

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN



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There are a lot of people who understand the Anglo-Israel issue, and are not Christians. People are not being told how to become a Christian. Many ministries are addressing the identity issue, but those ministries, for the most part, are not telling people how to become a Christian. In Churches today, most people are not Christians—they have not been born of the water and the spirit. They must do what the Bible tells them to do and not what their preachers tell them to do.

And, if you listen to the preachers of the land today, be it a Billy Graham Crusade, or the promise keepers that are now becoming so prominent, or the average Podunk-Hollar Judeo-Christian that gives an invitation at the end of the service—they are all being told to accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior and let him come into their heart. But, the Bible does not tell us that. No one in the Bible was ever told to let Jesus Christ come into their heart.

There are a lot of people who will be offended by this message. But, I am going to tell the truth on how to become a Christian. There are a lot of concealed truths in the Bible—therefore, we have to search them out. If you search out the references that you will find in this message, you will find that the truth is there in clear print on how to become a Christian.

The Scriptures contain many truths that are better understood by relating them to the physical world. For example,

1 Peter 2-1 *“therefore, putting aside all malice and all guile and hypocrisy and envy and slander, like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the Word, that by it, they may grow in respect to salvation...”*

How many people have read this passage, but do not practice it? It tells us that we are to be like newborn babes that long for the pure milk of the Word. I remember one time when I was talking to my son on the phone and I could hear my grandson in the background; he was not happy. When I ask my son what was wrong with him, he said, “He is longing for milk and his mother is not here.” A baby like that longs for the milk. And the scripture teaches that we are longing for the milk of the Word. These pages absolutely contain the milk of the Word.

1 Corinthians 3:1. *“And, brother, I could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men in flesh, as to babes in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food, for you were not able to receive it. Indeed, even now, you are not yet able; for you are still fleshly.”*

This teaches that many people are just fleshly (non-spiritual men and women) who want the meat, when they really need is the milk. What they need is to be born and to become babes in Christ.

Hebrews 5:12. *“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again to have someone teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the Word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice, has his senses trained to discern good and evil.”*

Verse 12 says that we need to go back to the milk of the Word. And that is what I am telling you now. You need to become Christians. In life, we often ask each other questions:

What are you going to do when you get out of school?

What are you going to do when you get out of college?

What are you going to do when you get out of the service?

What are you going to do when the kids are grown?

What are you going to do when you retire?

There is another question that you need to be asking—what are you going to do when you die? Particularly, if you haven’t properly addressed this question of how to become a Christian. I am finding out that this thing called life goes by rather quickly and you will be asking yourself that question before you know it, if you are not already doing so. What are you going to do when you die? You need to know how to become a Christian.

There is a passage in Matthew 7 that people should read. Especially, people that have believed the lie, “Accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior.” I know that you have heard people say, “I became a Christian on such and such a day, I remember it well; I began to pray and I was born again.” Or, “I was sitting on the front porch and I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal savior and I became a Christian.”

Well, no, they did not and neither will you in that way. NO ONE, NO ONE becomes a Christian except by God’s way. Now, if that does not make you feel good, go find a church that makes you feel good. My job is not to make you feel good. My job is to tell you the truth, and the truth is, no one becomes a Christian by accepting Christ as their personal savior. If you accepted Christ as your personal savior, good for you! But, now, why don’t you do what the Bible says?

The Bible tells us that there would be a people that would be totally deluded on this point. In Matthew 7, Christ had just finished talking about the false prophets.

Matthew 7:15. *“Beware of the false prophet, who comes to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly, are ravenous wolves.”*

Matthew 15:20. *“So, then, you will know them by their fruits. Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of my Father, who is in heaven.”*

Let’s do the fruit test—to see if these creatures are a bunch of fruitcakes. First, you have to recognize that they could be a false prophet. I could be a false prophet—many people believe that I am. I would appreciate the fact that you would be suspicious. You ought to be because the Lord said, “Beware of the false prophet.” So, what are you supposed to do? You are to do a fruit test.

Some people are very convincing, but it is not what they say that is important, but rather do they do the Will of the Father? How are you to know? Take the Bible to see if what they say and what I am saying is the Will of the Father.

