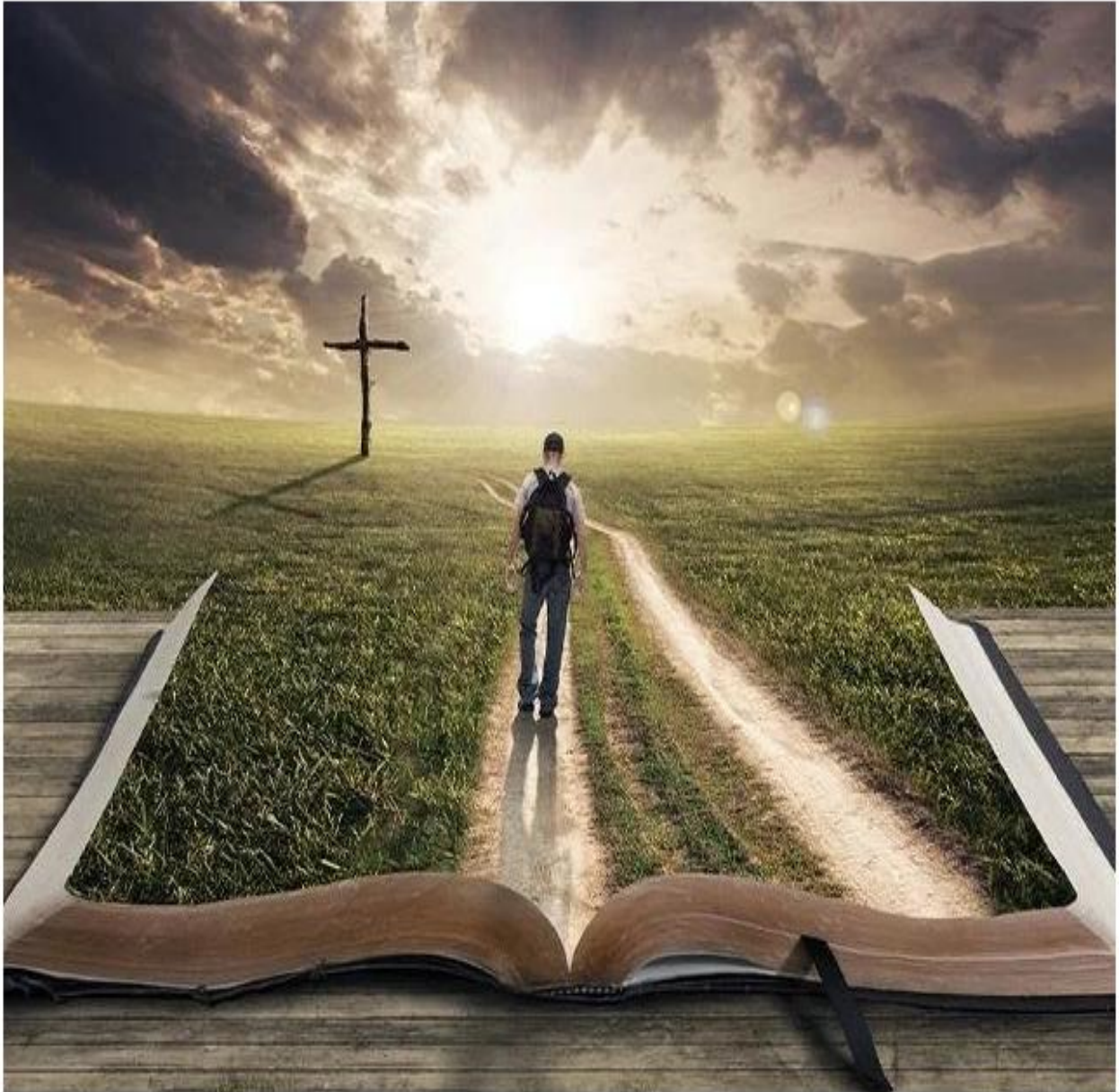


God's Way for Man



Mohamed Farried Ally

Foreword

Every generation inherits a world shaped by the vision, courage, and sacrifices of those who came before. Their discoveries, their failures, their triumphs – all from the unseen scaffoldings beneath our own progress. In this documentary, we pause to acknowledge that we do not begin at the beginning. We begin where others left off.

To stand on the shoulders of giants is not merely to admire their height, but to see further because of their strength. It is to recognise that our greatest insights are often extensions of their bold first steps. As we explore the stories, ideas, and breakthroughs that follow, we honour the towering figures whose lives lifted the horizon for us all.

This is their legacy – and our vantage point.

The Editor – Alan Fox

Carroll C. Trent - Foundation Principles

Rick Warren - The Purpose Driven Life

Roger D. Dickson

God's Majesty and Man's Dignity - Psalms 8

GOD'S WAY FOR MAN

ONE'S NEED FOR THE BIBLE:

O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walked to direct his steps (Jeremiah 10:23).

I marvel that ye are so soon removed that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you then that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed (Galatians 1:6--8).

MEMORY VERSE

“For the word of God is living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and quick to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart.”(Hebrews 4:12. Remember this Bible verse).

A Bible seller in Syria was dragged into police court selling “inflammatory political propaganda.” The judge examined the portions of the Bible being sold and said, “Where is that man Paul, who wrote this book to the Romans? Bring him into this court!” The Bible seller tried to explain that Paul had been dead nearly two thousand years, but the judge was hard to convince. He said, “Here, you sign a statement declaring that you will be personally responsible for everything written in this book to the Romans. This document is too contemporary and its significance too timely not to have someone personally responsible for its contents.”

