

Differences between receiving Christian Faith and Salvation, and Becoming Born Again

First set of Slides Faith given and measured by the LORD God alone

- Slide 1 You cannot become a Christian, receive salvation or become born again, until you first experience an opening of your eyes and your ears by God, as He moves you toward an opportunity to receive His gift of grace and faith (Luke 10:21-24; 24:30-35; Acts 13:48).
- Slide 2 Not everybody is given this opportunity. Most people in the world are blind and deaf to His things. When God chooses certain people to receive sight and hearing to obtain faith. He is showing great love for them (Matthew 11:13-17; 20:29-34; 1 Corinthians 1:17-31).
- *Slide 3* Usually, when <u>faith</u> is given, you experience a <u>curiosity</u> and a driving need to <u>learn more</u> about God and His Things. You are no different than every other Christian that has also received the great gift of faith. Things are very confusing at the start, especially when you are from a nonbelieving family or a non-believing culture. Quickly, the Holy Spirit will bring you to fellowship with other Christians, and you will learn the words and doctrines of faith with the moving of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:5-21).
- Slide 4 Your soul knows God, and hungers for His touch...that is why you seek answers. Now your mind must understand. God will provide you with exactly the things you need, to become more comfortable with His Things. He will provide you access to Christians that can answer your questions and feed you knowledge, and help you through these scary first moments of belief. His Bible will be made available to you, and will become your map as His Word speaks about all the things you need to know to begin your journey, and understand the things that you are thinking about in the first moments of faith (John 6:33-37).
- Slide 5 Simply put...you are very special to God, and He has chosen you to move closer to Him. The closer you come to Him, the more peace and joy you will have. To get really close to Him, you must be brought to Him by Jesus Christ (John 3:16).
- Slide 6 The sacrifice of Jesus on the cross allowed death to be brought to sin. That means that your sins can also receive death. Because Jesus Christ resurrected from death, you also can receive eternal life (John 6:37-40; 10:27-29). Once you no longer under the control of sin, and are resurrected into the life of a new believer, you can come closer to God (Romans 8:1-14; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57).

Slide 7 - Each step of the way, God is going to open your eyes and ears more and more. Thoughts that seem scary to you now will soon pass, as you receive the Foundation of Jesus Christ. Take a deep breath, be courageous, and walk toward the place that God is leading you (<u>Luke 6:47-49</u>).

Slide 8 - Ask questions and read His Words through the Holy Bible, and know that there are many Christians here today that will be praying that your path is made clear, and your eyes opened fully to receive pure faith in His promises! You are very, very special to be called by God to come closer to Him through His Son Jesus Christ (Hebrews 9:15)!

Second Set of Slides Faith brings Salvation, Baptism brings Heaven

Slide 9 - The only way be saved from damnation and resurrected to life eternal and inhabit the New Earth requires <u>faith</u>, and only faith, in the atoning <u>blood</u> and the <u>resurrection</u> of Jesus Christ. However, the baptism of Jesus Christ is required if you desire to go to Heaven for a time for rest until all things of God are in place for the New Earth to be established.

Slide 10 - Salvation comes to a Christian through faith (Hebrews 9:23-28). A Christian must have faith that the blood of Jesus Christ was shed for the redemption of the Christian's sins. There is nothing a person can do to save himself from sin. It is only through faith in Jesus Christ, and his crucifixion and resurrection, that a person can receive salvation (Romans 3:19-26). When a person receives the promise of salvation, he receives the promise that he will be forgiven of all sin, be judged innocent, and saved from the judgment of eternal damnation.

Slide 11a - Faith is the condition of believing. Christians cannot receive salvation from judgment of eternal damnation until they face Jesus Christ for judgment; those baptized will join Him in Heaven for Judgment, those unbaptized believers will be resurrected from their grave at a certain time and receive His Judgment (Hebrews 9:27-28).

Slide 11b - This Judgment officiated in Heaven is often called the "Glory Seat" Judgment by Christian scholars (Revelation 20:1-6; 22:12-14), and is different than the Final Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15). Christians believe in God's promise that they will be forgiven of all sin as a result of Christ's crucifixion. A Christian must have Faith of this promise throughout his life, and even into his physical death. This faith brings the reward of promised salvation and eternal life through the free Grace of the LORD God as a result of the sacrifice given freely by His Son Jesus Christ (John 3:15-18).

