

San Juan church of Christ

1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C
Montrose, CO 81401 | (970) 249-8116

What Does God's Word Say About... Knowing You Are Saved

"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life" (1 John 5:13). A question we must ask is, "Who is the Son of God?" "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Jesus was the only one born "to a virgin" who was impregnated by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:27, 35). "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:1, 14). Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is? And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist; and others Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'" (Matthew 16:13-16).

Scripture tells us that Jesus is God! "For in Him all the fullness of the godhead dwells in bodily form" (Col. 2:9). Paul wrote, "For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5). Peter said, "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved" ("Acts 4:12). That eliminates Mohammed, Confucius, Buddha, etc. Jesus said, "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins" (John 8:24).

We must believe in the gospel [Good News]. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..." (Romans 1:16). What is the gospel? The gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:1-4). So, we must know who Jesus is and what He did for us on the cross.

We must know God and obey the gospel. Paul wrote when the Lord Jesus returns and is "revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire," He will "deal out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus" (2 Thess. 7-9). Is obeying the gospel an option or an absolute must? How does a person obey the gospel? "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:3-4). Paul wrote to these Roman Christians saying, "But thanks be to God that though you were slaves to sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of doctrine to which you were committed" (Rom. 6:17).

Let's see how 3,000 people were obedient from the heart when they heard Peter preach the gospel message on the Day of Pentecost. "Now when they heard this they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brethren, what shall we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" (Acts 2:37-38).

"For the word of the cross [gospel] is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1:18). When we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that He is God, that He is the one Mediator between man and God, and we are obedient to the gospel, we may know that we have eternal life!

Please send any comments, questions, or requests for a Bible study to:
info@sanjuanchurchofchrist.org