THE NECESSITY FOR SALVATION

By Brother Mike Sutherland

Men and women are all sinners. Since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden men and women have been born in sin. The Bible says in *Psalm 51:5*: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me". The Bible also says in *Psalm 58:3*: "The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies". Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden when they disobeyed the commandment of God not to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The Bible says in *Genesis 2:16-17*:

> [16] And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: [17] But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. *Genesis 2:16-17*

The Bible also says in *Genesis 3:6*:

> [6] And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. *Genesis 3:6*

Thus, we see that sin of man originated in the Garden of Eden. Sin is a transgression against God or disobedience to the commandments of God. The sin in the garden led to the immediate spiritual death of all of mankind. Because of sin, we all eventually suffer physical death also. The Bible says in *Romans 3:23*: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;". The Bible also says in *Romans 5:12*: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:". The Bible says in:

> [6] But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. *Isaiah 64:6*

> [10] As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: [11] There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. [12] They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. *Romans 3:10-12*

> [9] The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? [10] I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. *Jeremiah 17:9-10*

So, we see that the best of our good works that we have to offer God is as filthy rags. God says that no one is right before God. God says that our hearts are dark and deceitful and that we cannot know it without the intervention of God.

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Because of our sin, we are separated from God, we are enemies with God, and we are alienated from God. According to *Romans 5:10*: "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. *Isaiah 59:1-2* says:

> [1]Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: [2] But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. *Isaiah 59:1-2*

Colossians 1:20-21 says:

> [20] And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. [21] And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled *Colossians 1:20-21*

We know from *Romans 6:23* that "the wages of sin is death". What this means is that we must pay for our sin with the death of our body, soul, and spirit. In other words, the wages that we are paid for our sin is death. Many folks have the wrong idea about death. They consider death to be the end, but it is not. Death is nothing more than a change of state. When we die, we change from a temporary state to an eternal state. The question is: "Where will you spend that eternity?". Will you suffer for an eternity in the lake of fire? Or, will you rejoice in eternal bliss in honoring and glorifying the God of heaven? The Bible meaning of death is "separation". To die means to be separated. In death, our soul and spirit are separated from our bodies. The Bible also uses the term "the second death". The second death is eternal separation from God in the lake of fire. The Bible says in *Revelation 20:14*: "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death". The Bible also says in *Revelation 21:8*: "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death".
The Bible says in *Psalm 9:17*: "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God". The Bible also says in *Hebrews 9:27*: "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" The judgement referred to here is the "Great White Throne Judgement". This judgement is described in *Revelation 20:11-15*:

> [11] And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. [12] And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. [13] And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. [14] And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. [15] And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. *Revelation*

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20:11-15

No one has to go to hell. It is an individual choice. The question is: "Will you choose eternal life in heaven or will you choose eternal death in hell?". If you choose to make no choice at all, then you choose hell because the Bible says in *John 3:16-18 and John 3:36*:

> John 3:16–18
> [16] For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. [17] For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. [18] He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. *John 3:16-18*

> [36] He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. *John 3:36*

Because of our sin, we are under the condemnation of God and the wrath of God abides upon us. The Bible says that God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. God says in *Ezekiel 33:11*:

> [11] Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? *Ezekiel 33:11*

That phrase "turn ye, turn ye" means to repent. Repentance is a turning from a life of sin and a turning to God. The Bible says in *2 Peter 3:9*: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance". There is NO salvation without repentance. Christ said in *Luke 13:3-5*:

> [3] I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. [4] Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? [5] I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. *Luke 13:3-5*

The Bible says in *Acts 17:30*: "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:".
Repentance is not worldly sorrow. Repentance is Godly sorrow. The Bible says in *2 Corinthians 7:9-10*:

> [9] Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in

> nothing. [10] For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. *2 Corinthians 7:9-10*

Men and women cannot repent of their sin without the power of the Holy Ghost living in them. God gives men and women the power of repentance through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. When men and women exercise faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Ghost comes to live in them. Repentance cannot be worked up in the power of the flesh. Repentance is a work of the indwelling Holy Ghost of God. Repentance is the evidence of salvation. Through repentance, the lost sinner becomes a new creature. The Bible says in *2 Corinthians 5:17*: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new".

