

PEOPLE'S NEED FOR SALVATION

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PART ONE: Can the Bible Be Trusted?

A. There is mathematically 1 chance out of 5 with 60 zeros behind it for the following prophecies to be fulfilled. Keep in mind that even scholars who do not believe the Bible will agree that these prophecies were written before the event(s) they predict. There are about 2500 prophecies in the Bible. 2000 of these have been fulfilled literally. The other 500 pertain to Christ's return and the events and happenings associated with it.

1. Tyre: Ezek. 26:3-5, 7, 12, 14, 16
2. Samaria: Mic. 1:6
3. Gaza and Ashkelon: Zech. 2:4, 6; Amos 1:8; Jer. 47:5
4. Jericho: Josh. 6:26
5. Jerusalem: Mic. 3:12
6. Palestine: Lev. 26:31, 33; Ezek. 36:33-35
7. Moab and Ammon: Ezek. 25:3-4, 9-10; Jer. 48:47; 49:6
8. Edom: Jer. 49:16-19
9. Babylon: Isa. 13:19-21; Jer. 51:26, 43

Question – multiple choice: Based on the information in A. one reason that the Bible is trustworthy is:

- a. it just feels true.*
- b. that is what many preachers say.*
- c. fulfilled prophecy*
- d. most highly educated people believe it*

B. In 1970, 2 out of 5 marriages ended in divorce. However, in homes where both husband and wife said they were Christians, read the Bible together daily and prayed together daily (other than mealtime), only one out of 1015 marriages ended in divorce. People object to this because they note the divorce rate among pastors is almost equally high. A survey of Bible-believing pastors showed less than 10% of them read the Bible daily with their wife and prayed daily with their wife.

- *Question – multiple choice: Based on the information in B, another reason that the Bible is trustworthy is:*
- a. almost all scientists believe it.*
 - b. the large change or difference it makes in the lives of people.*
 - c. it makes people financially rich.*
 - d. it makes people popular.*

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C. Many ancient peoples have been conquered and completely removed from their countries. They intermarried with the peoples of the countries to where they were taken. However, the Jews were different. Instead of ceasing to be a separate and distinct people like these other ancient peoples, they continued to be an identifiable people. Shortly after the death of Jesus Christ, the Jews were completely scattered to different countries and the land area of Israel ceased to be a nation. The land area of Israel, i.e. the Jews was absorbed into other empires and settled by non-Jewish peoples. Almost 1900 years later, a homeland for the Jews was established in Israel. By 2020 many Jews were living in Israel again. Over the centuries, several nations have tried to eliminate the Jews. The Egyptians, Persians, Romans, Spanish and Germans have tried to do so only to fail in their efforts. As a result, all of them have ceased to be world powers.

Jeremiah 31:35-36 - This is what the LORD says: The One who gives the sun for light by day, the fixed order of moon and stars for light by night, who stirs up the sea and makes its waves roar—Yahweh of Hosts is His name: If this fixed order departs from My presence— this is the LORD's declaration— then also Israel's descendants will cease to be a nation before Me forever. (NASB)

Question – multiple choice: Based on the information in C, another reason that the Bible is trustworthy is:

- a. God has preserved all the peoples as distinct nations except for the people of Israel, i.e. the Jews.*
- b. Unlike other nations and peoples, God has preserved the people of Israel, i.e. the Jews as a distinct people and nation.*
- c. God never had a future for the people of Israel, i.e. the Jews.*
- d. The Jewish people intermarried with the non-Jews and have ceased to be a people.*

D. The Bible or scriptures claim to be God's word.

2 Timothy 3:16a – "All scripture is inspired by God" (NASB)

Questions: How much of the scripture is inspired by God? _____

The scriptures are said to be inspired by _____

2 Peter 1:21 – "For no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." (NASB)

Question: The scriptures and their prophecies were written by men who were moved by _____ and spoke not their own words but spoke from _____

Jeremiah 1:9 – "Then the LORD stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me, 'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.'" (NASB)

Question: _____ put His words in Jeremiah's mouth.

2 Samuel 23:2 – David wrote, "The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue." (NASB)

Question: The _____ spoke by David.

