

THE PRIVILEGE 6

The Promise of God Belongs Only to Those Who Repent and Believe in Jesus Christ

Not all will have the privilege to be forgiven, but only those who repent.
“Repent, then, and turn to God,
so that your sins may be wiped out (forgiven).” (Acts 3:19)

Not all will have the privilege of everlasting life with God, but only those who believe in Christ.
“... whoever believes in Him should not perish
but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

Believing Christ is like a coin with two sides. The first side is repentance from sin and the other side is faith in Jesus Christ.

True repentance is a change of mind and heart regarding sin and God. It involves recognizing that you are a sinner against God and regretting that you have loved sin more than God. It is realizing that sinfulness does not glorify God, does not give lasting satisfaction, and its end is eternal destruction and separation from God in Hell. Thus, true repentance is rejecting sin and desiring God.

True faith in Christ involves believing that God alone can satisfy your soul and believing that Jesus Christ is the only way that you can have a personal love-relationship with God. Thus, you come to Jesus Christ and ask His mercy to save you from sin and bring you back to God, in whose presence is fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore (1 Peter 3:18; Psa. 16:11).

Salvation is by grace; you cannot work for it. It is a gift; you cannot buy it. But you can have it by faith in Christ alone.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God,
not of works, lest anyone should boast.” (Eph. 2:8-9)

Do you think it is possible for a person to know about God but not have a personal relationship with God? Many people claim that they believe in Jesus Christ but it is only in their heads. True faith is not only making a decision in the mind but also desiring God above all in the heart. Saving faith sees Christ not only as reliable but also desirable. Thus, it is trusting and treasuring Christ above all.

Please read this booklet again when you are alone and ask God to enlighten you. And because we do not know when our lives will be taken, it would be much better if you read and think seriously about these things before this day ends.

If you find out that this booklet affirms that you have already a relationship with God, praise the Lord! However, if you realize that you are not yet a true believer of Christ, repent and believe in Him, for “behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor. 6:2)! Admit you are a sinner, deserving of eternal death in Hell. And humbly come to Him, asking for eternal forgiveness and for Him to rule your life as Lord and Savior. Then claim His promise that “whoever calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved” (Rom. 10:13).

 **CAMPUS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**
Loving God & Helping Others Love Him
By God's Grace & for His Glory

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CBF believes that God is the best Being and the most satisfying Reality in the whole universe. Not loving Him above all is a waste of life. That's why we offer Bible study lessons to help others know and love God more.

Bible Study Day/Time: _____
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God Alone

CAN SAVE AND SATISFY

Have you realized that the best thing you can do for yourself is
LOVE GOD ABOVE ALL?

The Bible tells us that God is the best Being and the most satisfying Reality in the whole universe. Thus, God is most worthy to be enjoyed and to be loved above anyone and anything else.

God alone can satisfy every human soul for He alone is the Creator and the Sustainer of everything. Only in His “presence there is fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore” (Psalm 16:11).

The following truths will show you that sin is the reason why man is not experiencing deep and lasting joy in God. It will also show you what Jesus Christ did to restore sinful man to God.

THE PURPOSE 1

God Created Us to Glorify Him by Loving Him Above All

In Isaiah 43:6-7 God said, “Bring my sons ... whom I created for My glory”. God made us to glorify Him everyday and the way to glorify God is by loving Him above all. That is why we are commanded:

“... love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul
with all your mind, and with all your strength.” (Mark 12:30)

This is the best commandment because we are commanded to love the best, namely, God Himself.

Loving God above all is knowing, desiring, enjoying, trusting and valuing God above anyone and anything else. It also involves doing everything for God's glory. (Proverbs 3:5-6; Philippians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 10:31)

Indeed, loving God above all is the greatest privilege and purpose God has given to man. It is so because two things happen when we love God above all: God is most glorified and we are most satisfied.

Has there been anyone who perfectly glorified God by loving Him above all at all times?