That Mohammedan judge put his finger on the strange power of the Bible. It is contemporary with every age! It is not a “dead-letter,” but a “living word” which is the “dynamite” of God unto salvation.

People everywhere are baffled by the problems of life and need a strong and sure guide which can give "direction" and "purpose" to life and living in this complicated world. The Bible is such a guide. In it one finds wisdom and light to lead his feet in the right paths, listen to the Psalmist, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path (Psalm 119:105). There is no other book in the world like the Bible. Robert Pollock said: “Most wondrous book! Bright candle of the Lord! Star of eternity! The only star by which the ark of man could navigate The Sea of life, and gain the coast of bliss securely.”

The Bible is the "Book of Civilization." Everywhere it has gone it has produced the best society, and has been the most consistent factor in the whole world for directing people into the most righteous, peaceful, and happy ways of living together. In matters of religion, the Bible is the AUTHORITY! It is God's revelation to men. It is the standard by which one measure ALL things in religion, We have also a sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts... For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:19--21).

When one tries to determine what is right in religion by following something other, or in addition to, God's word, he finds himself hopelessly confused. The Bible is God's book for men. It finds one groping in darkness and gives him light. It leads one to Christ, the Son of God and Saviour of the world. It teaches one how to be saved from his sins. It leads one in ways of usefulness and joy as a Christian. When one reaches the end of the way it has led him through the valley of the shadow of death, and gives him hope for a glorious resurrection. It takes one through the gates of the New Jerusalem, and ushers him into the very presence of God.

HOW TO USE GOD'S WORD

Since the Bible is the standard by which all things religious are to be measured, it is important that one understand something about how to use it. God intended that one should examine the Scriptures and learn His way. Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they which testify of me (John 5:39). All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine for reproof for correction for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).

One will find that God has always told man what He required of him. This principle has been true from the beginning (Genesis 1:28--29; 2:15--17). In the days of the patriarchs He made His will known in different ways, sometimes through dreams, sometimes by visions, sometimes by special messengers, etc.,(Genesis 18:1 ff; 28:10--15). God who at sundry times and divers manners spoke in times past unto the fathers by the prophets (Hebrews 1:1).

During the days of the Israelites God gave His law through Moses and additional instructions and warnings through the prophets. (HEBREWS .1:1) In

this dispensation He has spoken through His Son. (Verse 2.) Authority was delegated to the apostles to deliver the gospel to the world, in doing this work they were guided by the Holy Spirit, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things by whom also he made the worlds; (Heb. 1:2)

The apostle Paul says in his letter to the Galatians chapter one and verses 11 through to 12, "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man, verse twelve, For I neither received it of man neither was I taught it but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

In studying the Bible one should observe who it is who speaks and to whom things are spoken. Some things in the Bible were directed to the people in the Patriarchal age, some things were directed to the people of the Jewish dispensation, and other things were given for people in the New Testament age. If one uses the Bible rightly he will observe these matters. The Patriarchal age lasted from the creation to the giving of a law at Mt. Sinai, it was an age of family worship and included animal sacrifice as one of its provisions (Heb 9:22).

The Jewish age extended from Mt. Sinai to Calvary. It provided a national religion for the Israelites. Its requirements were moral religious and civil in nature and were applicable only to the Israelites (Deut. 5:2--3; Gal. 3:24; Jeremiah .31:34; Col. 2:14; ROM. 7:1--4) please read all the above scriptures. It was fulfilled and taken out of the way by the death of Christ. The New Testament age or Christian age began at Pentecost, and will continue until the end of time. It is the final and universal religion which God gave through Jesus Christ for men in this age .

When one studies the Bible he is opening his mind to God's revealed will to mankind. God's word is the supreme guidebook and authority in matters of religion. In studying a given passage of scripture one should keep in mind:(a) The one speaking or writing, (b) Those to whom it is spoken or written, (c) The subject under discussion, (d) The purpose for which it was given, God's word is His truth and His truth brings freedom from bondage to the souls of men and women who heed it.

THE GOD OF THE BIBLE

Memory verse: Genesis 1:1-- "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

George Washington said, "It is impossible to govern the world without God. He must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more wicked that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligation."

Men of intelligence and sound judgement have recognised the reality of God and His abundant love and Almighty power

It is no wonder that in the very first verse of the Bible it is said, "In the beginning God...." As one reads the Bible he learns that Jehovah, God, is the ruler of all, and that in Him one loves and has his being in the world.

It is easy to believe in God. In fact one has to have some help in order to be an unbeliever. When God created man in His own image and likeness and made him a "living soul" He put an instinct into him which longs to worship Him. The Bible reveals many things about God. It is the best source in the entire world for information about the heavenly Father. Paul's address to the Athenians is one of the most informative passages in explaining God to people (Acts 17:22--23) Please read.

In his speech Paul presented God as the One who created the world and all things in it, as the One who rules the universe and determines the rise and fall of nations. He taught that Jehovah is not limited to space, but that He is one whose presence fills the universe. He taught that God is the one in whom we live and have our being; as the One who provides all things. Paul's picture of the Father might justly be called "God Unlimited."