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E. Jesus Christ Himself claimed the Bible was without error

John 10:35 – “...The Scripture cannot be broken.” (NASB)

1. Jesus said that the _____ had so much authority that it could not be broken.

John 17:17 – “.....Your word is truth.” (NASB)

2. In His prayer to God the Father, Jesus stated that the scripture or God's word was _____.

Matthew 5:18 – “For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not ^[a]the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.” (NASB)

3. Jesus said that even the smallest part would not _____ from God's word or law.

F. There are 5000 ancient copies of the New Testament. In addition there are 86,000 quotes of the New Testament from the early church fathers who wrote from 100 A.D. to 300 A.D. Other ancient writings have 20 or fewer copies with 2 exceptions. One works has 100 copies and another work has 200 copies.

Question: There are no more than _____ copies of ancient documents with the exception of the New Testament. But, there are _____ copies of the New Testament dating from ancient times plus _____ quotes from the New Testament from the early church fathers who wrote from 100 A.D. to 300 A.D.

G. The oldest copies of the New Testament are 200 to 400 years after the original writings. The oldest copies of any other ancient writings are at least 800 years after the originals. These are the same writings which are used for the science of writing history.

The oldest copies of the New Testament writings were written _____ to _____ after the original writings. The oldest copies of any other ancient writings are at least _____ years after the originals. These other ancient writings are the writings used for the science of writing _____.

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PART TWO: God's values and man's values

A. Isaiah 55:8-9 – “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. “For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. “(NASB)

1. God's _____ are superior to and different from man's _____.
2. God's way of thinking is superior to and different from man's _____ of thinking.

B. Isaiah 55:7 – “Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. “(NASB)

- God wants men to _____ their ways and thoughts.

C. Luke 16:15 – “And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God. “(NASB)

1. What men value highly is _____ to God.
2. Men try to justify _____ in the sight of men.

D. Job 41:11 – “Who has given to Me that I should repay *him*? *Whatever* is under the whole heaven is Mine. “(NASB)

- What does God owe people? _____.

E. Zephaniah 3:5 – “The LORD is righteous within her; He will do no injustice. Every morning He brings His justice to light; He does not fail. But the unjust knows no shame. “(NASB)

Deuteronomy 32:4 – “The Rock! His work is perfect, for all His ways are just; a God of faithfulness and without injustice, righteous and upright is He. “(NASB)

1. According to Zeph. 3:5, God does no _____ and shows His _____ every morning.
2. According to Deut. 32:4, all of God's ways are _____ and He is said to be without _____.

F. Ezekiel 18:25, 29 – “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not right.’ Hear now, O house of Israel! Is My way not right? Is it not your ways that are not right?But the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not right.’ Are My ways not right, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not right? “(NASB)

- Man complains that the way of the Lord is not _____, but God answers that man's way that is not _____.

G. Job 40:8 – “Will you really annul My judgment? Will you condemn Me that you may be justified? “(NASB)

- People condemn God and His just ways to try to _____ themselves.

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PART THREE: The meaning of sin

A. 1 John 3:4 – “Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. “ (NASB)

- Sin is _____

B. James 4:17 - “Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.” (NASB)

- Sin is knowing the _____ thing to do and not _____ it.

C. Romans 14:23 - “But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because *his eating is* not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin. “ (NASB)

- Sin is whatever is not from _____.

D. Isaiah 53:6 – “All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. “ (NASB)

- Sin to turning to one's own _____.

PART FOUR: The fact of sin

Romans 3:23 – “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. “(NASB)

Romans 3:10 – “THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE. “(NASB)

Romans 3:12 – “ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.”(NASB)

Mark 10:18 - “And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone. “(NASB)

Gen. 8:21 – “....The intent of man's heart is evil from his youth.... “(NASB)

Ecclesiastes 7:20 - “ Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who *continually* does good and who never sins. “(NASB)

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Based on the above scriptures, God sees all people as

- a. having sinned
- b. lacking a righteousness acceptable to God
- c. not being good all the time
- d. all of the above
- e. none of the above

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PART FIVE: The exception to sin

A. 1 Peter 2:22 – “WHO {**JESUS CHRIST**} COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH.” (NASB)

B. Hebrews 4:15 – “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are, yet* without sin.” (NASB)

C. 1 John 3:5 - “You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.” (NASB)

D. John 8:28-29 - “So Jesus said, ‘When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him.’” (NASB)

E. 2 Corinthians 5:21 - “He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (NASB)

The only human being who never sinned was _____

PART SIX: The results of sin

A. Romans 1:18 – “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.” (NASB)

Sin is referred to as ungodliness and unrighteousness. God’s _____ is revealed against all of it, not just part of it.

