聖經中救恩的經歷

「人怎樣在耶穌基督裏得到拯救? 這問題的答案可以在聖經,即神 對我們的話語裏找到。」

The Biblical Experience of Salvation

How does a person find salvation in Jesus Christ? The answer is found in the Bible, God's Word to us.

聖經中救恩的經歷

聖經說人人都犯了罪,虧缺了 神的榮耀 (羅馬書3:23)。憑著個人的經驗和觀察到的情 況可以發現,罪已使我們的人性有了缺點。 因此,我們自生下來,就有自私、不誠實和 叛逆的傾向。我們每一個人都曾犯過罪;人 若否認,這只是自欺而已(約翰壹書1:8)。

好消息就是耶穌, 祂是 神在肉身顯現, 祂降生來到我們的世界,為救我們脱離罪惡而捨命在十字架上(路加福音19:10)。祂死的時候,就付清了世界上每一個人的所有罪債,也為我們打開罪得赦免的大門(約翰福音1:29)。神的兒子是由聖靈懷孕,並由童女所生的,所以,耶穌沒有像我們一樣的罪性;因此,祂可以為擔當我們的罪而死。

作為 神在肉身顯現(約翰福音1:1,14;提摩太前書3:16;馬太福音1:23),耶穌有權柄赦免我們的罪。無人可以清洗自己過往的罪惡,也無人可以用自己的努力來消除與生俱來的罪性。然而,耶穌不但可以潔淨人的罪,還可以賜人一個公義的新生命(約翰壹書1:9;約翰福音3:3-5)。

怎樣在耶穌基督裏得到拯救?這問題的答案可以在聖經,即 神對我們的話語裏找到。耶穌在傳道期間告訴我們,藉著水和聖靈的重生,是進入 神國的途徑(約翰福音3:5)。祂教訓說人必須悔改才可進入 神的國(馬太福音4:17;路加福音13:3,5),並且祂向我們保證, 神會將聖靈賜給一切求祂的人(路加福音11:13)。

耶穌復活之後,祂告訴門徒説:「並且人要奉祂的名傳悔改赦罪的道,從耶路撒冷起直傳到萬邦。」(路加福音24:47),接著便吩咐門徒要留在耶路撒冷,直至他們領受聖靈為止(路加福音24:49;使徒行傳1:4-8)。

耶穌升天十日後,約有120位門徒領受了聖

靈,他們按著聖靈所賜的口才,說起別國的 方言。這是最榮耀的一個時刻,因為這是 神藉著新約時代的教會,進行救世工作的開始。

許許多多的人看到聖靈澆灌在120位門徒身上,但他們不明白門徒説別國的方言有什麼意思,這些方言是他們從未學過的。使徒彼得告訴他們,說方言乃是 神將祂的聖靈澆灌的憑據,因為耶穌為擔當我們的罪而死,並且被 神高舉了。眾人接著問使徒:「我們當怎樣行?」(使徒行傳2:37)他們希望得救,所以他們問當怎樣行才可被聖靈充滿。

當天彼得和其餘使徒的答案,也是今天 神給我們的答案。我們相信耶穌後,就必須 悔改,並奉耶穌基督的名受洗叫罪得赦,以 及領受聖靈。「彼得説,你們各人要悔改, 奉耶穌基督的名受洗,叫你們的罪得赦,就 必領受所賜的聖靈。」(使徒行傳2:38)。撒瑪 利亞人(使徒行傳8:5-17)、保羅(使徒行傳 9:6-17;22:16)、該撒利亞的外邦人(使徒行傳 10:34-48)、以及施洗約翰的信徒,他們均獲 得這相同的答案。

使徒的這個模式…相信,悔改,受洗,及被聖靈充滿…仍然是今天救恩的模式。再沒有另一個救恩的計劃,也沒有另一個真的福音。 使徒保羅說:「但無論是我們,是天上來的 使者,若傳福音給你們,與我們所傳給你們 的不同,他就應當被咒詛。」(加拉太書1:8)

為甚麼相信耶穌?因為我們不能自救,然 而藉著相信耶穌,我們接納祂為我們的罪死在 十字架上,從而獲得了一神的赦免。我們得救 是本乎恩也因著信,並不靠行為(以弗所書2:8)。

為甚麼悔改?因為我們不得不承認是罪人, 也不得不請求 神的赦免(約翰壹書1:8-10)。靠 著 神聖靈的幫助,我們要離開罪惡的生活方式, 並轉向 神,在基督耶穌裏過公義的生活。當 我們悔改時,我們便打開了獲得 神赦免的大門。 Why be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ? Water baptism is for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), and sins are remitted (forgiven) in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 24:47; Acts 4:12; 10:43; 22:16). Since Jesus died for our sins, salvation is given to us through faith in Him and in His name (John 3:16; 20:31; Acts 16:31). In water baptism, we identify with Him, for we are buried with Him into His death and we also rise with Him in the likeness of His resurrection to "walk in newness of life." (See Romans 6:1-8).