It is difficult for one to understand God properly and to think of Him as He really is when one depends upon his own thinking. If one follows his own thoughts he begins to think of God in terms of man (Psalm 50:21). Thus it is imperative that one study the Bible so that his understanding of God may be what is right. The Bible teaches that God is holy pure just merciful truth and love. It teaches that He is omniscient omnipotent and omnipresent. The most amazing of all of God's qualities is His great love for mankind a love which is climaxed in the gift of His "only begotten Son" to die on the cross for the sins of the world. Truly this is the God of the Bible

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ONE ABOUT HIMSELF:

Memory verses: Genesis 1:26; 2:7-- " And God said, Let us make man in our image after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air and over the cattle and over all the earth and every creeping thing that crept upon the earth.... And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life... When Adam and Eve heard the voice of Jehovah in the Garden of Eden and hid themselves, one of the greatest characteristics of God's word was demonstrated: the power of reveal to one the truth about himself (Hebrews 4:12--13) please read

For the word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword piercing even to the dividing asunder of the soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight but all things are naked and open unto the eyes of him with whom we are to do (Heb. 4:12--13). The Bible reveals to one that he is made in the image and likeness of God that he is a living soul and that he is a sinner in need of salvation.

To the Israelites Moses said, "Behold ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out." (Num. 32:23). The Bible reveals that one is unable to direct himself in the world through his own wisdom (Jer. 10:23)

Thus if one will allow the Bible to be his guide it will save him from "many a blunder, and foolish notion."

The Bible opens one's eyes to see where he is. God sent Paul to the Gentiles to preach the gospel, "To open their eyes and to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God that they may receive forgiveness of sins and inheritance among them... (Acts 26:18)

Thus when one opens the Bible today and studies it his eyes are opened to see himself in his sins and learn of his need of the Saviour. To the Romans Paul wrote, "For all have sinned and came short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23).

God's word has the power to prick one's conscience and to open his eyes to his sinful condition. God's command to Jonah continued to ring in the conscience of that runaway prophet reminding him that he could not escape God (Jonah 1:12)

When the Jews heard Peter proclaim the gospel on Pentecost it penetrated their conscience and they wanted to know what they should do (Acts 2:37). It is from the Bible that one learns of his future destiny. If he is obedient and faithful to God there is hope for heaven. If one is disobedient and unfaithful there is eternal punishment (Mat 7:21-23; 25:31-46).

Please read all scriptures.

JESUS THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD:

The announcement to the shepherds of Judea that "there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour who is Christ the Lord," (Luke 2:10-12).

Was the supply of the need of mankind and a fulfilling of the predictions of the prophets and the promises of God. It was a "giving light to darkness"(John 1:4-5)

And giving hope for hopelessness, Sending Jesus into the world to save mankind was the greatest manifestation of God's love to the world (1 John 4:9-10).

Without Jesus Christ one could have no hope of salvation. Before He came into the world to become the sacrifice for sin all of the predictions sacrifices etc..looked forward to and pointed toward His coming. All things since looked backward to his sacrifice. It is because of the fact that Jesus came that He suffered that He died that He was buried that He arose from the grave and that He ascended into heaven that we may have remission of sins through His blood and the hope of eternal life

Jesus was the "willing sacrifice "for the sins of men (Rom 5:6-10). Because He was willing to suffer the pain and agony of the cross and the shame and humiliation he brought "life and immortality to light through the gospel.

"But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ who hath abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (2 Timothy 1:10)

Jesus was the express image of the invisible God, who being the brightness of his glory and the express image of his person and upholding all things by the word of his power when he by himself purged our sons, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high (Heb. 1:3).Check John 14:7-11

He was the Son of the Living God

The woman said unto him, I know that Messiahs cometh, which is called Christ: when he comes he will tell us all things. Jesus said unto her, I that speak unto thee am he (John 4:25-26).

It pleased God to announce to men and own Jesus as His Son. And Jesus when he was baptized went up straightway out of the water: and lo the heavens were opened unto him and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove upon him: and lo a voice from heaven saying, this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased (Matt. 3:16-17). It also pleased the Father to make Jesus the authority and spokesman for this dispensation. And Jesus came and spoke unto them saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth (Matt, 28:18).

God made Him head of the church and put all things in subjection under His feet. Which He brought about in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet and gave Him as head all things to the church, which is His body the fullness of Him who fills all in all (Eph. 1:20-23)

The apostles as they went out preaching the gospel proclaimed Christ as the Savior of the world in such terms as, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved," (Acts 4:12). He is the author of salvation to all who obey Him, (HEB... 5:9). Because they proclaimed the resurrection and ascension of Christ we have hope of an eternal home with Him in the heavens (Theses. 4:14, 17)

GOD'S POWER TO SAVE

Memory verse Romans 1:16. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. In clear words the apostle Paul defined God's power to save in one sentence. The gospel of Christ is God's power to save all people. It makes no difference whether one is Jew or Gentile, or whether he be bond or free, the gospel is God's power for salvation. There is no need for anyone anywhere to call upon God to send His saving power for it has already come. To cry to God to "send the power down" is but to ignore what He has already done!

Daniel Webster once said, "My heart has always assured and reassured me that the gospel of Christ must be a Divine reality. -- The Sermon on the Mount cannot be merely a human production. -- This belief enters into the very depth of my conscience. -- The whole history of man proves it. Wherever the gospel of Christ has been faithfully proclaimed its power has had its effect upon human lives. Paul's statement to the Corinthians Christians is one example (1Cor. 15:1-4), "... the gospel which I preached unto you which also ye have received and wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved..."

The power of the gospel upon the hearts of people may also be seen in Peter's sermon to the Jews on Pentecost (Acts 2:14-41), "...Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart and said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? One should bear in mind that the New Testament presents only one gospel for man's salvation (Gal. 1:6-9). Jesus Christ is the very heart of the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4)

In New Testament times the apostles and other inspired teachers preached the same gospel and warnings were given that no one should preach any other (Gal. 1:6-9).