Matthew 7:22. *“Not everyone that says to Me on that day (the day of judgment), Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name; and, in Your name cast out demons? And in Your name perform many miracles? And then I will declare to them, I never knew you. Depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.”*

Let's analyze that. First of all, in Verse 22, many people on that day believed in Jesus. It is most obvious that they believed because they call him Lord. Did these people in Verse 22 do many works in His name? Did they prophesize in His name? Did they cast out demons? Did they perform many miracles? The answer is yes. Yes.

Now, in Verse 23—read it for yourself—“*Depart from me you who practice lawlessness.*” Were they saved? No, because they did not follow the Will or the law of God. They did not become a Christian God's way. They obviously thought they were Christians; they pointed out their works—and, they did works. They did perform miracles. They did cast out demons. How? There were tapping into a law of God that says, “Faith moves mountains.” But, they were not saved.

It is clear that these people believed. But, faith is not enough. Why were they surprised? Because they had been listening to false prophets. They were not Christians because they believed the lie that all they had to do was to accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior.

It goes something like this:

“Come forward, if you will. Let us pray together. Come to the altar. Sign this little card. Pray with us. Actually, there is a variety of means, but it all comes back to the doctrine that says faith only. Faith is enough. The previously mentioned people had faith; they had great faith. They had enough faith to do great things—but, they were not saved! They had listened to false prophets.

Go to Acts 17. Underline Verse 11, and then do it yourself.

Acts 17:11. “*For these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the Word with great eagerness, examining the scriptures daily, to see if these things were so.*”

There we see that it is a noble thing in the eyes of God to examine the Scriptures in seeking the truth.

If I were to tell you, in answer to the question, “How to Become a Christian,” to accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior, then you should examine the Scriptures to see if this is right. You should examine the Scriptures to see if there was one solitary soul in the entire New Testament that was ever told to accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior.

Now, this fact alone should impress you. Here is the biggest lie in Christendom today, besides Jews and God's chosen people, that's not in the Bible.

John 3:16. If there is ever a Scripture that has been memorized, it is this one.

“*For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son so that whomsoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*”

This is the verse that is most normally used to promote the “faith only” doctrine. So, all you have to do is believe. NO! You just read a Scripture where people believed that Jesus was Lord and yet they were not saved.

There is another passage in this area of belief that is also used to promote this faith only doctrine.

Romans 10:8. “*The Word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart. If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth, he confesses, resulting in salvation.*”

This verse is so clear. If you believe that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. If you just take John 3:16 and Romans 10:8, then I can understand why you might think all you have to do to become a Christian is to believe in Jesus.

But, there are many other Scriptures that pertain to this thing called salvation. Belief is not enough. The reason it is not enough is because all people have a problem. This problem is—regardless of your net worth or your lineage or your age or where you come from—we are all sinners.

Romans 3:23. *“For all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God.”*

We have all sinned. John 3:4 says that sin is a transgression against God’s law. One time, when I was in a motel lobby, I saw Dr. Kevorikian on TV (he is the doctor that assists people in committing suicide). He was saying, “What I do might be against what you believe. You might believe what I do is a sin. But, it is not a crime.

Man, for a doctor this man was not very smart!! It might be a sin, but not a crime? Sin is a crime. The definition of a crime is, “a violation of the law.” The definition of sin is, “a violation of the law.”

Therefore, a crime is a sin and a sin is a crime. Every one of us is a criminal in the eyes of God. So much so that Romans 6:23 says that we are worthy of death as sinners or criminals.

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

You might not consider yourself a criminal. You might say, as most criminals that go to jail, “I am innocent.” But, you must understand that it makes no difference how you perceive yourself when you stand before the judge; what makes a difference is whether or not the judge perceives you as guilty. And, there will be a day of reckoning—a day when you will have judgment.

It will make no difference then how much you believe or how you have professed Christ as your savior; if you stand before the judge full of sin, you will hear the gavel come down and you will hear the pronouncement of “guilty.” For, “the wages of sin is death.” Period. So, if we stand before the judge as believers; as people who have professed Christ; as people who have done great works, but we still have sin to account for, then we will be pronounced guilty. Just like the people in Matthew 7.

What I am trying to encourage you to believe is that you are a sinner. Even if you have convinced yourself that you are no longer the criminal worthy of the judgment of death because you have believed or accepted, then you should read in Hebrews 9 about sin.