Water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ follows the pattern established by the apostles, for the apostolic church always baptized converts in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5; 22:16). (See also Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; Galatians 3:27.) At water baptism we call on the name of Jesus for the remission (forgiveness) of sins and the name of Jesus is called upon us. In this way we express our faith in His death for the forgiveness of sins and in His resurrection for a new life in Him. When we use the name of Jesus Christ in water baptism, we fulfill the command of Jesus to baptize in the singular redemptive "name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19, NKJV).

Why receive the Holy Spirit? It is the birth of the Spirit into the kingdom of God (John 3:3, 5; I Corinthians 12:13). During his ministry, John the Baptist foretold that Jesus would baptize people with the Holy Spirit. Although Jesus confirmed that those who believe in Him would receive the Spirit, the Spirit was not given to them until after He was glorified-after His death and resurrection (John 7:37-39). After His resurrection, Jesus told His disciples to stay in Jerusalem until they received the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-8).

On the Day of Pentecost believers first received the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4), and since that moment anyone who believes in Jesus, repents of his sins, and is baptized in the name of Jesus Christ can receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38-39). In the Book of Acts, Jews received the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4); Samaritans received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17); Gentiles received the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:44-48); and the disciples of John the Baptist received the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:1-6). These biblical examples show us that the gift of the Holy Spirit is available to anyone regardless of race, creed, color, or nationality. The Holy Spirit is the seal of God in our lives and the guarantee of our inheritance of eternal life (Ephesians 1:13-14).

How does a person receive the Holy Spirit? A person receives the Holy Spirit today the same way people received the Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts. When we believe, repent, and are baptized, we are ready to receive the Holy Spirit. Repentance and baptism are biblical faith responses to the gospel, and by faith we allow God to fill us with His Spirit. God gives the Spirit to anyone who opens his heart in obedient faith to Him.

How does a person know when he receives the Spirit? When a person receives the Holy Spirit he will speak in other tongues (languages) as the Spirit within him gives the utterance. This is the biblical evidence of being filled with the Spirit; speaking in tongues was the initial sign given to people in Acts when they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4; 8:16-18; 10:44-47; 19:6). Speaking in tongues is the one consistent biblical sign that the Holy Spirit has entered into a person.

If I have questions about the information in this tract, what should I do? Jesus said to people who had questions, "Search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these [the Scriptures] are they which testify of Me" (John5:39, NKJV). If you have questions, search the Bible to confirm the truth. Then by faith repent, be baptized in the name of Jesus, and receive the Holy Spirit. When you do, you will join the church established in the Book of Acts and millions of people living in nations around the world.

May God's love and grace bless your life and guide you always.

The Biblical Experience of Salvation

The Bible states that everyone has sinned and come short of the glory that God wants us to enjoy (Romans 3:23). By experience and observation, we all know that our human nature is flawed by sin, that we are born with a tendency to be selfish, untruthful, and rebellious. And all of us have at one time or another yielded to our sinful nature. To deny that we have sinned is merely self-deception (I John 1:8).

The good news is that Jesus, who is God manifested in flesh, came to our world and gave His life on the cross to save us from our sins (Luke 19:10). When He died He paid the full penalty for the sins of everyone in the world and opened the way for us to be forgiven of our sins (John 1:29). As the Son of God conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, Jesus did not have a sinful nature as we do. Therefore, He could and did die for our sins.

As God manifested in flesh (John 1:1, 14; I Timothy 3:16; Matthew 1:23), Jesus has the power to forgive us of our sins. No one can cleanse himself from his past sins, nor can he by his own efforts destroy his innate sinful nature. But Jesus can both cleanse him of his sins and give him a new birth of righteousness. (See I John 1:9; John 3:3-5).

How does a person find salvation in Jesus Christ? The answer is found in the Bible, God's Word to us. During His ministry, Jesus told us that the way into the kingdom of God is by a new birth of water and Spirit (John 3:5). He taught that a person must repent to enter the kingdom of God (Matthew 4:17; Luke 13:3, 5), and He assured us that God gives the Holy Spirit to all who ask Him (Luke 11:13).

After His resurrection, Jesus told His disciples that "repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47). He then instructed them to stay in the city of Jerusalem until they received the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-8).

Ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, about 120 disciples received the Holy Spirit with the sign of speaking in other languages as the Spirit within them gave the utterance. This was a most glorious moment, for it was the beginning of God's salvation for the whole world through the New Testament church.

Thousands of people witnessed the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the 120, and they asked the meaning of people speaking in foreign languages that they had not learned. The Apostle Peter explained that speaking in tongues was the evidence that God had poured out His Spirit because Jesus died for our sins and was exalted by God. Then the people asked the apostles, "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). They wanted to be saved, so they asked what to do in order to be filled with the Holy Spirit. The answer that Peter and the other apostles gave that day is God's answer to us today. After we believe on Jesus, we are to repent of our sins, be baptized in water in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and then receive the Holy Spirit. "Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38 NKJV). This same answer was given to the people of Samaria (Acts 8:5-17), to Paul (Acts 9:6-17; 22:16), to the Gentiles in Caesarea (Acts 10:34-48), and to the converts of John the Baptist (Acts 19:1-8).

