WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

A companion study to *What Happened After the Cross?*

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

- A Doctrinal Overview from the Book of Acts

Goal of this Lesson: To answer the following questions:

- What are the steps by which one is saved from his sin?
- What is an individual responsible for?
- What has God already done?
- If God has already provided salvation, why must I do anything?



THE HUMAN CONDITION

The human condition is simply the fact that from the fall of Adam and Eve all are lost.

Romans 3:10 – "There is none righteous..."

Romans 3:23 – "All have sinned..."

The Sin problem – The Bible is clear – we are sinners; every one of us. As you look around this room, we all have one thing in common; we are sinners.

This leaves humanity in a dilemma. God is angry with the wicked every day. (Psalms 7:11)

If we are to escape the wrath of an angry God, we must be saved.



THE SOLUTION?

- God's Answer: The Gospel
- I Corinthians 15:1-4
- Gospel = Good News =
  - Death,
  - Burial,
  - Resurrection of Jesus

BELIEVE IN THE FINISHED WORK OF CALVARY AND BE BORN AGAIN BY WATER AND BY HIS SPIRIT



GRACE AND FAITH

The Gifts of God

Ephesians 2:8 – Grace and faith are gifts

John 3:16, Hebrews 11:6

- There are two essential elements that God has made available to save us.
- These are grace and faith .

A. Ephesians 2:8 In this verse, what things are gifts from God?

B. John 3:16 – We must believe, but according to Ephesians 2:8, the very fact that we can believe is a gift from God.



THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL



- The Gospel is Power –
- Romans 1:16 – "...the power of God unto salvation..."
  - Further, the gospel is a powerful thing bringing us into salvation.
  - Greek for "power" is *dunamis*—dynamite!
  - Without the gospel, there would be no salvation experience!

BELIEVE AS THE SCRIPTURE SAYS

Gospel vs Plan of Salvation

Gospel and Plan – Not the Same

Gospel = Jesus' work

Plan = Our response

In James 2:19 devils are shown as believing in one God and trembling. Obviously just believing does not make them saved. One can believe and still be lost!

