



# WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

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## A Demonstration of Salvation in Christ.

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## A Demonstration of Salvation in Christ. (Gal. 3).

### (The Purpose of Scripture).

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#### Topics.

- John sums up the purpose of Bible teaching.
  - The door to the Kingdom.
  - A practical demonstration of salvation in Christ.
  - A diagram visually showing God's sovereign will.
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#### JOHN SUMS UP THE PURPOSE OF BIBLE TEACHING

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John sums up the purpose of Bible teaching by saying:

- **John 20:30-31:** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are *written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ*, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John's entire focus was to highlight Jesus, his person and significance and to show that he is the long-awaited Messiah the absolute and true Son of God. John's purpose was to lead the reader to a commitment to Christ, a commitment that opens the door to a new dimension of living a life shared with God. The Bible is designed to prove that Jesus is the person, he and others claim him to be and the Scriptures give the reader information about Jesus to prove he is the Saviour and Son of God. Both the Scriptures and miracles combine to challenge the reader to decide for or against Jesus.

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Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said:

- There is *salvation in no one else*, for there is no other name under heaven given among men *by which we must be saved* (Acts 4:12).

In the following verse Peter says:

- To Jesus *all the prophets bear witness* that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through Jesus name (Acts 10:43).

Peter has absolutely no doubt and is totally convinced that whoever has Jesus has forgiveness of sins and salvation.

Paul says the same as Peter:

- Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this *man forgiveness of sins* is proclaimed to you, and *by him* everyone who believes is *freed from everything* (Acts 13:38).

Paul proclaims salvation and forgiveness of sin is in Christ and that everyone who belongs to Christ is freed from everything that would separate them from God. Paul skilfully and brilliantly used Moses, the Old Testament Law, its History and the prophets to prove to unbelieving and doubting Jews that Jesus is the Christ. It is interesting to notice when Paul spoke of the Old Testament, most of the time he is not teaching it simply so his audience would acquire a greater intellectual knowledge of the Old Testament and its stories, but mostly to prove that Jesus was the one the prophets said was to come and the one who the Scriptures speak of. Paul is a master of the Old Testament Scriptures and brilliantly and with great skill used them in this manner (Acts 13) (Acts 28:23).

Many people believe in Christ, they believe that Jesus lived; that he was a perfect man who was the Son of God, and that he died on the cross to save sinners, but the true meaning of believe and faith goes beyond just having knowledge of what is true. The full meaning of believe embraces also the act of trusting and relying on another with full confidence and assurance they will do what they have promised, it is putting one's life in the hands of another.

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### THE FOLLOWING PERFECTLY DEPICTS TRUE FAITH AND TRUE BELIEF

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It is said that a French man named Blondin who was famous for his daring performances and outstanding feats as an acrobat and tightrope walker (1824-1897) (Microsoft Encarta 2006) at one of his amazing performances asked the crowd if they believed he could safely cross the Niagara Falls on a tightrope pushing a wheel barrow with someone in it, the crowd with roaring cheer and excitement shouted "yes" they believed he and his passenger would safely reach the other side. Once the crowd's exited cheer died down, Blondin asked, "Who will volunteer to be the passenger in the wheel barrow?" There was a deadly silence, no-one raised their hand, clearly, they all had doubts otherwise there would be no fear to trust the man who was asking for a volunteer.

This story beautifully shines highlight on the following two things:

1. The difference between saying something with our mouth and believing something in our heart.
2. It should prompt all who confess to being a Christian to ask the question, "Is my trust for my eternal future solely upon the suffering, bloody and bleeding man who was cruelly and brutally nailed to the cross and rose again by the power of God or is my trust upon self-effort (i.e., adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days and keeping religious customs and traditions and such like things). Is my faith simply a confession of the mouth or a deep-seated belief in the heart upon which my life is surrendered to?"

#### Paul says to the Galatians:

- **Galatians 3:14:** so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the *promised Spirit* through faith.

Paul's focus in this verse is the promised Spirit that is received through faith. Paul is trying to stop the Galatians going back under the law he is trying to convince them that salvation comes by receiving the promised Spirit that was promised to Abraham.

The Spirit promised to Abraham was the Spirit of righteousness it was called the blessing of Abraham because Abraham was counted righteous by faith and not by his own self-efforts or works or by adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days or keeping religious customs and traditions. This is the promised Spirit Paul is talking about. It is the promised Spirit of righteousness God gave Abraham this promised Spirit in the New Testament is also called God's Spirit and the Holy Spirit.

#### Paul goes on to say:

- **Galatians 3:22-24:** But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the *promise by faith in Jesus Christ* might be given to those who believe --- THEN IN VERSE TWENTY-FOUR PAUL SAYS --- <sup>24</sup>*Christ came*, in order that we might be *justified by faith*.

Paul is telling the Galatians that the promised Spirit God promised to Abraham comes through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The promised Spirit embraces:

- The Spirit of righteousness and justification by faith.
- The Holy Spirit and eternal life.