B. James 2:10 – “For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all.” (NASB)

If someone obeys all of God’s law or commands but sins in one command or one point, he is _____ of disobeying all of the commands.

C. Romans 6:23 – “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (NASB)

The wages or penalty of sin is said to be _____.

D. Revelation 21:8 – “But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part *will be* in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.” (NASB)

The full understanding of death as a punishment for sin is called the _____ death or the lake that burns with _____ and brimstone.

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E. Matthew 10:28 – “Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” (NASB)

Jesus taught that there is a place called _____ where both _____ and _____ are destroyed meaning ruined.

F. Matthew 25:41 – “Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.’” (NASB)

Christ taught that Hell was prepared for the _____ and his _____ and that it was _____ fire.

G. Matthew 25:46 – “These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” (NASB)

Christ taught that the punishment in hell is _____ punishment.

H. Revelation 14:10-11 – “He also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.” (NASB)

The punishment in hell goes on forever with no _____ day and night.

I. Job 40:8 – “Will you really annul My judgment? Will you condemn Me that you may be justified?” (NASB)

What do people want to do with God’s judgment? To _____ that judgment of God and to _____ God to justify themselves.

J. Acts 17:31 – “Because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.” (NASB)

God has appointed Jesus Christ to _____ the world in _____ and proven it by _____ Jesus from the dead.

K. John 12:48-49 – “He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day. ⁴⁹ For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment *as to* what to say and what to speak.” (NASB)

The standard of judgment on judgment day will be – multiple choice:

- a. having more good deeds than bad deeds
- b. our conscience
- c. the very word that Christ spoke
- d. believing that God exists

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PART SEVEN: God cares about people

A. John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, that He gave His ^[a]only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”(NASB)

Romans 5:8 – “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”(NASB)

Even though I am a sinner, God says in His word that He _____ me and gave Christ to _____ for me.

B. 2 Peter 3:9 – “The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.”(NASB)

God does not _____ to perish in hell because He says in His word that He wants _____ to come to repentance.

C. 1 Timothy 2:3-4 – “This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”(NASB)

God wants me to be _____.

D. Ezekiel 18:23, 32 – ““Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked,”” declares the Lord God, ““rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?”” “For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies,”” declares the Lord God. ‘Therefore, repent and live.’”(NASB)

God gets no _____ out of seeing me or anyone else experience that second death in the lake of fire. In addition God wants me to _____ and experience spiritual life.

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PART EIGHT: Jesus is God

Note: When the word LORD is in all capital letters in the Old Testament, it translates the word "Jehovah" or "Yahweh"

A. John 5:17-18 – “But He answered them, ‘My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working.’ For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.” (NASB)

Jesus claimed to be _____ with God.

B. John 10:30, 33 – “‘I and the Father are one.’ The Jews answered Him, ‘For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God.’” (NASB)

Jesus’ enemies clearly understood Him to be saying that He was _____.

C. Isaiah 9:6 – “For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.” (NASB)

The Old Testament refers to Jesus as the mighty _____.

D. John 20:28 – “Thomas answered and said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’” (NASB)

The New Testament calls Jesus “My Lord and my _____.”

E. Matthew 8:26-27 – “He said to them, ‘Why are you afraid, you men of little faith?’ Then He got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and it became perfectly calm. The men were amazed, and said, ‘What kind of a man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?’” (NASB)

Psalm 89:8-9 – “O LORD God of hosts, who is like You, O mighty LORD? Your faithfulness also surrounds You. You rule the swelling of the sea; when its waves rise, You still them.” (NASB)

Jesus showed Himself to be Jehovah or Yahweh by stilling the _____ and the _____.