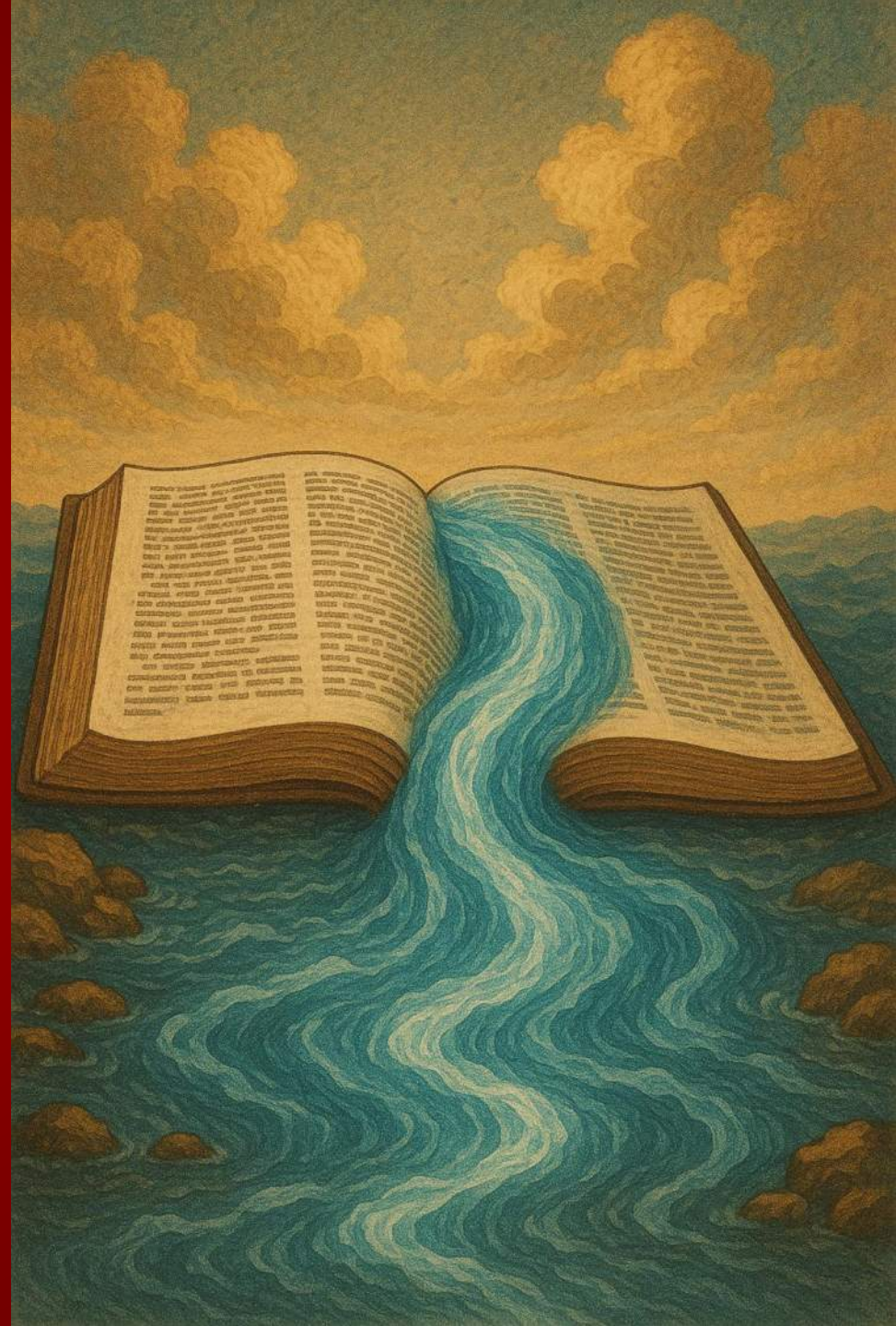
One can own a life preserver but still drown because he doesn't have it on.



LIVING WATER

Joh 7:38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."
Joh 7:39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

The plan by which we are saved is discovered in the book of acts where Simon Peter preaches the gospel which brings the people to the question, “What must we do?” Peter then provides them with the plan God has provided! A plan is available, but unless we obey the plan, we can still be lost.



FAITH REQUIRES ACTION

- James 2:14-18 – "Faith without works is dead"
- Read then write John 7:37-39 in your own words.

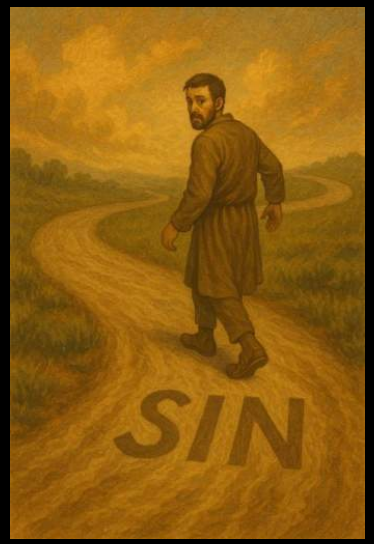
How did you translate the portion that says, “believe on me as the scripture hath said”?

- “In John 7:38, Jesus declares, ‘He who believes in Me, *as the Scripture has said,* out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.’

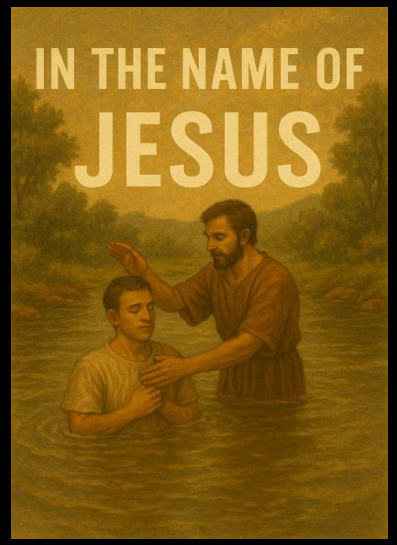
While speaking of the Holy Ghost, Jesus reveals a vital truth: it’s possible to believe in Him yet not believe *as the Scripture has said.* True saving faith is more than mental agreement—it’s belief that aligns with God’s Word. The outpouring of the Spirit is promised not to tradition or assumption, but to those whose faith is anchored in Scripture.

