

**ARE YOU  
SURE?**

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**“Not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. MANY will say to me in that day Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me ye that work iniquity.” Matthew 7:21-23. “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” II Corinthians 13:5; “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction and MANY there be which go in there at: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and FEW there be that find it.” Matthew 7:13-14.**

### **WHAT ARE YOU TRUSTING IN FOR SALVATION??**

- 1. A GOOD FEELING? My Grandmother told my Mother that she was saved when she was feeling great one beautiful day so she said “You have been saved” but my Mother was not saved! It was not until years later after teaching Sunday school as a pastor’s wife on how to be saved that she realized she was not saved! Thus she invited the Lord Jesus Christ into her life. There may be real joy with Salvation but you cannot base your Salvation on a good feeling. I had such great joy the day I was saved and it did help give assurance of my Salvation but I also had the witness of the Holy Spirit in my spirit. His indwelling presence is one of the reasons that I know that I am saved. Romans 8:9, 16, I Cor. 6:19-20, Eph. 1:13-14. These scriptures all explain the ministry of the Holy Spirit in one’s spirit when truly born again. Do you have that witness in your spirit?**
- 2. BAPTISM? My second son, Tim, professed to being saved and went forward in church for salvation 2 times then was baptized 2 times before he was truly saved in his bunk on board ship while reading a book that helped him realize he was not truly saved. Then he was baptized again because only then was it a genuine act of obedience showing that he had been truly born again. My wife, Verna, was sprinkled when joining the Presbyterian Church, then she was baptized by immersion when joining the Baptist Church. She thought she was born again when she was allowed to join the Presbyterian Church but later in Bible College, realized she was not. She even talked to me about it. I told her she was just doubting her salvation but I was sure she was saved. I saw her several times go to the altar when the invitation for salvation was given at the end of a service and see her lead others to Christ. She knew the scriptures on salvation yet she was not truly born again. We were youth directors in a church and one night after a youth meeting she told the pastor that she was not saved.**

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We went down stairs and he said you know how to be saved so why don't you pray asking the Lord Jesus to come into your heart. She did. He asked her after the prayer, are you saved now and she said, "I sure am!" He asked if she had been saved before and she said, "No, but I know I am now!" Thus she was baptized again because only then did it picture that she was born again.

3. **GOOD WORKS?** I remember the Sunday morning one of the Sunday school teachers of the church who had taught Sunday school for 17 years came forward at the invitation to receive the Lord Jesus as her savior and then she was baptized again. While we were in Bible College we saw a pastor who had pastored a church for about 16 years with a Doctor of Divinity degree going forward for Salvation at the invitation because he had never been saved. When we were in Bible College we saw about half of our first year class go forward in different services for Salvation because they were from churches where they were members but the exposure to the scriptures and the conviction of the Holy Spirit convinced them they were lost and needed to be born again and baptized again because only after genuine Salvation does baptism have meaning.
4. **CHURCH MEMBERSHIP?** There are many people in the United States of America who have their name on church roles yet, have never been truly born again. Just like those in our first year college class I mentioned above who thought they were saved because of various reasons but were not. I remember Verna's father being an Elder in a church because it was good for his business but he was not truly saved. Are you sure you are genuinely saved? The denomination of the church makes little difference. There are many in Baptist churches as well as other churches that are lost because they are trusting in the church membership to save them. No church can save you, Only Jesus Christ is the way of Salvation. John 14:6 "*Jesus saith unto him, I am THE way, THE truth, and THE life; no man cometh unto (God) the Father, but by me.*" The word "the" indicates there is only one way! Acts 4:12 "*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*"
5. **YOUR PROFESSION?** Have you attended or graduated from a Bible College and you think that means you are born again? As I mentioned before, the first year we attended Bible College nearly half of our first year class, including my wife, realized they were not saved and thus invited the Lord Jesus into their lives. I have seen pastors, preachers' wives, Sunday School teachers, pastors with

Doctor of Divinity degrees etc. get saved who thought they were saved but realized they were not.