F. Revelation 1:17-18 – “When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. “ (NASB)

Isaiah 44:6 – “Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: ‘I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides Me.’” (NASB)

The title _____ shows that Jesus is the Jehovah or Yahweh of the Old Testament

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PART NINE: Christ died for our sins

A. 1 Corinthians 15:3 – “...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures.”(NASB)

Christ died for our _____.

B. 2 Corinthians 5:21 – “He [**God**] made Him {**Christ**} who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (NASB)

Christ was made _____ for us.

C. 1 Peter 1:18-19 – “Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.”(NASB)

The price paid for our sins which is shown by the word “redeemed” was the _____ of Christ.

D. 1 Peter 2:24 – “And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.”(NASB)

Christ bore or carried our _____ on the cross.

E. 1 Peter 3:18 – “For Christ also died for sins once for all, *the* just for *the* unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.” (NASB)

Christ died for our sins, the _____ or righteous in place of the _____ or unrighteous to _____ us to God.

F. John 1:29 – “The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’”(NASB)

When Christ died on the cross, He _____ our sins.

PART TEN: Christ was raised from the dead

A. John 2:19, 21-22 – “Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’” But He was speaking of the temple of His body. So when He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.”(NASB)

Luke 24:3, 36-40 – “But when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.... While they were telling these things, He Himself stood in their midst and said to them, ‘Peace be to you.’” But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a spirit. And He said to them, ‘Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.” (NASB)

What was raised – His body or just His spirit.

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B. Romans 6:9 – “Knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.” (NASB)

Christ is _____ to die again.

C. 1 Peter 1:3 – “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” (NASB)

1 Corinthians 15:4-8 – “And that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.” (NASB)

Matthew 28:6 – “He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.” (NASB)

In addition to John in A, who are 3 witnesses who wrote about the reality of His resurrection - Circle the 3 names? Adam, Elisha, Elisha, Peter, Samuel, Jeremiah, Paul, Matthew, Malachi

D. Matthew 16:21 – “From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.” (NASB)

Matthew 17:22-23 – “And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day.” And they were deeply grieved.” (NASB)

Matthew 20:18-19 – “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and will hand Him over to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify *Him*, and on the third day He will be raised up.” (NASB)

Christ repeatedly predicted that He would be _____ from the dead on the third day after His death.

PART ELEVEN: Is Jesus really the only way?

A. Isaiah 58:8-9 – “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. ‘For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.’” (NASB)

God’s _____ and _____ are higher than and different from people’s _____ and _____.

B. Isaiah 53:6 – “All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.” (NASB)

Every one of us has decided to turn to our _____ way instead of accepting God’s way.

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C. Proverbs 14:12 – “There is a way *which seems* right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”(NASB)

A way or idea of salvation may appear right to people but its end or result is the way of _____ which is eternal separation from God in the lake of fire.

D. Romans 10:1-3 – “Brethren, my heart’s desire and my prayer to God for them is for *their* salvation. For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. For not knowing about God’s righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.”(NASB)

1. We know these people are lost because Paul prayed for their _____.
2. We know these people are very sincere and enthusiastic about God because they have a _____ for God.
3. Their enthusiasm and sincerity were not based on _____ of what God’s word says about being righteous with God.
4. These sincere people tried to make their own idea or way of being _____ with God

E. John 16:1-3 – “These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling. They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me.”(NASB)

1. People can be attacking Bible-believing Christianity and be wrong. They actually think that they are serving _____.
2. This shows that they have not _____ Christ or the Father in a saving way.

F. John 10:1, 9 – “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber.... I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.”(NASB)

1. Jesus said that whoever comes through Him will be _____.
2. Jesus said that the one who comes some other way is the same as a _____ or a _____.

G. John 14:6 – “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.’”(NASB)

1. Jesus clearly claimed to be the only _____ to come to God.
2. If there is some other way, then _____ is clearly a liar or insane.

H. Acts 4:12 – “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”(NASB)

Again we find a clear statement that Jesus is the only way to be _____ from sin’s penalty.