It is important that you understand that just believing in Christ only makes you a believing sinner. Or professing Christ just makes you a professing sinner. There is only one thing that will take care of sin.

Hebrews 9:14. *“How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit, offers himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works, to serve the Living God.”*

Notice, it is the blood of Christ that cleanses.

Hebrews 9:22. *“According to the law, one may almost say that all things are cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.”*

What you must realize is that you cannot have the forgiveness of sins without the blood of Christ. The shed blood of Christ causes cleansing and forgiveness. If you are a believer—good! I do not want to minimize that because you must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; that he came in the flesh and died for your sins.

John 8:24: *“I said therefore to you that you shall die in your sins for unless you believe that I Am, you shall die in your sins.”*

Jesus was saying that unless you believe that He is God manifest in the flesh that you will die in your sins. There once was a preacher, an Anglo-Israel preacher, even, who preached that Jesus was not God in the flesh. And some people fell for his lies. The reason that I angered so many people years ago when I pointed out his error was that he was a friend to so many. But I don't care if I made him mad. If your friend is teaching that Jesus is just another (g)od then that person is a false teacher. Christ said that unless you believe that I Am, you will die in your sins.

John 1:1, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God,"*

John 1 then goes on to say that the Word became flesh, and, unless you believe that, you will never become a Christian. It is absolutely essential that you believe this. But, believing is not enough. That is what this message is all about. As a believer, you still have your sin and the only thing that will wash away your sin is the blood of Christ.

Mathew 26:28. *"For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."*

There is not a preacher in the land that cannot understand this passage. But, we cannot see how that blood is applied to our lives. I can hold up a bar of soap and tell you if you want your hands clean, you will have to believe on the soap. How absurd!! You have to apply the soap in order to get your hands clean. And so it is with the blood. You have to apply the blood to your own lives. How? How the Bible tells you to.

In Acts, Chapter 2, after the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, Christ has told the apostles to go to Jerusalem and wait there until what has been promised to them has come and the baptism of the Holy Spirit has occurred. Peter is preaching on the day of Pentecost—that is, 50 days after the crucifixion.

Acts 2:36-37. *"Therefore, let all of the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus that you have crucified." "Now, when they heard this they were pierced to the heart and they said to Peter, 'Brethren, what shall we do?'"*

Peter had filled them with conviction and they were asking him what they needed to do to become a Christian. Now, don't you think it would be better for you to listen to what the Apostle Peter had to say on the subject of becoming a Christian than to listen to some preacher telling you to accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior?

Acts 2:38. *"And Peter said to them, repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

Peter did not say, come forward and accept Jesus as your personal savior. Nor did he say to believe. Why didn't Peter say anything about believing? The answer is simple—it would have been redundant. They were already in the believing state. Many people that I minister to are in the believing state. They believe in Christ—that he is the great I Am that came in the flesh.

But, now, according to Verse 38, what is the first thing that a believer is supposed to do? Repent.

Let's discuss for a minute what repentance is. Repentance is probably the hardest part in becoming a Christian because you have to acknowledge that you are a sinner—that you are lost. It is sorrow for your sins--a humility--that causes you to repent.

But, repentance is more than feeling sorry and humbly acknowledging that you are a sinner. It is a change of heart that leads to a change of action. It is a surrender where you say, "Lord, I am no longer king or queen of my life, but Thy will be done. Whatever you want me to stop doing, I am going to try to stop doing. And, Lord, whatever you want me to do, I will try to do."

Repentance is enthroning Jesus Christ in your life as your master, your Lord, your King. The theme song of sinners might be the famous song sang by Frank Sinatra, “I Did It My Way.”

The theme song of Christians would be, “I Did It Thy Way.” You might notice how little repentance is emphasized in the modern Judeo-Christian faith. They want you to feel good about yourself—to come forward and accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior.

I remember one couple telling me that they allowed their young daughter to go to an Assembly of God youth group meeting—one time. It was a party. The music was playing; the drums emitting a jungle beat; the longhaired leader was singing and teaching. When she came home she told her parents that she had learned that God is cool! God is not cool!! And, he doesn’t want us to be cool, either. He wants us to be either hot or cold, but not cool, not lukewarm. He will puke us out of his mouth if we are cool. Because that is what is being proclaimed from many pulpits—puck! We might call them puky pulpits!! They are telling people that God is cool and you, too, can be cool. I’m ok and you’re ok. YOU ARE NOT OK!! And, you never will be ok until you become a Christian the way the Bible instructs.