Jesus commanded that the gospel should be preached to all people. (Mark 16:15-16) And He said to them "Go into the entire world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and is baptized shall be saved; but he who has believeth not shall be condemned. Paul taught that one is called by the gospel. (2 These. 2:14) It was for this He called you through our gospel that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. And that one is saved by the gospel (1 Cor. 15:2) by which also you are saved if you hold fast the word which I preached to you unless you believed in vain.

The preaching of the gospel is said to be foolishness to those who perish but to those who are saved it is the power of God (1 Cor. 1:18,24)²⁴ but to those who are the called both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. The gospel is something referred to as the "faith" the "word of truth" (Gal. 2:5; Eph. 1:13)

But we did not yield in subjection... so that the word of truth... remains with you. In Him you also after you heard the message of truth of your salvation... you were sealed in Him...

It is also referred to as "one faith" and as the "faith" one Lord one faith one baptism (Eph.4:5).

...I felt it necessary to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints (Jude 3). The gospel was given by inspiration and NOT THROUGH MAN'S wisdom. For I would have you know brethren that the gospel which I preach is not according to man. For I neither received it from man... I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ (Gal. 1:11-12).

Terrible consequences are in store for all who do not obey the gospel (2 Thess. 1:7-9) ⁷ and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not OBEY THE GOSPEL of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.

1 PETER 4 VERSES 17 AND 18

Hope you have read

1 Peter 4:17 and 18.

If not please read so that you can understand what God and know what God is saying to YOU!!!

If you did READ 1 PETER 4 VERSES 17 AND 18 MAY YOU BE BLESSED

YOU MADE A GOOD CHOICE.

If not, it remains your choice.

God is not the God who created the world and all that dwell there in including MAN which He created in His image, and hard-wired by God into the very fibre of our being, giving mankind the ability to choose good or evil. So YOU have CHOSEN.

For it is time for judgement to begin with the household of God and if it begins with us first what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ AND IF IT IS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT THE RIGHTEOUS IS SAVED, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE GODLESS MAN AND THE SINNER. 1 Peter 4:17-18.

God did not create man and left man without telling man how man must live, NOT AT ALL !!!

Man CHOSE TO IGNORE GOD'S WILL FOR MAN. MAN CHOOSE THE WAY OF THE BEAST

JUST THE WAY AS THEY PLEASED. Many people think that SIN is not very bad. To them it is doing something that other people do not like. They think it is being naughty they call some sins "illness" The Bible tells us that sin is something worse than that. Sin is something we do against GOD. 1 John 3:4 says whoever commits sin also commits LAWLESSNESS and sin is LAWLESSNESS" SIN is when we break God's law. It is rebellion. To rebel means we refuse to obey our Almighty King.

When we sin we say, "God, you don't know what You are talking about" This is why sin is so serious. We are not just disobeying parents or breaking traditions, but we are disobeying GOD. Listen to what Jeremiah says "I know O Lord that a man's way is not In himself Nor is it In man who walks to direct his steps. (Jeremiah 10:23. You were made by God and for God - and until you understand that. Life will never make sense. It is only in God that we discover our origin our identity our meaning our purpose. Every other path leads to a dead end. The Bible says, Obsession with self in these matters is a dead end; attention to God leads us out into the open into a spacious free life ROM. 8:6.

The mind of sinful man is death but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. (ROM. 8:6-8 New International Version).

Many books have been written that suggest ways to discover the purpose of life. All of them could be classified as "self-help books because they approach the subject from a self-help viewpoint. Self-help books usually offer the same predictable steps to finding your life's purpose. Consider your dreams, Clarify your values, Set some goals, Figure out what you are good at, and so on.

Consider your dreams, Clarify your values, Set some goals, Figure out what you are good at Aim high, Go for it! Believe you can achieve your goals, Involve others Never give up. Of course these recommendations often lead to great success by the world standard, and still miss the purpose for which God created you to be. How, then, do you discover the purpose you were created for? You have only two options

(1) Speculation. This is what most people choose. They conjecture they guess they theorize . When people say, I've always thought life is ,... They mean this is the best guess I can come up with.

For thousands of years brilliant philosophers have discussed and speculated about the meaning of life. Philosophy is an important subject and has its uses, but when it comes to determining the purpose of life, even the wisest philosophers are just guessing. Dr. Hugh Moorhead, a philosophy professor at North Eastern Illinois university, once wrote to 250 of the best-known philosophers, scientists, writers, and intellectuals in the world, asking them, "What is the meaning of life?" He then published their response in a book. Some offered their best guesses, some admitted that they just made up a purpose for life, and others were honest enough to say they were clueless. Infact a number of famous intellectuals asked Pro. Moorhead to write back and tell them if he discovered the purpose of life.

The wisest of them all answered correctly, king Solomon, but could not apply it to himself. Self-help is no help at all. Fortunately there is an alternative to speculation about the purpose for life. (2) We can turn to what GOD has revealed about life in HIS WORD. The easiest way to discover the purpose of an invention is to ask the creator of it. The same is true for discovering your life's purpose. ASK GOD. Unfortunately, the things we turned to could not satisfy our deepest needs or desires. Our needs are legitimate. What must be changed is the tendency to go the wrong way to try to meet those needs

The Bible says, " My son let not them depart from your eyes: keep sound discretion: So shall they be life unto your soul and grace to thy neck. Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely and thy foot shall not stumble." Solomon the wise (Proverbs 3:21-23)

Fortunately there is an alternative to speculation about the meaning and purpose of life. It's Revelation. We can turn to what God has revealed about in HIS WORD. The easiest way to discover the purpose of an invention is to ask the creator of it. The same is true for discovering your life's purpose; Ask God. God has not left us in the dark to wonder and guess. He has clearly revealed His five purposes for our lives through the Bible. It is our Owner's Manual. It explains what no self-help or philosophy book could know.