**Paul wants to drive his message of salvation home so he tells the Galatians:**

- **Galatians 3:26-29:** for in Christ Jesus you are all *Sons of God*, through faith. <sup>27</sup>For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ ---- THEN IN VERSE TWENTY-NINE PAUL SAYS ---- <sup>29</sup>"If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, *heirs according to promise*."

Paul is teaching the Galatians that being in Christ automatically makes a person an heir of God's promise. This is because whoever belongs to Christ is a son of God and a son automatically becomes an heir and an heir automatically inherits the promised Spirit of righteousness that God promised to Abraham. It is the same principle as a natural heir, they do not need to intellectually know everything regarding the one they are to receive the inheritance from, but they must know the person and be connected to them in love.

**Paul expounds his theme by saying:**

- **Galatians 4:6:** And because *you are sons*, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

The Spirit God has sent into the hearts of those who are sons and daughters of God is the promised Spirit of righteousness also called God's Spirit and the Holy Spirit it is that Spirit in a believer's heart and mind that desires to honour God and the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and desires to have an intimate spiritual relationship with God and the Lord Jesus Christ. It is that same Spirit that dwells in Paul manifested in his statement, "He endures everything because his salvation is in Christ Jesus." Paul tells Timothy the sacred writings are able to make everyone wise for salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, because all Scripture is written to prove that salvation is by God's grace in Jesus alone, therefore all who belong to Christ are sons and daughters of God (2 Tim. 2:10) (2 Tim. 3:15).

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## JESUS THE SOURCE OF ETERNAL SALVATION

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**Jesus in the book of Hebrews:** says the entire Old Testament scrolls (Scriptures) are written about him and the writer of Hebrews says, Jesus became the source of eternal salvation to everyone who obeys him (Heb. 5:9) (Heb. 10:7). The entire book of Hebrews is about Christ, nearly every chapter reflects back to the Old Testament Scriptures, but the authors' focus is not upon teaching them, but using them to prove Jesus is the better HIGH PRIEST, the better covenant, the better hope and the one the prophets said was to come.

**In the books of Ephesus, Timothy and Titus Paul:** say in Jesus we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of God's GRACE which God has lavished upon us so that the elect may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory which God has poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by God's grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life (Ephes. 1:7-8) (2 Tim. 2:10) (Titus 3:6-7). Paul constantly proclaims that salvation is in Jesus, because he knows that in Christ is redemption, forgiveness of sin and grace that leads to eternal life and everlasting glory. Jesus himself said:

- Eternal life is, knowing God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (John 17:1-3).

Clearly showing that eternal life is not in believing in Scripture, but believing in the person the Scriptures proclaim and reveal. The apostle John tells us the wonders and miraculous signs that Jesus did were recorded and written so that we would believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we would have life eternal in his name. (John 20:30-31). God is the source of our life in Christ Jesus, Paul tells the Corinthians God made Jesus our wisdom, our righteousness, our sanctification and our redemption and that God in Christ is the source of every believer's life (1 Cor. 1:29-30).

In John we are told Jesus is in the Father and those that belong to Jesus are in him and Jesus is in them.

- Jesus while praying said: “Father I pray that all who believe in *me* may all be *one*, just as *you* are in *me* and *I* am in *you*, so that all who believe would also be in *you* and in *me* that they may all be one even as *you* and *I* are *one*. So that *I* would be in them and *you* in *me* that they would all become perfectly *one* as we are so that the world would know that *you* sent *me* and *love* those who belong to *me* even as *you love me*” (John 14:20) (John 17:21-23).

Being one in this context carries the idea of being of the same mind, being one in purpose, plans, goals, motivation it means being one in perfect love and perfect unity. Jesus says, the Father is in Jesus; Jesus is in the Father; those who belong to Jesus are in the Father and in the Son and both Jesus and the Father are in those who belong to Jesus. Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in him by love it is by this same love that, believers are in Jesus and Jesus in them.

The message Paul was continually trying to prove to the Jews and Gentiles was that the word of the Lord and the Gospel of the Lord in the New Testament proclaims that forgiveness of sin and the gift of eternal life comes through faith in God's Son and by God's grace apart from works, self-effort or adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days or keeping religious customs and traditions etc.

The Scriptures are written so that people would believe in the person they so majestically reveal. Having a head full of intellectual knowledge concerning the Bible and the life of Christ is not what saves a person rather the only thing that can save a sinner to eternal life and everlasting glory is the Lord Jesus Christ. It is, trusting and believing in a real person the Son of God the Lord Jesus Christ that delivers us from death to life eternal.

No repentant sinner who comes to Christ with an honest and humble heart needs to understand every detail of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation to be saved to eternal life and joined to Christ and the Father by love. The Good News of the New Testament Gospel is that everyone who belongs to Christ is saved by faith and by God's grace and not by their own efforts or own works. If a person is trusting in Jesus and devoted to him by faith and love they are not only his beloved brother and sister, but also an adopted child of God and therefore have forgiveness of sins, justification and have become the rightful heirs to God's promises, salvation, eternal life and will inherit the Kingdom of God when Christ returns in glory.