The biggest problem I see and read about in churches of today are men and women and boys and girls walking away from professions of salvation and never showing forth any evidence of salvation. There has been no change in their attitude toward God and the things of God and therefore no repentance and no salvation. All things remain the same and nothing has become new. They are baptized church members on their way to hell. They have prayed a "sinner's prayer" and been told that they are on their way to heaven. Salvation is more than a sinner's prayer. Let me say this, if the sinner's prayer is prayed from a repentant, believing heart, then God hears that prayer and salvation becomes a reality. But most people that pray the sinner's prayer have been manipulated into saying some words without having a saving understanding of what salvation means and what God's requirements for salvation are. They have been inoculated to the gospel because they have prayed the "sinner's prayer". They will tell you that they have done that when you question them about their lack of evidence of salvation. They will tell you that they have said those words. That they have prayed that prayer. If there has been no change in your lifestyle after your profession faith, then you need to do some serious soul searching into whether you are saved. I realize that some Christians are not properly discipled following salvation, but I believe that the majority of professing Christians who show no evidence of salvation have never come to a saving belief in the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are a Christian that God gives the opportunity to lead someone to the Lord Jesus Christ, then you are responsible to disciple them. It is a part of the great commission. Disciplining involves not only instruction, but also reproof and correction. God said in *2 Timothy 3:16*: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

I was once a member of what appeared to be a sound, fundamental, independent Baptist church where doctrinally sound expository preaching was taking place Sunday after Sunday from the King James Bible, but there seemed to be something missing. Salvation that required repentance was not being preached. Sin was not being preached against and Biblical requirements for separation and holiness were not being emphasized. And, by the way, no worship was taking place (no surprise there). There was no spontaneous testimonies being given and no praise for God (just a cold, dead orthodoxy). By that I mean they were doctrinally straight, but spiritually dead.

Then, that pastor left to take another church and a new pastor was called. The new pastor came in preaching very strongly on the need for repentance in salvation and the need for holiness and separation in the Christian life. After several services of strong preaching, the Holy Ghost of God started showing up around there and people started getting saved who had been church members for

many years and some of them for most of their lives. After all was said and done fully 85 % of those church members were lost by their own testimonies. I know. I counted them. The sad thing is that I completely believe that that is the case in even most independent fundamental Baptist churches and much worse in the denominational Baptist churches. That is why I so strongly teach and preach the need for repentance. Repentance establishes relationship with God and maintains fellowship with God. In other words, repentance is necessary for the saved and the unsaved.

A lack of saved church members is the reason that most Baptist churches are being destroyed by Worldliness, psychology, outright false doctrine, apostasy, and heresy including Satan's bible perversions. The other denominations such as the Methodists, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Pentecostals, and Roman Catholics are much worse. Most churches in America are an abomination before God. The apostle Paul described the apostate church of today perfectly in 2 Timothy and Titus.

> [1] This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. [2] For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, [3] Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, [4] Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; [5] Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. [6] For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, [7] Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. *2 Timothy 3:1-7*

> [15] Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. [16] They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate. *Titus 1:15-16*

Today's church is more educated than it has ever been. It is ever learning and never bearing the truth. It is ever learning and never teaching and preaching the truth. It is ever learning and disdaining the knowledge of the truth. There is no knowledge of God for there is no fear of God and His holiness. There is no worship because there is no holiness. The Bible says three different times that we are to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Our churches are full of Bible correcting theologians and Bible scholars that are camped out around the tree of knowledge. As one writer said, the word of the living God is being crucified between two thieves: the dollar and the scholar. The scholar's big problem is that their knowledge is not spiritually enlightened. They would not know God the Holy Ghost if He showed up. I wouldn't give you a plug nickle for ninety-five percent of the churches today. They have no right to call themselves the church of the living GOD. They are a mixed multitude of pagans and professing Christians who possess a form of godliness but deny the power thereof. The word Ichabod should be written above their doors. The reason the church in America is in such a wicked fallen state is because church rolls are full of unsaved, baptized professing Christians.

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Church member and lost sinner I would ask you: If you were to die today, do you know for a fact that you would go to heaven. Are you counting on your church membership, baptism certificate, or good works to get you into heaven? Without a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ none of these will do you any good. You will end up in hell and the lake of fire. God said in *2 Corinthians 13:5*: "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?".