Self-help is no help at all. The Bible says, SELF- SACRIFICE IS THE WAY GOD'S WAY. to find yourself, your true self (Matt. 16:25). "God's wisdom goes deep

into the interior of his purpose... It's not the latest messages but more like the oldest what God determined as the way to bring out the best in us (1 Cor. 2:7). God is not just the starting point of our life he is the source of it. To discover your purpose in life you must turn to God's Word not the world's wisdom. You must build your life on eternal truths not pop psychology, success- motivation, or inspirational stories,

Please read all scriptures given. "It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we heard of Christ and got our hopes up he had his eye on us, had his designs on us for glorious living, a part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone (Eph1:11). This verse gives us three insights into your purpose.(1) You discover your identity and purpose through a relationship with Jesus Christ.(2) God was thinking of you long before you ever thought about him, He planned it without your input. (3) The purpose of your life fits into a much larger cosmic purpose that God has designed for eternity. This is what this teaching is about.

Ephesians 1:11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance having been predestined according to the PURPOSE of Him who works all things after the counsel of HIS OWN WILL.

Psalms 8:1-9. O Lord our Lord how excellent is YOUR name in all the earth who have set YOUR glory above the heavens' Out of the mouth of babes and suckling's You have obtained strength because of Your enemies so that You might quiet the enemy and the avenger. ³ When I consider your heavens the work of your fingers the moon and the stars that you have ordained, ⁴ what is man that You are mindful of him and the son of man that you visit him? ⁵ For you have made him a little lower than the angels. And you have crowned him with glory and honour. ⁶ You made him to have dominion over the works of your hands you have put all things under his feet. ⁷ All sheep and oxen and the beast of the field, ⁸ the birds of the air and the fish of the sea and whatever passes through the paths of the seas. ⁹O Lord our Lord how excellent is your name in all the earth!

GOD'S MAJESTY AND MAN'S DIGNITY

This Psalm portrays the impact of God's magnificent creation on the heart of man. The psalmist contrasts the work of God's hands with the insignificance of man's. In comparison to the greatness of creation, man seems so insignificant.

However, though the creation is so great, God has honoured man ABOVE all HIS creation. Romans 1:20.

For the invisible things of Him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by things that are made, even His eternal power and divinity, so that they are without excuse. Please read Jeremiah 5:22 and Acts 14:17.

(That they are without excuse): God affirms that the evidence of His existence is so clearly manifest through the things that are created, that men should come to the conclusion that He exist. If men do not come to this conclusion, then they are being led astray by their own will to reject God. See 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

Ephesians 1:11

OBTAINED AN INHERITANCE: As opposed to the physical inheritance of the land of promise that national Israel received, both Gentile and Jewish Christians now have an inheritance in HEAVEN.

HAVING BEEN PREDESTINED: It was the inheritance that was predestined. All those who free-morally came into a covenant relationship with God in Christ are destined to receive the predestined inheritance of heaven (vs. 3).

THE COUNSEL OF HIS OWN WILL: God is working all things according to HIS plan. It is not that things in reference to the Christian's salvation are happening by fate. All things are being unfolded according to the predetermined mystery of God that has now been recalled to all men through the cross and church. Please read (Isaiah 46:10 and Romans 8:28.).

SALVATION IS FOR ALL: GOD'S PART IN THE PLAN OF SALVATION. For God so loved the world that HE gave HIS only begotten Son so that whoever believes in HIM should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

In this statement Jesus continues the preceding thoughts. He announces here the result of GOD'S grace for ALL MEN. When Jesus is lifted up, all those who believe in Him will not perish. As the people of Israel obediently looked on the serpent that Moses lifted up in the wilderness, so those who obediently look at Jesus will be spiritually healed

In this is love, not that we loved God, BUT THAT HE LOVED US and sent His Son to be to BE THE ATONING SACRIFICE for our sins (1 John 4:10).

Herein is the definition of the AGAPE LOVE (GODLY LOVE) about which John is speaking concerning God's action toward man in relation to salvation * please read ROM 5:8 and TITUS 3:4-5. It was not that man was righteous and thus deserved the righteous act of God through the sacrifice of the cross. God loved man in his state of being UNLOVED (John 15:16).

" You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you. And I appointed you so that you should go and bring forth fruit...(John 15:16).

I CHOSE YOU: John's apologetic argument is that the apostles did not designate themselves as leaders of a movement that they initiated. Christianity is not based on the self-appointment of men who consider Jesus a great man and teacher, and thus started a religious movement

Such is the nature of the original leadership of FALSE RELIGIONS. But with Christianity the choosing was directly from JESUS

At the beginning of His earthly ministry, "He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles" (Luk 6:13)

These men were given the Holy Spirit and thus they proclaimed what they had seen in and heard from JESUS.

JESUS SHED HIS BLOOD: In Him we have redemption through His BLOOD forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace,..(Eph 1:7) REDEMPTION through His BLOOD: The metaphor "REDEMPTION" refers to being bought out of that from which we could not deliver ourselves. Israel was redeemed from the slavery of Egyptian captivity (Exo 6:6). The slaves of the Roman society could be redeemed out of slavery with a set price that could be paid for the purchase of their freedom.

Paul's metaphorical use of the word "redemption" here refers to our purchase out of a situation from which we could not deliver ourselves. We have thus been purchased by the BLOOD of Jesus out of slavery of sin from which we could not deliver ourselves by works of law or meritorious deeds (Col. 1:14). Jesus paid the ransom price in order to redeem us from that which we could not deliver ourselves. We have been delivered from condemnation by HIM. Please read Romans 6:23. There is NOW therefore no CONDEMNATION to those who are IN Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:1).