THE PROBLEM 2

All of Us Have Sinned by Not Loving God Above All

Although God created man with the best purpose which is to love God above all, man exchanged God by valuing the creation more than the Creator (Rom. 1:25, Jer. 2:13). That was how Adam and Eve sinned. They believed that the offer of the tempter was better and more satisfying than God. That was the reason why they chose to forsake God. Since then, every man has been born a sinner and lost the glory of God. This causes the emptiness in every man's heart.

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

"As it is written, there is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God." (Romans 3:10-11)

"And this is the condemnation, that the light (Jesus Christ) has come into the world, and men love darkness rather than light." (John 3:19)

Sin or darkness is anything that is morally evil (like cheating, lying, fornication) and anything that is morally good (like cellphones, computers, friends, family) that we desire, enjoy, value and love more than God. Do you think you are also guilty of sin by not loving God above all?

If everyone is guilty, what does everyone deserve: enjoying God or eternal separation from God?

THE PENALTY 3

All of Us Deserve Eternal Separation from God in Hell for Not Loving God Above All

"if anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed."
(1 Corinthians 16:22)

Where will be the final separation of sinners from God?

"for the payment of sin is death... in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power."
(Romans 6:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9)

Why would a loving God punish sinners?

The reason why God has to punish sinners is because He is a holy and righteous judge.

"...shall not the Judge of all the earth do right? God is a just (righteous) judge" and "God is angry with the wicked everyday."
(Genesis 18:25; Psalm 7:11)

If God would not punish sin, would He be a righteous judge? If God would give a lesser and shorter punishment than what a sinner deserves, would He be a fair judge?

God is infinite in His authority and glory. That is why a sinner, one who rebelled against God by not loving Him above all - must be punished in hell for eternity.

Only righteous people can escape hell and be accepted by God in heaven. And there is only one way a sinful man can be declared righteous. Would you like to know what the way is?

No one can be righteous in the eyes of a holy God by observing the law or trying to be good because the Word of God says:

"No one can be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law"
(Romans 3:20). "Whoever keeps the whole law and stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it" (James 2:10).

THE PROVISION 4

Jesus Christ Came to Bring Sinful Man to God Through His Righteousness

There is no one worthy to be saved, yet Jesus Christ, "the Son of God... the true God and eternal life", came to bring sinful man back to the all-satisfying God (1 John 5:20; 1 Pet. 3:18). But for that to happen, Christ had to pay our sins and give His righteousness to us so that God would accept us. That is why **Jesus lived a perfect life to become our perfection and died a painful death to become our punishment.**

"For He made Him (Jesus Christ) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5:21). "In this is love, not that we love God, but that He loved us and sent his Son to be the [wrath absorbing] propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:10)

At the crucifixion of Christ, God poured out all His anger on man's sins (past, present, and future sins). And Jesus Christ absorbed all the wrath of God and suffered infinite pain. After every necessary requirement for our salvation was done, Jesus said, "it is finished". Then He died, was buried and after the third day was resurrected as God's approval that Christ's redeeming death was perfectly done.

Jesus Christ is the only way to God (John 14:6). His perfect life and death are sufficient to save us. No additional ways or additional persons only through Christ alone.

If Jesus Christ has fully paid for all our sins, do we need to do something to help pay our sins?

THE PROMISE 5

A Satisfying Personal Love-Relationship With God for Life and Eternity

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."
(John 3:16)

God promises that at the very moment you humbly come to Jesus Christ by faith, He will forgive all your sins and will declare you righteous once and forever (Romans 3:22). That means you will be forever righteous in the eyes of God because of Christ's righteousness counted as yours. Moreover, at the moment of believing Christ, you become a child of God. This relationship is forever because Christ said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). Having Christ is the start of a satisfying personal love-relationship with God. It is so because Christ will give you the freedom and the power to desire, enjoy, value and love God above all and help others love God above all.

Do you think God will fulfill His promise that at the moment a person believes in Christ He will forgive all his sins (past, present and future) and be given eternal life right away?

Have you ever been sure of your salvation?