Slide 12 - A simple way to distinguish the difference between faith, salvation and baptism is expressed fully in Scripture. Believers that have faith in Jesus Christ are children of the LORD God, and will receive the same inheritance as His Chosen people. Believers that receive the **baptism** of Jesus Christ, put Him on, and become one with Him; this means they are **born again** and resurrected in eternal life through His Resurrection (Galatians 3:26-27). All those with faith in Jesus Christ, whether baptized or not, receive **salvation** and are promised eternal life. The only difference between the baptized and unbaptized is the time of their resurrection into eternal life!

Third Set of Slides Faith Statements of Fact

- Slide 13 (1) As a result of sin, a person is separated from the LORD GOD's presence (Exodus 20:18-21; Psalm 51; John 8:34-36).
- Slide 14 (2) The only thing that can remove sin is death (Romans 6:1-14).
- Slide 15 (3) Jesus Christ died for sin once, and as a result, those accepting him as their Savior, are promised salvation for life eternal (Romans 8:7-9; Galatians 3:19-26).
- Slide 16 (4) This salvation guarantees that when a person faces the Judgment of the LORD God, he will be able to redeem the sacrifice of the blood of Christ for his sin, and allowed to continue on to the New Earth. (1 Peter 1:6-9).
- Slide 17 (5) This promise of this redemption is accepted by faith. This faith in redemption does not make the person free from sin in their life (Ephesians 1:3-23).
- Slide 18 (6) To be free from sin in this life requires a believer to embrace the foundational doctrine of Jesus Christ (2 John 1:8; 1Timothy 6:1-6).
- Slide 19 (7) Two parts of this doctrine of Jesus Christ are the baptism by water and the baptism by the Holy Ghost (Hebrews 6:1-3).
- Slide 20 (8) Water baptism is the process in which death is brought to a believer. When a faithful believer goes under the water baptism, he is dying and going to his grave. As a result of his death, sin loses its power, and no longer has the ability to stay with that person, and it is destroyed (Romans 6:3-4).
- Slide 21 (9) As the believer rises from the baptismal waters, he is receiving the same resurrection in faith that was accomplished through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The faithful man is born again. He is no longer the man that died in sin, but a new man resurrected into the Kingdom of God (Romans 6:8-11).
- Slide 22 (10) The baptized faithful will never again experience death. Death occurs one time for the release of sin, and those believers who have died through baptism are cleansed of their original sin, and will never again go to their grave. Those faithful, who do not receive the baptism of Jesus Christ, are not released from sin until physical death comes to them (Hebrews 9:17-28). If they have not been <u>baptized</u>, then they must experience <u>natural death</u> to their <u>grave</u> to be released from sin (Romans 6:3-11).
- Slide 23 (11) The baptism of the Holy Ghost is given to the born again man, to burn up any sin that comes his way, and lead him on the path that the LORD God wills to walk (Matthew 3:11-12; 1 John 2:20-24).

Slide 24 – (12) Those baptized believers are taken to Heaven for rest for a time, until the New Earth and the New Heavens are established in His Time (2 Peter 3:9-13).

Slide 25 – (13) On the New Earth, the baptized believers, and those unbaptized who had faith in their redemption through the shed blood of Jesus Christ (now freed from sin as a result of death, and resurrected through the promised redemption) (Romans 8:10-11) will be joined together once again.

Slide 26 - You must be cleansed of sin through the death of water baptism and resurrection to life eternal through faith in Jesus Christ before you can receive rest in Heaven for a time (1 Peter 1:3-5; 3:21-22). To receive the promise of eternal life and the ability to walk on the New Earth requires you only to accept Jesus Christ as your Savior, believe in his resurrection, and have faith in the redemption of his sacrifice before you die in natural life and go to your grave until resurrection.

Slide 27 - Having faith of salvation through the sacrificed blood of Jesus Christ is all that is necessary to receive the promised salvation from eternal damnation. The process of receiving salvation through this sacrificed blood is called **Redemption** (1 Peter 1:18-23). At the designated time, all believing Christians who come through Jesus to the presence of the LORD God will have their sins redeemed through his shed blood, and they will be judged innocent as a result of their faith in Him. Until that day, faithful Christians are sealed by the Holy Spirit and await the promised redemption to be paid in full (Ephesians 4:30).