The price that had to be paid was the cross, the blood offering of the incarnate Son of God (Heb. 9:12; 1Pet. 1:18-19).

Only when one comes into Christ by baptism-- obedience to the gospel (good news) does he come into contact with the REDEMPTIVE blood of Jesus. Please read Romans 6:3-6 .VERY IMPORTANT

Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold from your vain way of life received by tradition from your fathers, but with the PRECIOUS BLOOD of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and Without SPOT(1 Peter 1:18-19).

Peter wants us to understand that we were bought out of slavery. A price was paid that we could not pay. IT was paid, but not with the things of this world that DETERIORATE away. The price that was paid was the incarnate OFFERING of the Son of God on the cross. Under the Old Testament law, only a lamb that was without blemish or spot could be offered as a sacrifice for sin. Please read Exodus 12:5 and further on. It is a lengthy reading, but for your own benefit, verse 5 is for the understanding of our study. Peter points out that the SINLESS SON OF GOD OFFERED HIMSELF A RANSOM FOR OUR SINS.

SPIRIT REVEALED WORD: "However when He the Spirit of truth has come He will guide you into all the truth. For He will not be speaking from Himself but whatever He hears that He will speak. And He will declare to you things to come (John 16:13). One must keep in mind that the promise here was only to the apostles, for Jesus was still in their company

(vs 4). It was to them in this context that He was making these promises of the special work He would give them in order to initiate the dispensation of the church that would begin in ACTS 2.

When the Holy Spirit came upon them, He would do two things. He would guide them into all truth that God wanted, (1) the church to know and (2) He would tell them of things to come. GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH:

The revelation of all truth that God intended that the church receive would be given through the apostles. PLEASE READ 2 Tim :16-17; 2 Peter 1:3; Jude 3.

THEREFORE, one must NOT look OUTSIDE the TRUTH that was revealed through the apostles for other revelation from GOD FOR THE CHURCH. if one seeks revelation from God other than the Bible, then he is marginalizing the WORD OF GOD. TELL YOU THINGS TO COME: To them (apostles) would be revealed the final coming of Jesus. This would be an end-of-time judgement of the world (1Cor.15; 1Th.4:13-18).

But I would not have you to be ignorant brethren concerning them which are asleep that ye sorrow not even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again even so them also which sleep IN JESUS will God bring with him... For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout with the voice of the archangel and with the trump of God and the dead IN CHRIST shall rise first,... and so shall we ever be with the Lord Wherefore comfort one another with these words (1Thes.4:13-18).

Just a quick recap of the study that we have been working on, SALVATION IS FOR ALL. GOD'S PART IN THE PLAN OF SALVATION.

Important scriptures to remember

(A) God sent His Son. Jon. 3:16

1 Jon.4:10

(B) Jesus shed His blood. Eph. 1:7

1 Pet. 1:18-19

(C) Spirit Revealed Word. Jon. 16:13.

God has done His part.

MAN'S PART

Step 1

(a) ONE MUST HEAR GOD.

Memory verse ROM.10:13-17. So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing the word of God (vs ¹⁷). In the long ago Moses said to the Israelites, "Hear, O Israel the statutes and ordinance which I speak in your ears this day that ye may learn them and observe to do them"(Deut. 5:1). He further said to them that if they would hear God and do His will that everything would be well with them, "in the land that floweth with milk and honey"(Deut.6:3). In every age this same principle has been held before man-kind. In the garden of Eden God gave His commandments to Adam and Eve and promised that all will be well with them if they would hearken to his will.

Their disobedience brought expulsion from it and suffering and pain into their lives. In the wilderness many of the Israelites refused to listen to God's will and complained to Moses. Some of them went so far from God that they made an

idol and worshipped it. Of the multitude of them who left Egypt only a few entered into the " promised land." In the generations which followed there were continually admonitions from the prophets to hear Jehovah and do His will.

There were also warnings of impending consequences if they refused to hear. The history of those people serves as an example to us that we should not refuse to hearken to God as they did (1Cor. 10:1-12). In our own time ONE MUST HEAR GOD! To hear God is not just a matter of "perceiving by the ear," or to learn by the ear or by mechanical matter." "To hear God," means that one must listen to His WORD with favor, assent, or compliance. It embraces the principle of "doing" it as well as opening one's ears to let it reach one's heart. One who hears God's word and does it is a wise man and shall be blessed while one who hears and does not is foolish and comes to destruction (Matt. 7: 24-27).

When Philip preached Christ to the people in the city of Samaria it is said that with " one accord they gave heed" to what he spoke. The result was that "when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ they were baptized both men and women" (Acts 8:5-12). Let us open our hearts to God's word so that we may LEARN the truth and be free (John 8:32). "And you will know the truth and the truth will make you free."

Step 2

Believe the Gospel:

"EXCEPT YE BELIEVE"

Memory verse John 8:24. "And I said therefore unto you that ye shall die in your sins: for except ye believe that I AM HE ye shall die in your sins." "(For we walk by faith not by sight)" (2 Cor. 5:7). While we look not at the things which are seen but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are TEMPORAL: but the things which are not seen are ETERNAL" (2Cor. 4:18). It is by faith that one does almost everything in life. If one excepts some theory of philosophy as the guide in life he must do so on the basis of faith. Even atheist, skeptics, etc., act on the basis of their faith in unproven hypothesis. Should it be too difficult then for one to accept GOD AND HIS WORD on the same basis?