To be a Christian, you must, number one, believe. And, be willing to believe that He is the Great I Am and to confess him as Lord of your life. And, number two, repent or surrender. It is called, in the Bible, dying to your old way of life. The old man, the sinful man must die.

What else did Peter tell them to do? He said, “*Repent and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*”

Ephesians 4:6. “*There is one body and one Spirit just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.*”

How many hopes are there? ONE.

How many Lords are there? ONE

How many faiths are there? ONE

How many Gods are there? ONE

How many baptisms are there? ONE

There is only one Bible baptism that works in becoming a Christian. It is the one that Peter talked about in Acts 2:38. But, you know, in the world today there are many types of baptism. And two things stand out—the mode and the purpose.

For example, the mode might be sprinkling, pouring, emersion, and what I often call dry cleaning (they use no water at all). What is the one mode that God recognizes as baptism? If you look up the meaning of the word in the Concordance you find out that it is baptismal in the Greek and the definition is immerse. In fact, the word was never properly translated from the Greek; rather, it was transliterated.

At the time the King James Version was being translated and they came to that word it should have been translated “immerse.” But, they transliterated it instead, because the church of the day was sprinkling. So they took the Greek letter beta and substituted the English letter B and took the Greek letter alpha and substituted the English letter A and they went from the Greek baptismal to baptize. In the Greek the word baptize means immerse. The word is an onomatopoeia; that is a word that sounds exactly like what it is.

For example, when we say the dog barks, that is exactly what a dog sounds like—bark, bark. When the dipper would hit the water, when it would immerse into the water, it made a noise “bap”—that is where baptismal came from. So, immersion is what that Greek word means. We can also prove this from the Word of God.

Romans 6:3-4. *“Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore, we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life.”*

Chapter 4 talks about baptism as being buried with Christ in baptism. When you take a dead body, what do you do with it? You bury it. You do not sprinkle a little bit of dirt on it—you bury it! You put it completely under.

Now we have the mode, immersion, what about the purpose? In the church world today, we find all of these different reasons for baptism. When my son was a little boy, I took him to a Methodist Church to be baptized. I just thought that we were supposed to do that. They took this little baby—something you never read about in the Bible, a baby being baptized—and they sprinkled some water on him and they said that they were baptizing him or dedicating him as a dedication to the community. I didn’t know any better—I had never read the Bible.

In retrospect, I think “what a communist concept.” The Baptist Church says baptism is “an outward sign of an inward grace.” They baptize so that you can become a member of their church. You go forward and accept Jesus, and that is when they say you are saved--a Christian. Later, you get baptized. So, there are a lot of different reasons that different churches use for baptism.

But, look again at Acts 2:38 and see that Peter said, *“Let each one of you repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins.”*

What was the purpose of this baptism? The forgiveness of sins. Some preachers might say, “Are you telling me that you have to be baptized for the remission of sins?” No, that is what the Bible says.

Why is it that they can see in Matthew 28 that *“blood is poured out for the remission of sins,”* but cannot see that baptism is for the remission of sins? I will tell you why—because it does not line up with what they already believe—their actions follow their beliefs.

They do not have their heart right with God so that they can see that the Word means just what it says. Baptism is for the remission of sins.

If you want to become a Christian, believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God—the great I Am that came to us in the flesh and died for our sins. You must believe to the point that you are willing to confess with your mouth that He is Lord. And, then do what Peter tells us to do in Acts 2:38, “repent.” That is the surrendering of your life when you say, “Lord, not my will by Thy will be done.” Not what I believe, or what I want to believe, or what they told me to believe, but what Your Word says. Surrender your life. Repentance is analogous to dying to the old way of life—getting rid of the old man.

What do you do with dead people? You bury them. Jesus, in the plan of salvation, had to die for our sins. He had to die a bloody death because blood cleanses sin. He was buried in the tomb and on the third day, he resurrected. If you want to become a Christian, this is what you do. As a believer who is repentant, you must die to your old way of life.