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I. Matthew 7:13-14 – “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it. “(NASB)

1. It is good to be broad-minded on some issues, but when it comes to salvation, we see that our Lord Jesus was very _____-minded by the standards or thinking of our world and culture. After all, He clearly claimed to be the only way of salvation.
2. Jesus clearly said that most people would find His claim to be the only way or road to salvation to be too narrow and would choose the _____ way leading to the destruction of Hell.
3. The choice is clear: Are we going to God through Jesus the narrow _____, or are we going to try to work it some other way?

J. Ezekiel 33:17, 20 – “Yet your fellow citizens say, ‘The way of the Lord is not right,’ when it is their own way that is not right Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not right.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”(NASB)

1. People complain that God’s way is not _____.
2. God’s answer to people is that it is their own way that is not _____.
3. God warns that He will _____ people who say His way is not right.

K. Isaiah 55:7-9 – “Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ declares the LORD. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.’”(NASB)

The issue in salvation is for us to forsake or give up our own _____ and thoughts and accept the way God has made available to us through Jesus Christ so that we may receive compassion and pardon for our sins.

PART TWELVE: We are not saved by our good deeds

A. Isaiah 64:6a – “For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment” (NASB)

Our good deeds or works are to God like _____ clothes.

B. Titus 3:5 – “He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.” (NASB)

Salvation is not by deeds done in _____.

C. 2 Timothy 1:9 – “who { **God** } has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity.” (NASB)

God _____ us not by good deeds but by His goodness we do not deserve.

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D. 1 Samuel 16:7b – “God *sees* not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” (NASB)

People look at the _____ appearance but God looks at the _____

E. James 2:24 – “You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.” (NASB)

The words “you see” refer to man or people. Therefore, we are saved by good works or deeds in the sight of _____.

F. Romans 3:20 – “because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.” (NASB)

We are not saved by good works or deeds in the sight of _____.

G. Ephesians 2:8-9 – “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.” (NASB)

God’s grace (undeserved goodness) provides salvation. We receive it by _____ without _____ or deeds.

PART 13: But if I am sincere, am I not okay?

A. Romans 9:30 – “What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which is by faith.” (NASB)

How did the Gentiles (non-Jews) receive a righteousness acceptable to God? By _____

B. Romans 9:31-32 – “But Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at *that* law. Why? Because *they did not pursue it* by faith, but as though *it were* by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone.” (NASB)

How did most Jews try to receive a righteousness acceptable to God? By _____

C. Romans 10:1 – “Brethren, my heart’s desire and my prayer to God for them is for *their* salvation.” (NASB)

What need did these Jews have that drove Paul to pray for them? _____

D. Romans 10:2 – “For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.” (NASB)

What phrase shows these Jews were sincere? “a _____ for God.

E. Proverbs 16:25 – “There is a way *which seems* right to a man, but its end is the way of death.” (NASB)

A way contrary to God’s way may appear _____ but results in the judgment of eternal death in the lake of fire.

PEOPLE'S NEED FOR SALVATION

F. Jeremiah 17:9 – “The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?” (NASB)

Proverbs 28:26a – “He who trusts in his own heart is a fool....” (NASB)

People ask, “But if I sincerely believe something with all my heart, how could I be wrong? These verses explain that the heart from God’s viewpoint is _____ more than all else and God sees anyone who trusts in His own heart to be a _____.

G. Some common sense observations about sincerity:

1. One may sincerely believe that eating onions will keep him from dying after being bitten by a dog with rabies, but unless one receives the prescribed treatment, he will die.
2. One may sincerely believe that he can jump off a 25 story building head first and not be injured, but in reality, he will die.

PART 14: What must we do to be saved from sin’s punishment?

A. John 6:28-29 – “Therefore they said to Him, ‘What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?’” Jesus answered and said to them, ‘This is the work of God that you believe in Him whom He has sent.’” (NASB)

We must _____ in the one God has sent.