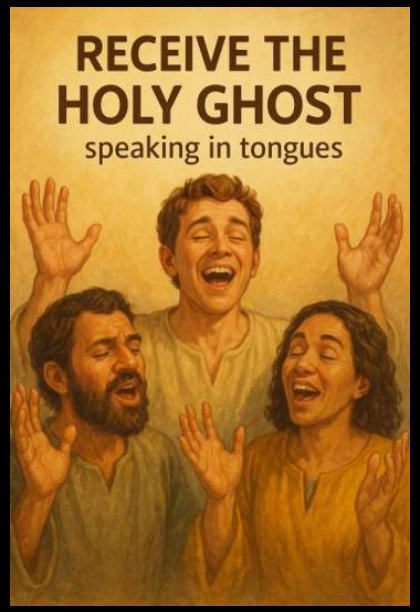


Repentance



Baptism





THE PLAN OF SALVATION

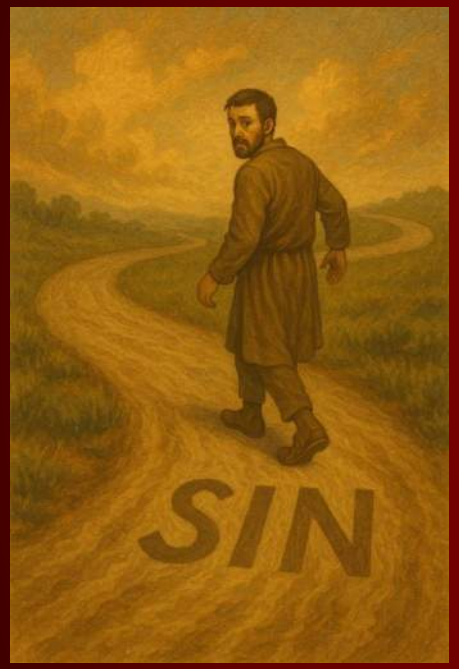
The Plan unfolds in the book of Acts, as Simon Peter preaches the gospel on the Day of Pentecost.

Cut to the heart, the people ask, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ (Acts 2:37).

Peter then declares God’s answer: ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost’ (Acts 2:38).

This is the gospel in action—the path God laid out for every soul.”

REPENTANCE



True repentance is when the heart turns from sin and runs to God, not just with tears, but with changed direction.

