** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**1 Peter 1:3-5 NLT** All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation [a living hope, **NIV**], and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

### **Prayer for Salvation**

Dear Lord, I admit that I'm a sinner and I need Your forgiveness. I know that I can't save myself by doing good things. I admit that I can't earn my salvation by good works. I believe that Jesus, the Messiah, God the Son, died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. He shed His blood for me. He also lived a perfect life for me. He has provided righteousness for me.

I now receive the free gift of salvation that You are offering. I am turning from my sins and from serving myself. I accept Jesus as my Savior, my forgiver, my Lord, my leader. I humbly repent. I am surrendering to You and I pledge allegiance to You as my Lord and King. I am making a commitment to serve and obey You for the rest of my life with the strength you provide.

Thank you, Lord, that you have forgiven my sins. I thank you for causing me to be born again. I am so grateful that You have given the Holy Spirit to me. Thank you for saving me -- for making me right with you, for bringing me into a loving relationship with You. Thank You for the gift of eternal life – for new life – a life that is satisfying with meaning, peace, joy and hope. Lord, I thank you for adopting me into your family. I am so undeserving, but I am grateful that you have chosen to save me – that you have poured out your grace, mercy and love on me. I am richly blessed in Christ. Thank you. In Jesus' name, Amen