B. John 5:24 – “Truly, truly, I say to you, ‘he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.’”

Multiple choice We receive salvation

- a. at the moment we believe
- b. when we die
- c. when our good deeds are enough
- d. when we feel it in our heart

C. Acts 10:43 – “Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.”

What must we do to receive the forgiveness of sins? When we _____ in Him.

D. Acts 16:31 – “They said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’”

We must place our faith in the _____ Jesus Christ which means He is God over our life. *Note, we may not see Jesus totally running our life as God. This involves a lifetime of spiritual growth as He assumes more and more control over our lives and decisions.*

PEOPLE'S NEED FOR SALVATION

PART 15: God calls for us to make a choice

A. John 3:18 – “He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” (NASB)

B. John 8:24 – “Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins.” (NASB)

C. Two choices:

What are the results of trusting Christ?	What are the results of not trusting Christ?
We are not _____	We have been _____ already
We will not _____ in our sins.	We will _____ in our sins

PART 16: Warning against waiting

A. 2 Corinthians 6:2 – “for He says, ‘AT THE ACCEPTABLE TIME I LISTENED TO YOU, AND ON THE DAY OF SALVATION I HELPED YOU.’” Behold, now is ‘THE ACCEPTABLE TIME,’ behold, now is ‘THE DAY OF SALVATION’” (NASB)

What key word shows that we should not wait to be saved? _____

B. Hebrews 3:7-8 – “Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, ‘TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME, AS IN THE DAY OF TRIAL IN THE WILDERNESS.’” (NASB)

When should we respond to God’s offer of salvation? _____

C. Luke 12:16-20 – “And He told them a parable, saying, ‘The land of a rich man was very productive.’ And he began reasoning to himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul,’ “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years *to come*; take your ease, eat, drink *and* be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This *very* night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own what you have prepared?’” (NASB)

1. Before this man had a chance to make a decision to trust Christ, what happened to him?

He _____.

2. What error did he make about how much time he had to live? He thought he had _____ years to live.

3. Before that night, were circumstances good or bad for this man? _____

D. Genesis 6:3 – “Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.” (NASB)

If someone keeps putting off trusting Christ, there comes a time when God’s _____ quits trying to persuade him or her to trust Christ.

PEOPLE'S NEED FOR SALVATION

E. Proverbs 29:1 – “A man who hardens *his* neck after much reproof will suddenly be broken beyond remedy.” (NASB)

The one who stubbornly holds off trusting Christ after many times of hearing the reproof of the gospel will _____ be broken by God’s judgment beyond God’s remedy of being able to trust Christ.

F. James 4:14 – “Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.” (NASB)

Your _____ is uncertain and quickly gone.

PEOPLE'S NEED FOR SALVATION

PART 17: Decision Time!

We can say how awful it is that God seems so narrow-minded in providing only one way about being saved from the punishment for sin. Or, we can say how wonderful that God cared enough to make a way to escape His wrath by trusting Christ!

Regardless of what any of us think or feel, God – not you or I – sets the conditions for heaven and hell. God sets these conditions whether we like them or not. God sets these conditions whether we believe them or not. We can either meet God on His terms or take the consequences.

Acts 17:31-34 – “because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead. Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some *began* to sneer, but others said, ‘We shall hear you again concerning this.’ So Paul went out of their midst. But some men joined him and believed” (NASB)

There were three responses to the gospel:

- (1) Those who rejected it: “Some began to sneer”
- (2) “Those who decided to wait: others said, ‘We shall hear you again concerning this.’”
- (3) Those who decided to trust Christ: “Some men joined him and believed”

MY DECISION

Put a check mark by your decision and keep this paper as a reminder.

- _____ 1. Before this time, I trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior on _____
(If you do not know the exact date, that is okay. Just put the time period in your life when you did this and that will be sufficient.)
- _____ 2. Beginning at this time, I am trusting the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ and His death on the cross in my place as the only way to be saved from the punishment for sin.
- _____ 3. I understand the danger of delay, but I want to wait and think more about trusting Christ as savior.
- _____ 4. I have no interest in trusting the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior.
- _____ 5. I have some questions (please see group leader immediately if this is a group; or try to phone, text or email the one who communicated to you about doing this study if you are doing this as an individual.
- _____ 6. Other: