

HOW CAN I BE 100% SURE I'M GOING TO HEAVEN?

"Eternal Security"

Can I be 100% sure I am going to Heaven?

Yes! By trusting in Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior.

- **Romans 10:9** "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead *you will be saved.*"
- **John 10:27-28** "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and *no one will snatch them out of my hand*"
- **John 6:40** "For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have *eternal* life, and I will raise him up on the last day."
- **Philippians 1:6** "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to *completion* at the day of Jesus Christ."
- **1 John 5:12-13** "Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life."

Is there only one way to go to heaven?

Yes! By grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Faith in Jesus Christ is the only way to Heaven.

- **John 14:6** "I am the Way the truth and the Life no one gets to the Father except through me."
- **Acts 4:12** "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."
- **John 3:16-18** ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

When we become Christians, is our name written in the book of life?

Yes! The names of those who trust Christ will be written in the book of life and never erased!

- **Revelation 3:5** "He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."

Is there an unforgivable sin?

Yes and no. To not believe and trust Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord in your life is the "unforgivable sin". If a person believes and trusts in Jesus Christ, there is not a sin that can void their salvation.

- The bible says that "whoever" believes will be saved. It does not qualify "whoever" with any exceptions. All believers will be saved and forgiven of their sins. The bible also says that "whoever" does not believe is condemned. (**John 3:16-18**)
- **Mark 3:29** mentions "eternal sin" or "unpardonable sin". This is a very misunderstood verse and a good explanation can be found at the link below.
- http://www.probe.org/site/c.fdkEIMNsEoG/b.4220223/k.292A/I_Fear_I_Have_Committed_the_Unforgiveable_Sin.htm

If someone becomes a believer, but later in life stops believing, will they still go to heaven?

- God promises that all who are His will never be lost (**John 10:28**), and yet also promises that He will conform those who are HIS to the image of his son. (**Romans 8:29**)
- When people "stop believing" there are two biblical explanations for that sort of behavior: A) They never truly trusted in Jesus as their Lord and Savior in the first place or B) Their original faith was genuine and therefore their salvation is secure.
- We cannot speak with certainty for anyone's relationship to God other than our own.

Questions we should ask ourselves...

- Have I trusted Jesus Christ as my Savior? (**John 3:16, Romans 10:9**)
- Are the "fruits of the Spirit" present in my life? (**Galatians 5:22-23**)
- Do I love God? (**1 Corinthians 16:22, Matthew 22:37**)
- Is there growth in my life? (**Romans 8:29**)

Has anyone ever taken a Bible and shown you how you can know for sure that you're going to heaven? The Bible contains both bad news and good news. The bad news is something about you. The good news is something about God...(Over)

Bad News - You Are a Sinner

As much as we might not like to admit it, we have sinned terribly throughout all of our lives. **Romans 3:10, 23** says that "there is none righteous, no, not one....all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" When the Bible says that you and I have sinned, it means that we lie, we lust, we hate, we disobey, etc. The word "sin" in the Bible actually means "to miss the mark." In other words, God is perfect and we aren't.

Suppose you and I were to each pick up a rock. Then I say to you, "I want you to throw that rock and hit the North Pole." Well, you might throw it farther than I, or I might throw it farther than you, but neither of us would make it. Both of us would fall short. In a similar way, God has set a standard He expects every one of us to meet. He expects us to be as holy as He is holy, as perfect as He is perfect. It doesn't matter how religiously we live, how good we are, or how hard we work; we cannot meet that standard. All of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

More Bad News - The Penalty for Sin is Death

We already know from our life's experiences that we get what we deserve, and often worse! The Bible tells us what we will get because of our sinning. **Romans 6:23** says that "the wages of sin is death." This is talking about spiritual death, separation from God in a place called hell.

Suppose you were to work for me one day and I were to pay you fifty dollars. Fifty dollars would be your "wages". It represents what you have earned. The Bible is saying that because you and I have sinned, we have earned death. We are going to die and be eternally separated from God.

Good News - Christ Died For You

Since there was no way you could come to God for the solution to life's problem, the Bible says that God decided to come to you. The good news is that the Almighty God, the Lord, your Creator loves you! **Romans 5:8** says that "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Let's say that you were in the hospital dying of cancer. And imagine that I could come to you and say, "I want to do something for you. We'll take the cancer cells completely from your body and put them into my body and I'll die in your place." What would happen? I would die and you would live because I took the thing that was causing your death, placed it upon myself and I died as your substitute. The Bible is saying that Jesus came into the world and He took the sin that was causing your death. He was your substitute! He placed it upon Himself and He actually died in your place.

More Good News - You Can Be Saved Through Faith in Jesus Christ

Christ has already done everything possible and everything necessary for you to be saved. Here is how you can take advantage of it, absolutely free. **Ephesians 2:8-9** says that it is "by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not as a result of works, that no one should boast."

Now you may be wondering, "What is faith?" The word "faith" means "belief + trust." For example, you weren't at the factory when most chairs were made and you don't examine how chairs are built before you sit down. You simply trust chairs to hold you. Putting your faith in Jesus Christ means trusting Him to save you....not trusting your church membership, your good life, nor your baptism to get you to heaven, but trusting Christ and Him alone.

So...Have you trusted Jesus as your savior? Is there anything that is keeping you from trusting Christ right now?

What You Must Do – Pray to God in Your Own Words

- ADMIT you are a sinner, and that only the Lord Jesus Christ can save you. (**Romans 3:10, 23**)
- REPENT, be willing to turn away from sin and submit to God. (**Luke 13:5**)
- TRUST Christ as God and personal Savior. Jesus died on the cross for our sins so that He could have a personal relationship with each one of us (**Romans 10:9-10**)
- SUBMIT to Christ as Lord and Master over our life, realizing that because of Christ's great love, He will guide our lives better than we are able to do (**Philippians 2:10-11, Romans 12:1-2**)
- ASK God to save you, to forgive you, to change your life. (**Romans 10:13**)
- THANK God because, if you have truly put your TRUST in Christ ALONE for your salvation; then you now KNOW for sure that you have eternal life. (**1 John 5:11-13**)