What is God's remedy for sin. Man has no remedy for , or escape from, the death and condemnation brought about by their sin. The good news is that God has provided a means of deliverance from the penalty of sin. That deliverance, or salvation, can only come through the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible says in *John 14:6* and *Acts 4:10-12*:

> [6] Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. *John 14:6*

> [10] Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. [11] This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. [12] Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. *Acts 4:10-12*

This means that the only remedy for your sin that God will accept is the Lord Jesus Christ. Without the Lord Jesus Christ, we are lost and dying and on our way to hell. John said: behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

It is through God's mercies that He reveals to us that we are lost and without hope outside the Lord Jesus Christ. "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed because His compassions fail not (*Lamentations 3:22*)". "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (*John 3:16*). "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"(*Romans 5:8)*. The wages of our sin have been paid by the shedding of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Salvation is not of man. There is nothing you can do to earn salvation. Salvation is not by works. Salvation is by grace through faith alone. *Ephesians 2:8-9* says:

> [8] For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: [9] Not of works, lest any man should boast. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

Titus 3:5 says:

> [5] Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. *Titus 3:5*

Salvation is not in the church. That means that you can join every church in the world and still die

in your sin and go to hell. Salvation is not in the baptismal pool. You can walk through every baptismal pool in the world and still die in your sin and go to hell. Christianity is not a religion, but is instead a living reality: the reality of Christ in you. Christianity is not hereditary. You are not a Christian because your mother and father were Christians. Salvation is not in some teacher, preacher, or evangelist. Salvation is in the Lord Jesus Christ. According to *Psalm 37:39-40* and *Jonah 2:9*, salvation is of the Lord.

> [39] But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble. [40] And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him. *Psalm 37:39-40*

> [9] But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD. *Jonah 2:9*

Now, the question arises: "What is salvation?".
Salvation is the deliverance of your soul and spirit from the penalty for sin, which is eternal death (also called the second death). For the Christian, the resurrection is the redemption of our dead physical bodies at the time of the rapture. Salvation comes through faith in the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. According to *1 Corinthians 15:1-4* the gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. *1 Corinthians 15:1-4* says:

> [1] Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; [2] By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. [3] For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; [4] And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: *1 Corinthians 15:1-4*

In order to be saved, you must personally believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross for your sins; that your sins were buried with Him; and that through His resurrection you have the power to go forth in the newness of life. This personal belief in the Lord Jesus Christ is also referred to as faith. From *Hebrews 11:1* we see: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen". *Hebrews 11:6* says: But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
Salvation brings about a newness of life. From *Romans 6:1-4*, we know that baptism symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. For the believer, baptism symbolizes the death of the old nature, the burial of that old nature, and the resurrection unto a newness of life. *Romans 6:1-4* says:

> [1] What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? [2] God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? [3] Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

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> [4] Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. *Romans 6:1-4*

How is it that we come to salvation? Salvation is not a process. It takes place instantly. However there are certain events that must take place for a lost sinner to come to salvation. According to the Bible, we must be drawn by God, we must come under conviction of the Holy Ghost, we must exercise faith, we must be brought to repentance by the Holy Ghost, we must be regenerated (born again) by the Holy Ghost, and we must publicly confess our sin of unbelief before men. The Bible says in *John 6:44*: "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day". According to John 16:7-9 and Romans 10:17, God uses the convicting power of the Holy Ghost and the word of God from the Bible to draw the lost sinner unto the Lord Jesus Christ. *John 16:7-9* says:

> [7] Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. [8] And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: [9] Of sin, because they believe not on me; *John 16:7-9*

Verses 8 and 9 in John 16 tells us that God reproves, or convicts, the lost sinner because they believe not on the Lord Jesus Christ. To say that one believes not on the Lord Jesus Christ is the same as saying they lack faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Faith comes through the teaching and preaching of the word of God. *Romans 10:17* says: "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God". That is why we have prepared this information from the Bible on sin and salvation. We want you to hear from the word of God what God has to say about your sin and its penalty and your need for repentance and salvation. We sincerely hope that having received this information from the word of God that by faith you will ask God to save you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. If you will exercise faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, God will grant you repentance unto salvation. Gods says in *John 3:3-8* that you cannot enter the kingdom of God (heaven) except ye be born again. *John 3:3-8* says:

