

# 12 Issues to Consider

REGARDING YOUR SPIRITUAL

# Salvation

*The Bible says*

**“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth”**

*(John 4:24)*

*One of the things God is telling us here is that fellowship with Him is possible only via the channel of the human spirit and not by the power of our soul or the strength of our physical body. It is only our spirit that can commune with He who is Spirit. Perhaps the full implications of this truth are yet to be revealed to you. In that event, let me share with you the following twelve points for the salvation of your soul.*

**1** Since Adam, the spirit of every person born of man became unrighteous and his nature became sinful. God did not originally create man with a sinful nature. It happened as a consequence of sin – the sin which Adam sinned originally while we were all in his loins, and therefore partook of and inherited. The spiritual law is that the repercussion of sin is death. In a word, every human being is born a sinner with death sentence hanging on him – and that includes you!

**2** As a person lives in this world, his sinful nature makes him commit numerous acts of sin in thought, intent, motives, speech and action. The Bible says “he drinks sin like water”. We really can’t help ourselves. Every natural man is a slave to his sinful nature – he *will* sin, regardless of how much he tries not to sin because his unrighteous spirit is entirely powerless to resist sin. So, there are two distinct problems with sin in a natural human being: first, his sinful inheritance in Adam and second, a lifelong load of sinful acts.

**3** Through prayer and/or fasting (whether Lent, Ramadan, or any other) God may forgive sins and indeed, He often forgives. The question however is that even if God were to forgive every sinful act, the issue of a sinful spiritual nature remains, because forgiveness of sin is not the same as the removal of a sinful nature which remains intact.

**4** Now, God is holy. He is the Father of lights with whom there is no darkness at all. He cannot behold sin, talk less of accommodating it. He would no longer be God if He were to tolerate unholiness in any form. It is simply impossible for Him to fellowship with a degenerate, unrighteous human spirit. His holiness absolutely rules out such fellowship.

**5** To be sure, a person with an unrighteous spirit (and that is how everyone was born) may presume to pray to God or worship Him. In fact, God Himself may even bless such a person with temporal blessings out of His grace and love for all His creation. But certainly, genuine fellowship with God is totally out of the question, whether here on earth or hereafter in heaven. The reason is that the tool for fellowshiping with God is the human spirit (*John 4:24*), and this is already damaged in every natural man.

**6** While a life devoid of fellowship with one’s Source is bad enough, the real calamity is the continuing separation from God even after death. The Bible makes it clear that nothing that defiles shall enter heaven – and man’s natural spirit defiles. Only beings with undefiled spirits can participate in the eternal heavenly activity of worshipping God. All other beings are cast into hell. So, our ticket to heaven is primarily NOT our attempts to appease God with good works or nice morals (even though these too have their own place), but to have a spirit without blemish. Let me ask you, “Do you have a spirit that does not defile?”

**/** Since everyone was born with an unrighteous spirit, it seems reasonable to conclude that no one will make heaven. No! God is love and His desire is that no one should perish but rather simply replace their natural unrighteous

spirit with an undefiled spirit which God can fellowship with. Obviously, such a replacement has to be done here on earth since it will be too late after death.

**8** But then, how can a man replace his spirit by himself? This is not possible. It is only God who can give or replace spirits. So, why does God not just go ahead and do it? Why does He not go the whole length to clean us up instead of merely forgiving the resultant sins (fruits) while the evil "tree" is left intact in its power? The reason is that the sinful nature was caused by sin and the spiritual law is that sin must be punished by death of the sinner or remitted by the shedding of substitutionary innocent blood. Therefore, if God were to just go ahead to rectify the problem without settling the legal requirement, He would be a law-breaker. And God is not a law-breaker.

**9** In times past, under certain situations, God allowed for the shedding of innocent animal blood for the remission of sin. But now, He has determined that the shedding of the blood of the Son of God, the sinless historical Jesus Christ of Nazareth, is the only means of fulfilling the righteous requirement of divine law for sin. This is why Jesus had to come to the world and die on the Cross. This message is really **good news** for mankind because there is no way we could ever have paid the penalty ourselves.

**10** All that remains for a person to do concerning his sin and sinful nature is to acknowledge the truth of his sinfulness, appreciate God's love in making this great provision for his redemption from sin, and to sincerely believe the truth of the substitutionary death of Jesus to pay the full price for his sins. **That is, the person accepts that the death of Jesus Christ was for his/her own personal benefit to save him/her from sin and hence willingly enter into a relationship of lordship with Jesus wherein the salvation abides.** This is generally referred to as "*Accepting or receiving Jesus Christ*". It is a definite and purposeful event in one's life that a person actually undertakes and is certain about. You are not born into it.

**11** Once a person comes to this position, God Himself will graciously, yet instantaneously, perform the needed spiritual surgery of replacing the defiled spirit with a righteous one freshly created. The person is thus a new creature spiritually, possessing the God-kind of life – *eternal life*. Such a person is said to be born anew or **born again**. He has been born of the "Water" (which is the word of God – specifically the **Good News** explained above) and of the Spirit of God (since the replacement is by the power of God's Spirit).

**12** Anyone who has truly experienced the new birth just described is blessed with a whole package of spiritual blessings – His personal sins are forgiven, he is adopted into the Family of God (that is, he graduates from being a mere creature to a child of God), he now has the authority to use *all* power in heaven and on earth – which means that he no longer lives as a slave to sin or the evil forces of darkness. But much over and beyond all these, he can now worship God in spirit and in truth. He can fellowship with God forever – he is fit for heaven. Halleluyah!

## A Call

*Have you ever accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour? It is only by doing this that you can have spiritual salvation and enjoy eternity in heaven with God. I implore you to allow Jesus into your life now. Yield yourself to Him. Stop the struggle and religious debates. While he who is spiritually saved will enter into the Kingdom of God (which is commonly seen as the Christian faith), this is not a call to the Christian "religion", but a call to the salvation of your soul. For no religion can save – not even Christianity as a religion. So, being born into a Christian family or going to church or mosque, or trying to live a devout life will not save you. Whatever your religion, whatever moral standing you have, you must repent of your sins and personally receive Jesus into your life.*

*My prayer is that the Good News you have heard today will lead you into a new lease of life with God through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

*If you are ready to be saved, please solemnly pray the following prayer now:*

## Prayer

**Heavenly Father, I thank you for this opportunity to come to the knowledge of Your love and concern for me. I admit that I am a sinner by birth and by deeds. I confess my numerous sins in thought, motives, intents, speech and action. (You may mention any specific sins that you can remember). I am indeed very sorry for all my sins and I hereby promise to forsake all these sins which I know deserve death.**

**Lord Jesus, I confess You as the Son of God and I thank You for coming to the world to die that I may be saved. I acknowledge You as my Saviour and I solemnly invite You to be the Lord of my life. I receive You into my life. I thank You God for Your faithfulness. Thank You for saving me. I know that by Your grace, I am born again now. Amen.**

*If you prayed the prayer above, then I rejoice with you for you are now a believer in Christ – a member of the household of God. You should now associate with other believers in a living church near you as the Spirit of God will impress upon your heart. I urge you to also contact us for advice and counseling at the address below. We would really love to hear from you!*

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