Fourth Set of Slides Salvation is not the ticket to Heaven

Slide 28 - Salvation is the promise of a verdict of innocence following the redemption of blood, and avoiding the sentence of eternal damnation. Those who receive salvation, receive the promise of Eternal Life. Baptism is the lively expression of hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Those who receive baptism are allowed to enter Heaven upon their physical deaths (1 Peter 1:3-9). All baptized are promised salvation, and all unbaptized believers are promised salvation, but only one group will enter Heaven; yet all will one day occupy the New Earth. (1 Peter 1:3-9).

Slide 29 - Many misguided, young, or self-focused Christians think that Heaven is a permanent place that everybody who is good gets to go to at their death. It is not. Heaven is a temporary dwelling place for the LORD God and His Spirits, Jesus Christ, the angels, and the saints who are righteous. Heaven is going to come to an end one day, at the moving of the LORD God (2 Peter 3:9-10; Revelation 21:1-8). All of the saints in Heaven, as well as those resurrected from their grave through their faith in Jesus Christ, and martyrs who died for the cause of Christ (Revelation <u>6:9-11</u>) will one day populate the <u>New Earth</u>; joining them will be all of the others judged <u>favorably</u> on Judgment Day and who receive the verdict of not-guilty and given the reward of eternal life by the Supreme Judge who is also the Son of God (Revelation 20:11-15).

Slide 30 - To be Righteous means to be free of sin. Faith does not remove sin from a living body! Even though you have faith, original sin still dwells within you. There is only one way a person that is alive and walking the earth can become righteous. The original sin must leave his body (1 Peter 4:16-19).

- Slide 31 There is only one way that sin can leave the body. Physical Death of the body The moment the body dies, sin has no hold, and dies (Romans 5:7-21). But here's the problem... If you die with sin still within you, then you go to your grave. Sinful people do not get to rest in Heaven for awhile. In fact, that's why death exists to start with. Because there is sin, then death must come to man. So the <u>dead in sin</u> stay in their graves until they are resurrected on the <u>Day of Rapture</u>, just before the rapture of living Christians (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17).
- Slide 32 There is a much better option laid out for Christians. The Baptism of Jesus Christ causes the body to die, and the sins to die in a faithful Christian. If a Christian goes under the baptismal waters to their grave, they die and the original sin's control is removed from them. When the Christian comes up out of the baptismal waters and in faith experiences the same resurrection that Jesus did, then they come out of the waters sin free and new. This new person, free from original sin, is called **Born Again** (John 3:1-7).
- Slide 33 The born again Christian is a new being, and sin-hold-released baptized Christians have two options available to them to remain sin free, and increase their righteousness through His Will. The first one is the authority of Jesus Christ to forgive sin on earth (Luke 5:17-25). When a baptized Christian commits sin, he has the opportunity to confess, repent, and return to a righteous state through forgiveness and restoration by Jesus Christ.
- Slide 34 The second option is through the Holy Spirit Baptism, a baptism accomplished through the laying on of hands by an apostle of Jesus Christ. (Acts 19:1-7). When the Holy Spirit is infused into a baptized believer, then that Christian has all of his innocent sins burned away, helping to maintain a righteous state (Matthew 3:11-12).
- Slide 35 When the baptized and faithful Christian experiences a physical death, he is immediately taken to Heaven. This Christian will not feel the sting of death or lay asleep in the grave for even an instant (1 Corinthians 15:51-57). The baptized and faithful Christian is immediately taken to Heaven, where they serve the Lord Jesus Christ for a time in the bosom of the LORD God, until the rest of the LORD God's plans are completed (Revelation 7:13-17).
- Slide 36 At the establishment of the New Earth and the New Heaven, the Christian will assume a new life on that new earth, along with all of the favorably judged people who stood before the throne of Jesus Christ. This New Earth life will be ruled by King Jesus Christ, and will begin its existence with sin free people who love the LORD God, and humbled forever by the undeserved grace and salvation received as a result of His Son sacrifice (2 Peter 3:11-18; Revelations 21:1-8).
- Slide 37 Faith in your salvation through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is all that is need to receive eternal life. The absence of Baptism or Works does not remove you from this promise. However, Baptism allows the grasp of sin to be freed from its hold upon you, and permits your entrance into Heaven for a short while. Works brings reward to you through the "Glory-Seat Judgment of Jesus Christ. When all is finished according to God's Will with this old heaven and earth, it will be those of faith in Him that will occupy the New Heaven and New Earth. It is faith in Jesus Christ that makes us citizens of that new Kingdom of God, as it is revealed and established in His Time! Thanks be to God!

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