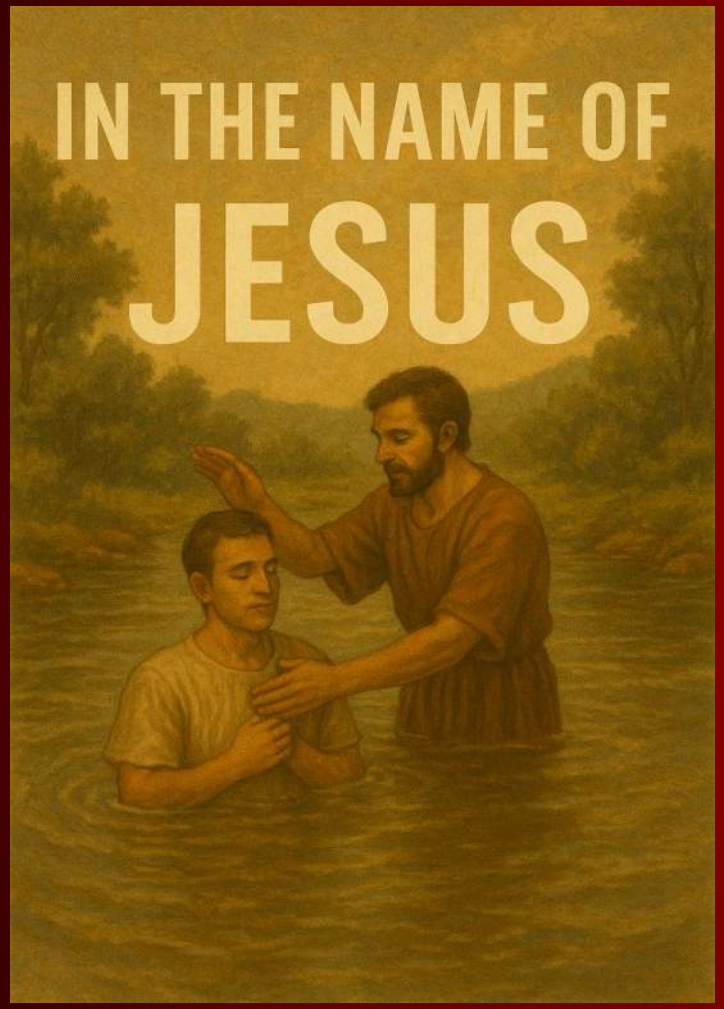
Confession + Contrition + Conversion

- **Confession –** admitting what you've done is wrong.
- **Contrition –** feeling godly sorrow over it (2 Corinthians 7:10).
- **Conversion –** actually changing behavior and direction.

Rom_14:23 ……..for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

True repentance is an act of faith—believing that God not only forgives, but washes us clean by His power

BAPTISM



Acts 2:38 (NKJV)
• 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.”

- This is the first time the New Covenant salvation message was publicly preached after Jesus’ resurrection, and it comes from Peter, the man given the keys to the kingdom (Matthew 16:19).

- It’s not just descriptive — it’s prescriptive, meaning it tells us how to be saved.

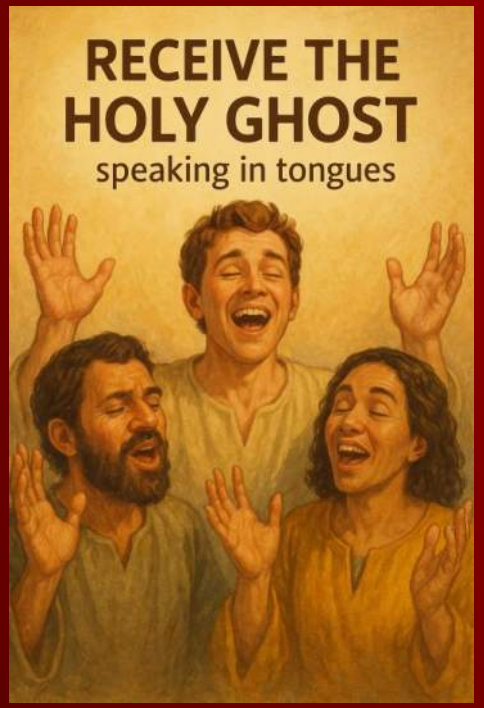
Acts 8:16 – “They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 10:48 – “He commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.”

Acts 19:5 – “They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Colossians 3:17 – “Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.”





THE HOLY GHOST

In Acts 19:1–6, when Paul arrived in Ephesus, he found disciples and asked,

“Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

(v.2). They responded, “We have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” Upon learning they were only baptized into John’s baptism, Paul explained that John pointed to Christ Jesus

(v.3–4). They were then baptized in Jesus' name

(v.5), and when Paul laid hands on them, they received the Holy Ghost and spoke with tongues and prophesied (v.6).



