

Simplicity of Salvation

Men want to "do" something to earn salvation, but God says it is a gift, because Jesus Christ paid the price on the cross. He bought eternal life for every man. However, the gift must be received by faith. **What does receiving by faith means?**

It simply means to believe. The Philippians jailer asked Paul and Silas, "*Sirs, what must I do to be saved?*" To which they answered, "*Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved.*" Act 16:30-31

It simply means to come. "*Come to me all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.*" Mat. 11:28

It simply means to enter. "*I am the door, if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved.*" John 10:9a

It simply means to receive the gift. "*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*" Rom. 6:23

It simply means to call. "For whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved." Rom. 10:13

It simply means to trust. "*And He called a child to Himself and set him before them, and said, 'truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.'*" Mat. 18:2-3

It simply means to believe in Jesus Christ. "*Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes (in Me) has eternal life.*" John 6:47

Faith is simply putting your trust in what the Scripture says. Before you study the Word of God, make sure that you are in fellowship with God being filled with the Holy Spirit. The Bible lays out two requirements that must be met before we can perceive and understand God's Word. All these two requirements demand nothing from us except our non-meritorious faith.

First: We must be believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. It is impossible for unbelievers to understand the Word of God (1 Cor. 2:14). The Lord Jesus declared to the religious leader of His day that apart from spiritual birth man is blind to the things of God (John 3:6). (If you are unbeliever, the issue for you is salvation. Please see back page).

Second: We must be filled with the Spirit (1 Cor. 2:12). As believers we are permanently indwelt by the Holy Spirit, but when we sin, we temporarily lose our fellowship with God and stop to function in the power of the Spirit. When we *confess our sins*, God is always faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

To confess our sins to God simply means to cite or acknowledge the sins that we have committed without guilt, feeling sorry, begging for mercy, promises or vows because Jesus Christ died for all of them. When we confess our *known sins*, God also cleanses us with our *unknown sins*. The moment we rebound, we are restored to fellowship and are again under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, able to receive, retain, recall the Word of God and to fulfill the pre-designed plan of God