And then you are buried, as Romans 6:4 says, *“we are buried with Christ through baptism.”* You are buried in the watery grave of baptism and you are raised up, as the Bible says, to walk in the newness of life. It is so clear when you study it. It is these false teachers that have muddied the waters. Why is it a new life? It is a new life because your sins have been washed away.

So, the Bible teaches that baptism washed away sins. How? Because that is where you come in contact with the blood of Christ. It is just like washing your hands when they are dirty; blood was shed for the remission of sins; baptism is for the remission of sins—that is where the soap is applied to the dirty hands, so to speak. Baptism is where the blood comes into contact with your life. Check for your self.

Acts 22:16, *“And, now why do you delay? Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name.”*

Some might question, “So, you are trying to tell me that baptism saves us?” No, I am not trying to tell you that, the Bible tells you that.

1 Peter 3- 21, *“and corresponding to that, baptism now saves you.”*

That is very plain. Baptism saves you.

Remember Acts 2-38? *“Repent and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

This is a very important point. God give us, when we repent, and are baptized, the gift of the Holy Spirit. Repentance is saying, “Lord I will try to stop doing what you don’t want me to do and I will try to do what it is that you want me to do.” Notice the word, try. We try because Christian people do not lead perfect lives. We still have battles. But, the difference is that when we are willing to do it His way, He gives us help. The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit is our helper and that He guides us in all truths.

I will share a personal illustration. When I was studying the Bible—I believed and I thought that I was a Christian. I had a particular sin problem. I chewed tobacco—it got so that one can of Skoal a day was not enough. One time, about 7 at night, I took the can of Skoal and threw it in the trash. About 11 that night, I was digging in that same trash can to retrieve that Skoal. And, I said, “God, if chewing this tobacco means that I will go to Hell, then I will just have to go to Hell, because I can’t give it up.” But, when I was baptized for the remission of my sins, I took that Skoal can out of my pocket and placed it on a shelf. God gave me the strength, the help that I needed to overcome this habit.

John 16:13. *“But, when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth, for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears He will speak and He will disclose to you what is to come.”*

One of the reasons that it is so hard to get truth into the churches today is because they are not Christians. If they were Christians, if they had repented and been baptized for the remission of their sins, then the Holy Spirit would guide them into all truths. I have observed, as I minister across the land, that those people that have not been baptized for the remission of their sins cannot not wholly grasp the spiritual truths as well as those who have been—they don’t have the gift of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the truth.

Ephesians teaches us also that baptism seals us in the Holy Spirit. A king had a seal that no one else had and when he put his seal on something that seal meant that it was his. Much the same is a brand. How do I know which cows in the pasture are mine? Why, the ones with my brand on them. Now, if we have that seal of the Holy Spirit and people start messing with us, then they have Him to contend with because we are His herd.

Some of the questions you might have are, “what about a child.” First of all, does a child have sin? Well, if you are a Catholic, yes, a baby is born of original sin. But, Christ took a child and placed it on his lap and said, *“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”* Can a baby repent of its sins? No. Is there any place in the Bible where a baby is baptized? No.

What about the thief on the cross? That is a different story. He died before Christ. While He was alive, salvation was His to give. Christ gave the thief salvation before He died because it was His to give. But, after His death, while you are living on this side of the cross, you must follow his Last Will and Testament if you want the inheritance. That Will is that you be baptized for the remission of your sins.

What about being re-baptized? Well, yes, according to Acts 19—“people were re-baptized for the proper reasons. For example, if you were baptized to join a church or to obtain the outward sign of an inward grace, what you need to do is have the one baptism of Ephesians 4:5 and Acts 2:38—baptism for the remission of sins.

1 John 4:4 says, “*that he who is born of God overcomes the world* (that world meaning “world order”). Now, if you were part of the world order and you knew that people born of God would overcome you or conquer you, then what you would do is to try to keep them from being born again—born of God. If you want to be born of God, then believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God, be willing to confess Him as Lord, humbly repent of your sins, and be baptized (immersed) for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. That is the way to become a Christian. **The only way.**

Reread this message—examine the Scriptures yourself—find out if what I tell you is truth. If you have questions, write to me, or call me. I will gladly answer all of your questions. But, then I will have two questions for you.

“Are you a Christian and what are you going to do when you die?”