LIVING FOR GOD

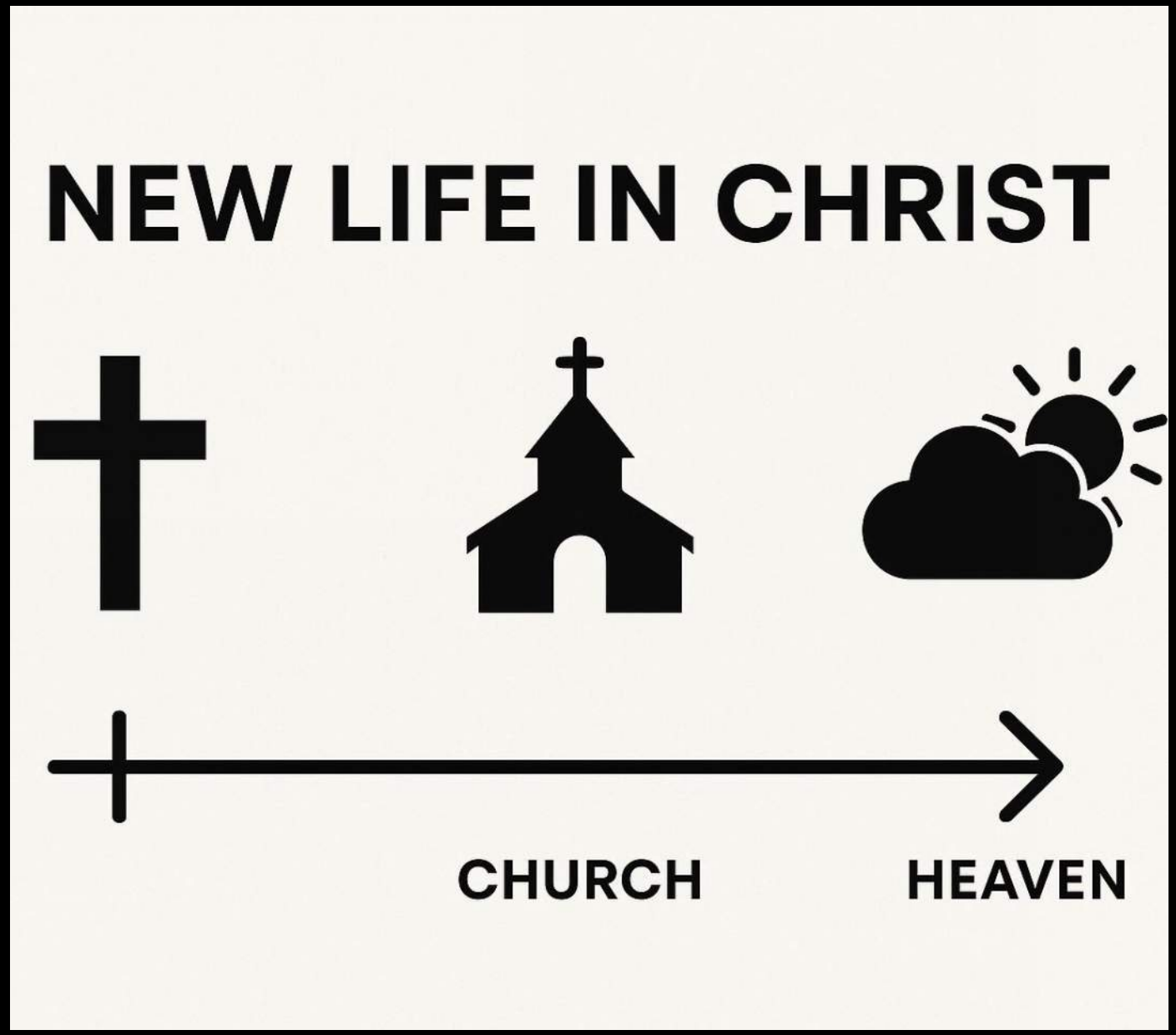
"Throughout scriptural history, the infilling of the Holy Ghost was consistently accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues

(Acts 2:1–4; Acts 10:44–48; Acts 19:1–6).

Nowhere in the account of the early church is the Holy Ghost received without a visible, audible manifestation confirming its arrival.“

A relationship with God means access to these fruits man can not give us no matter how good he or she is!

“This is truly a life-changing relationship with our loving, Almighty Savior—Jesus!”



SALVATION – PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

Salvation consists of several things. We always have something to praise God for if we have experienced the salvation he has so wonderfully provided.

The Ongoing Work of Salvation **is simply that;**

- We WERE saved,
- ARE being saved,
- and SHALL be saved