Nothing in life is more wonderful than faith--the one great moving force which we can neither weigh in the balance nor test in the crucible. (Sir William Osler)

It is no wonder that faith is impossible in religion. It is by faith that one understands that the worlds were made by the WORD of God (Heb. 11:3). Without faith one is unable to please God (Heb. 11:6). The Bible defines faith, " Now faith is assurance of things hoped for a conviction of things not seen."(Heb. 11:1). The dictionary defines faith as "confidence or trust in a person or thing; a believe which is not based on proof." In the Bible faith and belief are used interchangeably. Faith is believing what God said.

Faith is believing what God said. Faith comes by hearing God's word (Rom. 10:27). John said, "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples which are not written in this book: But these are written that ye might have life through his name." (John 20:30-31).

Peter said, "...Men and brethren ye know that a good while ago God made choice among us that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel and believe." (Acts 15:7).

The Bible emphasizes the importance of faith (Heb. 11:6; 2Cor. 5:7; John 8:24). Paul wrote "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin." (Rom. 14:23).

He said that one is justified by faith. (Rom.5:1).

The Bible is clear in its teaching about unbelievers. In the memory verse Jesus said, "Except ye believe that I Am He ye shall die in your sins."In the Great Commission He said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth NOT shall be DAMNED," (Mark 16:15--16). In the last book of the Bible it is said, "But the fearful and unbelieving and the abominable... and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death."(Rev.21:8). Surely these warnings should be sufficient for one to understand the consequences of being an unbeliever.

The Bible is very clear in its teaching that "faith only" DOES NOT SAVE.

James 2:17, 19, 20, 24, 26. ¹⁷ Even so faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. The demons also believe and tremble. ²⁰ But are you willing to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? ²⁴ You see then that a man is justified by works and not faith only. ²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without

works is dead. The Bible is also clear in its teaching that those who live faithfully shall gain eternal rewards (2Tim. 4:6-8; Rev. 2:10).

Step 3 Repent of sins: ALL MEN MUST REPENT

Memory verse Acts 17:30. "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commanded all men everywhere to repent." In closing his impressive sermon to the Athenians Paul emphasized that God has commanded that ALL men EVERYWHERE must repent. The theme of repentance may be found in all ages of God's dealings with men. A great effort was made in Noah's day to get people to repent (2Pet. 2:5), but they failed to turn from their wickedness.

When Jonah proclaimed God's message to the people of Nineveh they repented in sack cloth and ashes, from the king to the least in the city. Because they repented, God spared that city (Jonah 3:5-10). However one learns that down through the ages not all people have repented. Some of them have refused to hear God's laws and change their ways. Getting people to repent is a most difficult task. It is harder to get people to repent than it is to get them to believe in Christ. This was true during Jesus' personal ministry. Some of the strongest words He used were spoken against people who refused to repent of their wickedness.

Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works were done, because they did not repent. ²¹ WOE to you Chorazin! WOE to you Bethsaida! For if the mighty works that were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes...²⁴ "But I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgement than for you." (Matt. 11:20-24).

Repentance may be defined as: (1) To feel such sorrow for sin which leads one to turn from it and seek forgiveness; (2) A change of will which results in a change of life; (3) A turning one's spiritual self from sin unto God. Repentance is not just being sorry for one's sins, but rather that sorrow for sin leads one to repentance. For godly sorrow works repentance to salvation that is not to be regretted, But the sorrow of the world brings forth death.(2Cor. 7:10)

Neither is repentance reformation of life, but rather reformation of life follows, is a fruit of repentance. PLEASE READ Luke 3:7-11. The goodness and severity of God are said to be influences which move one to repent. Or do you despise the richest of His goodness and forbearance and long-suffering not knowing that the goodness of God leads to repentance (ROM. 2:4). Serious thought

upon the certainty and severity of the judgement of God should move one to repent.

Repentance is a part of God's way for men. Jesus told the Jews, " I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall in like manner perish."(Luke 13:3,5). In Luke's account of the great Commission it is said "and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name unto All nations... and He says the same in Mark's account (Luke 24:47; Mark 16:15). On Pentecost, when Peter told the people what they should do he said, "REPENT and be baptized every one of you..." (Acts 2:³⁸)

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (Pet.3:⁹). To the church at Pergamum the Lord said, "REPENT; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and fight against them with the sword of my mouth,"(Rev. 2:¹⁶). To the church of Laodicea He commanded,"... be zealous therefore, and REPENT." (Rev. 3:¹⁹). One should keep in mind that God desires that all men should be saved, but that all must come to repentance to be saved.

Step 4 Confess Faith.

THE GOOD CONFESSION

Memory verses, Romans 10:9-10, "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 believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Are you willing to confess this faith before men? Can you refuse to confess Him and please God? Let's see what information we can find on this subject.

One can find many instances in the Bible of those who confessed Christ. The heavenly Father confessed Him. "And low a voice from heaven saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."(Matt.17:⁵) The apostle Peter said that he and others heard this heavenly confession (2 Pet.1:¹⁷⁻¹⁸). The angel announced, "a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."(Luke 2:¹¹). Nathanael confessed Christ when He told him what He knew about him (Jon. 1:⁴⁹). Peter made this confession at least twice during Christ's personal ministry (Jon.6:⁶⁸⁻⁶⁹; Matt 16:¹⁶). Matha the sister of Lazarus confessed Him.(Jon. 11:²⁷)

The Bible tells of some who did not confess the Lord. "Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." (Jon. 12:⁴²⁻⁴³)

One must confess with his mouth the faith of his heart (Rom.10:⁹⁻¹⁰). Jesus taught that this confession is to be made before men. (Matt.10:³²⁻³³). All men are called upon to make the good confession. Furthermore, the Bible teaches that everyone shall make it (Rom. 14:¹¹; Phil. 2:⁹⁻¹¹).