6. **GOOD WORKS?** Perhaps you are very much involved in the church you attend and you may be on church boards, sing in the choir, teach a Sunday School class, even have helped lead others to Christ and yet you are not truly saved.
7. **FAMILY MEMBERS?** Maybe your father is a pastor or your mother is a Sunday school teacher or some member or several members of your family are involved in church and you think surely I am a Christian. Some people think that because we live in a nation that gives religious freedom and there are many churches so we must be a Christian nation; thus, they surely are a child of God and going to heaven when they die. John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world (humanity), that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*
8. **RELIGIOUS?** I visited a Buddhist temple with some tourist in Hawaii one time and heard a Buddhist Priestess speak. She said “Heaven is like the top of a beautiful snowcapped mountain and there are many paths that lead to the summit. You go your way and we will go our way and we will all reach the summit of Heaven together in blissful harmony.” It sounded good and perhaps many of the tourist thought that was right but it was a lie and the Priestess was deceived.
9. **SINCERE?** The Priestess was sincere but sincerely wrong! I remember hearing about a man who could not sleep so he went to the medicine cabinet and did not turn on the light because he thought he knew where the sleeping pills were. He took a couple and the next morning he was dead because he had taken the wrong medication. He was sincere but sincerely wrong! I had a cousin by marriage that was a lawyer in Galveston, Texas, who asked why we were going to the Mission Field. He said, “Are not the people there sincere in their religion? Don’t you think that as long as they are sincere that is all that matters?” I told him it did not matter what I thought but what Jesus said and what is declared in the Bible. Jesus said *“I am THE WAY, THE TRUTH, and THE LIFE, no man cometh unto the Father (who is in heaven) but by me.”* He said, “Well don’t you think that is kind of narrow minded?” I told him, “Yes, one way is as narrow minded as you can get.” When people fly in an airplane they are very narrow minded! They do not want to land just anywhere. They only want to land on a runway at an airport. That is very narrow minded!

## HAS YOUR LIFE BEEN CHANGED AS A RESULT OF YOUR PROFESSION OF FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST?

When my son Timothy was truly saved his brothers and sister confided in me “What has happened to Tim? He is like a different person!”. “You know Tim really did get saved because it is very evident by the change in his life!” Have people seen a change in your life after you were saved? II Corinthians 5:17 states “*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away: behold all things are become new.*” When a person is truly born again there is a definite change that takes place in their life. The Holy Spirit moves into the person’s spirit and does the work of Salvation. Jesus said in John 3:6

“That which is born of the flesh is flesh (physical birth) and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit (spiritual birth).”

Jesus said in John 14:6 “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto (God) the Father but by me!”

Do you know almighty God personally? Many people in our nation know about God but do not have a personal relationship with Him. Is God the Father your heavenly Father? Is the Lord Jesus Christ your personal Savior? Does the Holy Spirit indwell your spirit? Perhaps you are asking “How can I have a personal relationship with God? It all begins by:

1. Acknowledge that you are a sinner! Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” We were all born with a sinful nature so that we all are guilty of sinning against God. When a person robs one time he becomes a robber. When a person tells one lie he is a liar. When a person commits one sin he is a sinner so we all have sinned and need forgiveness from God who is holy and without sin. Thus, He must punish sin!!
2. “The wages of sin is death” Romans 6:23 explains why all face death. Did you know that the Bible explains about a Second Death for those who die without knowing the Lord Jesus as their Savior? Revelation 21:8 “*But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murders, 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.*” You might say “Well, I am guilty of some of those things!” Yes, but that is why Jesus died as our substitute under the wrath of God so we can be forgiven if we will receive the Lord Jesus and what He did in our place!

3. **The Lord Jesus Christ paid our penalty for sin Romans 5:8 explains that “God commendeth (showed forth) His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (our sins.)”**
4. **Confess and Believe=Romans 10:9-10, 13 “That if thou (you) shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine (your) heart that God hath raised Him (Jesus) from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness: and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation: For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”**

**If you will ask the Lord Jesus to come into your life through a simple prayer understanding that He only is the way of Salvation, He will and is ready to come into your spirit and give you eternal life. Pray something like the following: “Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I believe you died for my sin and arose from the grave. I now ask You to forgive me for my sin and come into my spirit to make me pure and holy. I turn from all my sin to follow and obey You! In Your holy name I pray. Amen. God will hear and send the Holy Spirit into your spirit! Get a Bible and begin reading the gospel of John. Go to a church that teaches the Bible where you can learn more and fellowship with other believers. Go to the following Website [www.bbfibobgriggs.com](http://www.bbfibobgriggs.com) , click on the blue tab “Media Library”. Click on “Truth”. Read the entire text which will explain much more about this wonderful truth.**