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## THE DOOR TO THE KINGDOM

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The spiritual Kingdom of God existing now by faith in the hearts and minds of all who trust in and are devoted to Christ should not be confused with the literal Kingdom of righteous, justice, joy and peace to be established on earth when Christ returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords. believing in or having faith in the Kingdom is not the way to God nor is it the path to salvation rather the Kingdom is the inheritance of those who are already saved in Christ. The door into the Kingdom is Jesus Christ he is the golden path and the only way to enter into the eternal Kingdom of God. Christ was predestined to be the centre of God's plan of salvation,

and then God predestined that those who from their own free will choose to place their faith and trust in Christ and accept all that is written of him in the Scriptures would be saved to eternal life and receive the predestined inheritance, (i.e., the coming glorious, royal and literal Kingdom of God.

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### **TO PRACTICALLY DEMONSTRATE THIS**

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- Take one person from the assembly to represent God and another to represent the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Then take six others to represent forgiveness of sins; justification; God's promises; salvation; eternal Life and the Kingdom of God.
- Have the person representing God stand in front of the assemble, then place the person representing Jesus in front of them to visually show that God has made Jesus pre-eminent, that Jesus is God's glory and that we come to God through Jesus.
- Then have the other six people representing forgiveness of sins; justification; God's promises; salvation; eternal life and the Kingdom of God stand around the person symbolising Jesus and have them all holding onto him with their hands.
- Now call for one other person to represent a repentant sinner and have them come up and take hold of the person symbolising Jesus.
- Point out that as soon as they take hold of Jesus they are automatically connected to God the Father, forgiveness of sins, justification, God's promises, salvation, eternal life and the Kingdom of God because all of these things are in and connected to Christ represented by the six other people symbolising all these glorious things holding onto to Jesus.

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This visual demonstration clearly shows that there is an eternal inheritance and an eternal Kingdom but they are not the path to salvation they are the inheritance of those already saved, there is only one royal and heavenly path to God and eternal life and that is through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. A jailer asked Paul what he must do to be saved and Paul told him to believe in the Lord Jesus and be baptised and he will be saved (Acts 16:29-33).

Salvation comes through faith not by intellectual knowledge, the knowledge is written to bring a person to the place of faith. Some people need very little knowledge, while others need a vast amount of convincing before they can believe.

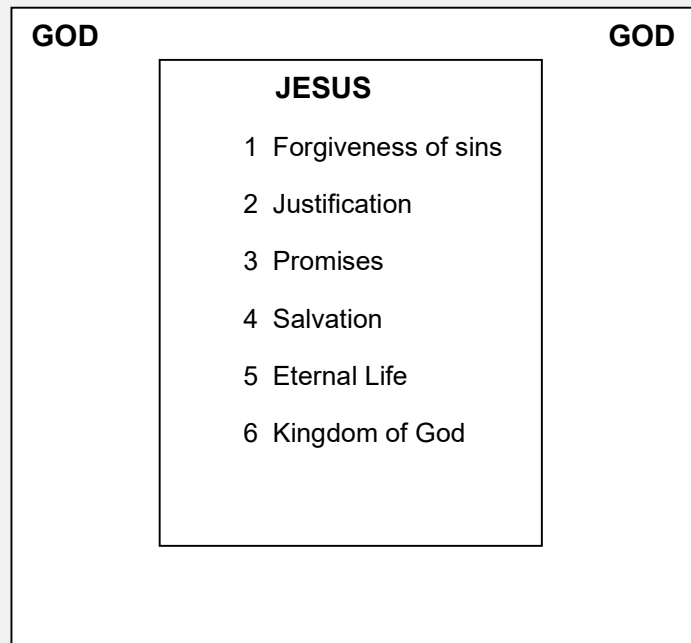
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### **GOD IS IN JESUS AND JESUS IS IN GOD**

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The following diagram visually shows that God is in Jesus and Jesus is in God and that the way to forgiveness of sins, justification, God's promises, salvation, eternal life and the Kingdom of God is through the Lord Jesus Christ, showing that whoever has Jesus has everything they need for salvation and eternal life.

- The outer square symbolizes God and that everything else is inside of Him.
- there is nothing that is outside of God.
- He is the source of all life.
- The inner square symbolizes Jesus he is in God, but everything else is in him.



**Paul throughout his letters very clearly proclaims:**

- The free gift of God is eternal life *in* Christ Jesus the Lord. God has united to Himself everyone who belongs to Jesus He has forgiven all their trespasses, and cancelled any legal record of debt that stood between them and God by nailing it to the cross. Whoever is trusting and believing in Jesus is *in* God the Father and *in* the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Rom. 6:22-23) (Col. 2:14-15) (1 Thess. 1:1).

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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