



Dear Rider,



"...my peace I give unto you: <u>not as the</u> <u>world giveth</u>..." (John 14:27)

In this statement Jesus promised a different type of peace, unlike anything the world can offer. There are vast differences between God's peace and the pleasures of this world.

1. Depth

The pleasures of this world satisfy our physical bodies. But this is only surface pleasure. Deep down in our soul is where God created a place for us to fellowship with Him. Without God in His place, there is no source of pleasure on earth intense enough to satisfy us on a deep, spiritual level. Our hearts are at peace when God is there.

2. Permanence

The pleasures of this world do not last forever. Both our bodies and the things our bodies love are physical and temporary. God originally designed pleasure to remain and last forever, but sin ruined that plan. Adam, the first man, brought death into this world, but Jesus Christ conquered death and hell. Lasting peace begins with receiving the King of Peace into the temple of our hearts.



3. Source

Our pleasures are found in this world. At first it takes an inch of what we love to give us a mile of pleasure. Over time it takes a mile of what we love to provide an inch of pleasure. When God gives you His peace, He becomes the source of your joy and pleasure. You always want more of God's presence, and yet you never run out of it. This is joy and eternal life.



Believing God's word takes us in a new direction.



"...that he might bring us to God ... "

Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is God, our Creator, born as a man. He became a man in order to reconcile (make peace between) sinners and Himself. The Bible says, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" (1 Timothy 2:5)

A mediator is necessary because of the wall of sin separating every man and woman from God. The Bible says, "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God." (Isaiah 59:2) God laid down His own life to pay for the sins of the whole world. Jesus Christ made a "blood donation" so that anyone who calls upon Him can be saved from sin. That is why God has a personal relationship with <u>Christians</u> (those who rely upon Jesus Christ). "...God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ..." (2 Corinthians 5:18)

The Perfect Payment

The Bible says, "For he (God) hath made him (Christ) to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." (John 14:6)



This trade happened on the cross. The Bible says Jesus Christ was "wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are HEALED." (Isaiah 53:5) When we were sick with sin, Jesus Christ took our sin upon Himself, then "donated" His righteous blood to make us saints in God's eyes, **if we believe** His gospel.

Sin Nature

What type of sin sends people to hell? <u>Not</u> big sins. <u>Not</u> little sins. Our sin <u>nature</u> is what bans us from God's presence. There is sin in our blood. In the beginning, Adam and Eve became the first sinners and passed on their sin nature to every human that has ever lived— until Jesus Christ was born of a virgin about 2,000 years ago. Jesus did not inherit Adam's sin-tainted blood. This makes Jesus Christ a suitable "blood donor" for the fallen human race. Without Christ's "blood donation," you remain in sin. The unfortunate men and women who die in their sins will go to hell forever. After trillions of years, their punishment will only have just begun.



"Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" Matthew 25:41

Receive Christ's "Blood Donation"

The Bible offers this hope: "...the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from ALL sin." (1 John 1:7) There is true power in the name of Jesus Christ. That is why so many people use His name as a curse word. Likewise, there is true power in the divine blood that Jesus shed on the cross. The Bible authoritatively declares: "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God…" (1 Peter 3:18)

What about you? If you believe this truth, what stops you from asking God for a personal relationship with Him? God will not go where He is not welcome. His blood will not be applied to your soul until you **repent** (agree with God) and **trust** in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ to save you.

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

The way to get right with God is not to try really hard to be a good person. We don't go to heaven by being a good person, we go to heaven by being a <u>PERFECT</u> person. *You Must Be Born Again! (spiritually)* Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3)

This spiritual birth happens when God's Holy Spirit comes to live inside of the person who believes on Jesus Christ. God's indwelling Spirit *is* the <u>free gift of God!</u>



"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:" Ephesians 2:8

God's Path to the Cross

1— REPENT

Agree with God.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out," (Acts

3:19) You cannot agree with God if you do not believe the Bible is God's written word. The Bible has the authority to 1. Define truth, 2. Exclude all other truth claims, and 3. Offer promises from God that you can rely upon to save your soul. The evidence of a repentant heart is <u>trusting the Gospel of Jesus Christ</u> for the salvation of your soul.



Jesus said, "Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3



Don't trust in your good works. Don't trust in a dead religious founder. Believe the truth and trust in the risen Christ to save your eternal soul!

2— TRUST the GOSPEL

The apostle Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that <u>believeth</u>..." (Romans 1:16) The gospel, or "good news," is the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the process by which God removes our sins and gifts us His righteousness. By believing this truth, your conscience becomes innocent before God. No one can live in God's kingdom if they die in their

sins with a guilty conscience. Believers of the gospel receive God's grace: *"For by grace are ye saved through <u>faith</u>..." (Eph. 2:8) This means you are forgiven because God <u>SAYS</u> you are forgiven, and He will not go back on His word. You are His spiritual child forever, and He will never leave or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5).* All false religions are based upon Satan's lie that you must earn God's grace by being a good person. Or that you can keep God's grace by changing your behavior. God does want us to change, but our motivation should be love for Jesus and thankfulness for His grace. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15) Fear no longer has any power over those who trust in the gospel of Jesus for their salvation.



"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:10

3—ASK

If you believe that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, all that remains is to ask Him to save you. The Bible says: *"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."* (*Romans 10:13*) What stops you from asking Jesus to save you right now? No one knows what day will be their last. Millions of souls in hell would love to trade places with you for just one more chance to be saved.

Get saved right away

You can become a born-again child of God *right now* by calling on the name of Jesus Christ and asking Him to save you. <u>In your own words</u>, tell God you have no reason to escape hell other than Him dying on the cross for your sins, being buried, and three days later rising from the grave. Tell God you want His Holy Spirit to come and live inside of you, sealing you forever as His born again child. If you tell God these things, and truly mean them, God will give you eternal life. There is no other gospel that can save us from hell. The Bible warns, "*But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.*" (Galatians 1:8)



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