Reasons for making the good confession are given in the scriptures. Jesus said that it was necessary that He might confess one before the Father. (Matt. 10:³²⁻³³). Failure to make it is to deny the Lord. Failure to make it now is to make it later to one's doom. What should one confess? What did others confess? Peter said, " Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God." Nathanael said, "Thou art the Son of God." Martha said, " Thou art the Christ, the Son of God." The Ethiopian said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." (Acts 8:³⁷).

Paul wrote to Timothy, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and has professed a good confession before many witnesses. I give the charge in the sight of God, who gives life to all thing, and before Christ Jesus who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession,..(1 Tim. 6:¹²⁻¹⁴) To confess Christ is to acknowledge Him as Lord of lord's, To confess Christ is to acknowledge His rulership of one's life.

Step 5 Baptism into Christ.

Memory verse, Mark 16:16.

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" The Bible teaches that baptism is one of the requirements of salvation. In both Matthew and Mark's records of the Great Commission this fact is stated in clear terms (Matt.28:¹⁹⁻²⁰;Mark 16:¹⁶).

Jesus submitted to baptism by John in the Jordan that He might "fulfill all righteousness." (Matt.3:¹⁵).

After the apostles had received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and thus began to preach the gospel they told the people, who asked what they should do, Peter's respond "repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remissions of sins." (Acts 2:³⁸).

It is recorded that those who "gladly received his word were baptized." (Acts 2:41).

One can find many scriptures which show, conclusively, that in New Testament times baptism was proclaimed as a requirement of salvation. It is difficult to understand how so many people have been led to believe that baptism has nothing whatever to do with the remission of one's sins and his salvation. Denominational preachers are more militant against this one requirement of the Lord than any other thing.

One man wrote, "Jesus never intended to teach that unholy doctrine that baptism saves. "Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16), and, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (Matt. 28:19).

The apostle Peter guided by the Holy Spirit says "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God.) By the resurrection of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter. 3:21)...

Ananias said to Saul, "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). In view of these scripture how can anyone call baptism "an unholy doctrine?" In the first lesson of this study it was emphasized that the Bible is the standard of authority by which all things religious are to be determined. In step (1) we stressed that one must hear God in all things. When one follows this course he will not be disturbed and confused by the false teaching which are so abundant in the world. When Philip went to the city of Samaria he preached Christ to them and performed mighty deeds which confirmed his message.

It is said that "when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized both men and women." (Acts 8:12). When news of this came to the apostles in Jerusalem it is said that when they "heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John." (Acts 8:14).

What had the Samaritans done? They had believed and been baptized. The Bible calls what they did "receiving the word of God." Baptism is a likeness of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.(Rom. 6:3-4). One is baptized in to Christ (Gal. 3:27).

One is baptized into the one body, the church (1 Cor.12:¹³). Have you obeyed your Lord in this command?

Let us not be like those Jesus described, "Therefore I speak to them in parables: because they seeing see not ; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophesy of Esaias, (Isaiah 6:⁹) which saith, by hearing, ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see and shall not perceive: for this people's heart is waxed gross, their ears are dull of hearing and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should undertake with their heart and should be converted, and I should heal them." (Matt 13:¹³⁻¹⁵).

NEW TESTAMENT CONVERSIONS

Memory verse, Acts 3:19, " Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." In the Great Commission (Matt. 28:¹⁹⁻²⁰; Mark 16:¹⁵⁻¹⁶; Luke 24:⁴⁶⁻⁴⁷) Jesus commanded that the gospel be preached to the whole world and that people should obey its commands

This charge was given after His resurrection and before His ascension. He instructed the apostles that they should wait in Jerusalem until they were endued with power from the Holy Spirit. When that happened they were to become His witnesses to all the world.

Acts of Apostles contains the history of the work of the apostles and inspired preaching and teaching as they took the gospel wherever they went. From the fruits of their labors one can learn how people were converted to Christ in New Testament days. In studying these examples one should observe that in each one teaching or preaching was done. From whatever point in doing God's will people were when the teacher began with them he led them to full compliance with the Lord's requirements for salvation.

New Testament conversion had its beginning in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost about (A D 30). This example marks the beginning of the preaching of the gospel of Christ. When Peter convinced the Jews that Jesus of Nazareth whom they had crucified was both Lord and Christ they wanted to know what they should do. The answer was, "Repent ye and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."(Acts 2:³⁸). Their response was

"They then that received his word and were baptized: and there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:⁴¹).

Other examples of conversions may be found in Acts 8:⁴⁻⁴⁰; 9:¹⁻¹⁹; 22:⁶⁻¹⁶; 10:¹⁻⁴⁸; 16:¹¹⁻³⁴; 18:¹⁻⁸. When one summarises all of these he will find that they believed, repented, confessed Christ, and were baptized. Some people contend that one can be saved without being baptized, yet this is THE ONE THING which is specifically stated in all of these examples. Please read all the scriptures given .

In writing to the Corinthian church Paul indicated that regardless of who did the preaching, THEY ALL PREACHED THE SAME THING. (1 Cor. 15:¹¹). Since we live under the same dispensation of God's law to men as did those who are mentioned above, then we must obey the same requirements, if our conversion is to be genuine in God's sight, Have you obeyed the gospel as they did, that you may have remission of your sins and become a part of God's family? If you have not, don't put it off. Do it today so you may be saved from eternal punishment!

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STEPS OF SALVATION:

FROM **SINNER** TO **SAVED**