> [3] Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. [4] Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? [5] Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. [6] That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. [7] Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. [8] The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. *John 3:3-8*

To be born again means to be spiritually reborn from above by God the Holy Ghost. It means to be

regenerated by the Holy Spirit of God. It is life from death. The Lord Jesus Christ was resurrected from death by the power of the Holy Spirit that ye might have life. That same Holy Spirit resurrects you from spiritual death through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Ghost. *Titus 3:5* says: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;". If you are a Christian, the rapture will be the time for the resurrection or changing of your body. The rapture is the redemption of your body (*Romans 8:23*) at the return of the Lord Jesus Christ (*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*). If you die before the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, your vile body will be resurrected and changed because the Bible says that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. If you are alive when the Lord Jesus Christ returns, your vile body will be changed so that it can enter the Kingdom of God. Ye must be born again!

The final event that must take place in your salvation is public confession. The Bible says in *Romans 10:8-11*:

> [8] But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; [9] That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. [10] For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. [11] For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. *Romans 10:8-11*

If you will be honest with God, confess the Lord Jesus with your mouth, and believe in your heart that God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead you will be saved. The Bible also says in *Matthew 10:32-33*:

> [32] Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. [33] But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. *Matthew 10:32-33*

It is most important that you not play games with God. If you do not repent of your sin and turn to God, there will come a day when God will stop dealing with you about your sin and you will die in your sin and suffer eternally in hell.

There was a secular song that was sung by a man that said he knew there was no heaven and he prayed that there was no hell. That man could not be more wrong. Every lost person on the face of this earth is being manipulated by Satan like a puppet on very thin frayed strings above the fires of hell. Hell is a scriptural fact that cannot be explained away. The Bible uses the word hell 54 different times. The Lord Jesus Christ preached more on hell than he did on heaven. Christ said in *Luke 16:22-24*:

> [22] And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; [23] And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

> [24] And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. *Luke 16:22-24*

Three times in *Mark 9:43-48* Christ described hell as a place where the "fire is not quenched". *Proverbs 27:20* says: "Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied". *Isaiah 5:14* says: "Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure". Now, I ask you, will you enlarge the pits of hell? *Hebrews 9:27* says: "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment". It is a judgment of eternal hell fire and damnation in the lake of fire. *Revelation 20:14-15* says:

> [14] And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. [15] And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. *Revelation 20:14-15*

The question I have for you this day is: "Will you perish in your sin and spend an eternity in hell.

Having said all of that, I want to warn you again not to trust in your own works for salvation. *Proverbs 14:12* and *Proverbs 16:25* say: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death". If you trust in your own works, you are going your own way which is the way of death. The Lord Jesus Christ said in *John 14:6*: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me". The Lord Jesus Christ is the way to salvation. That means that he is the only way to salvation and that salvation is a one way street. If you are here lost today, you are going 90 miles and hour down a dead end street and you are going to crash and burn. I repeat. You will crash and burn for an eternity in the lake of fire
If you are sitting here lost, you have no guarantee of another breath. *Job 14:1* says: Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. *James 4:13-14* says:

> [13] Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: [14] Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. *James 4:13-14*

Proverbs 27:1 says: "[1] Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth".

Now, I want you to consider what God said in *Deuteronomy 30:15,19*:

> [15] See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil; [19] I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: *Deuteronomy 30:15,19*

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If you are sitting here lost today, I ask you: Why will you die in your sin and go to hell when God has provided himself as the means for your deliverance through the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible says in *Isaiah 53:4-5*:

> [4] Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. [5] But he 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 53:4-5*

2 Corinthians 6:2 says that today can be your day of salvation. Listen to the warning of God from *Proverbs 1:23-31*:

> [23] Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you. [24] Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; [25] But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: [26] I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; [27] When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. [28] Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: [29] For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: [30] They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. [31] Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. *Proverbs 1:23-31*

The question is: Will you turn at the reproof of God or will you suffer eternally in the fruit of your own way which is the flames of eternal punishment in the Lake Of Fire? God's commandment to you is to REPENT OR BURN!