This apostolic pattern-faith, repentance, water baptism, and infilling of the Holy Spirit-is still the pattern of salvation for us today. There is no other plan of salvation, no other true gospel. The apostle Paul wrote, "But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:8).

Why have faith in Jesus? We cannot save ourselves, but by believing in Jesus we accept His death on the cross for our sins. This made available God's forgiveness. We are saved by grace through faith, and not by our works (Ephesians 2:8).

Why repent of our sins? Because we must confess that we are sinners and ask God to forgive us (I John 1:8-10). With the help of God's Spirit, we are to turn away from our sinful ways and turn toward God and His righteousness in Jesus Christ. When we repent, we open the door to God's forgiveness.

為甚麼奉耶穌基督的名受洗?受洗的目的 是叫罪得赦(使徒行傳2:38),而罪是靠著耶穌 基督的名而蒙赦免的(路加福音24:47;使徒 行傳4:12;10:43;22:16)。耶穌為擔當我們的 罪而死,因此救恩是藉著相信耶穌和耶穌的 名而賜給我們的(約翰福音3:16;20:31;使徒 行傳16:31)。我們受洗,就是與耶穌認同, 因為我們是與耶穌同埋葬進入祂的死,同時 我們與耶穌同復活,好像耶穌的復活,「一 舉一動有新生的樣式」(羅馬書6:1-8)。

奉耶穌基督的名受洗便貫徹了使徒所建立的模式,因為使徒時代的教會總是奉耶穌基督的名為信徒施洗的(使徒行傳2:38;8:16;10:48;19:5;22:16)(羅馬書6:4;歌羅西書2:12;加拉太書3:27)。受洗的時候,我們呼求耶穌的名叫罪得赦,而施洗者也是向我們宣稱耶穌的名來替我們施洗的。我們奉耶穌的名受洗,是表示相信耶穌的死是叫我們的罪得赦,以及相信耶穌的復活是叫我們在祂裏面要有新的生命。在洗禮時使用耶穌的名字,這就遵行了耶穌對洗禮的吩咐,是奉救贖主單數式「父、子,聖靈的名」受洗(馬太福音28:19)。

為甚麼領受聖靈?領受聖靈也就是從聖靈而生,從而進入 神的國度(約翰福音3:3,5;哥林多前書12:13)。當施洗約翰傳道期間,曾預言耶穌會用聖靈給人施洗。雖然耶穌確定那些相信祂的人會領受聖靈,但聖靈是在耶穌得榮耀後…耶穌死亡及復活後…才賜給他們的(約翰福音7:37-39)。耶穌復活之後,告訴門徒要留在耶路撒冷,直到他們領受聖靈為止(路加福音24:49;使徒行傳1:4-8)。

信徒在五旬節初次領受了聖靈(使徒行傳2:4),從那時起,任何人相信耶穌,悔改,並奉耶穌基督的名受洗的,都可以領受聖靈(使徒行傳2:38-39)。使徒行傳記載猶太人領受了聖靈(使徒行傳2:4),撒瑪利亞人領受了聖靈(使徒行傳8:17),外邦人領受了聖靈(使徒

行傳19:1-6)。這些聖經例子給我們看見,任何人不論種族、膚色或國籍,均可獲得聖靈的恩賜。聖靈是 神在我們生命中的印記,以及是承受永生的憑據(以弗所書1:13-14)。

人如何領受聖靈?人今天領受聖靈的方式和使徒行傳的人物領受聖靈的方式相同。只要我們相信、悔改及受洗,便已作好領受聖靈的準備。悔改及洗禮是聖經中相信福音的回應;藉著信心,我們讓 神用祂的聖靈充滿我們。任何人若開啟心門,用順服的信心相信祂, 神都會將聖靈賜給他。

人如何知道他在甚麼時候領受了聖靈?當人領受聖靈時,聖靈在他裏面賜他口才,他就會說出新的方言。這是聖經中被聖靈充滿的憑據;說方言是使徒行傳的人物初次領受聖靈時的記號(使徒行傳2:4;8:16-18;10:44-47;19:6)。說方言是唯一與聖經一致的憑據,顯明聖靈已進入人裏面。

我若對這單張的內容有疑問,應怎麼辦? 耶穌曾對發問的人說過:「你們查考聖經,因 你們以為內中有永生,給我作見證的就是這 經。」(約翰福音5:39)你若有疑問,查考聖經 來確定這個真理吧!然後,藉信心悔改,奉 耶穌的名受洗及領受聖靈。你這樣行的話, 便可成為教會的一員,這教會是由使徒所創 立的;並且與世界各地千千萬萬有相同信心 的信徒成了一家人。

願你獲得 神慈愛和恩典的福氣,也願你 常常得到 神慈愛和恩典的帶領。