

September 2020

# John Newlin Ministries, Inc.

- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

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[For the next few months as possible and events allow, the newsletters will focus on vital information for you and for all you would share it with.]

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## HOW CAN ANYONE BE SAVED? AND HOW DO YOU REALLY KNOW YOU ARE?

The world is rapidly coming to the point that each person who has not done so must truly make the great life decision now – yes, I believe in the Lord, and yes I will follow him no matter what – or no, I will not go forward in that absolute belief. We are at that time, dear friends. It is clear that the number of true believers standing with Christ no matter what the cost is indeed a remnant, to use that famous word. It is as Jesus said:

*“...small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”*  
(Matthew 7:14 NIV)

We are at the great dividing time in human history. Huge numbers are in the lost camp by virtue of being in false religions and lost societies. Others actually may think they are Christians and are saved by virtue of going to a church somewhere and sitting there once a week, by growing up in a Christian home, maybe even by doing some good works in that church. But for some of these nothing may be further from the truth.

Your relationship with the Lord needs to be resolved now, before the events of life become so severe and pressing that you find yourself reacting to events on the spur of the moment and you take the wrong steps. Jesus did say that no one could come to him unless his father “draws” that person to him (John 6:44). Another time the wording was “enables” the person to come (John 6:65). If you are not already a true believer but you are thinking about all this, then God is already tugging at your heart!

We are so very close to the return of Jesus. And what does he do when he comes? Initially, he collects his believers, those who are citizens of the Kingdom of God. And who are they? Who really is going with him? Surely we can know for ourselves that we ourselves are born again, that we indeed are “saved.” Can’t we?

Jesus himself is the best source of what it takes to be with him in the Kingdom:

*“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*  
(John 14:6 NIV)

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*Keep Your Eyes on Jesus!*

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***For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*** - (John 3:16 KJV)

But how can you be sure you are in? Consider these crucial scriptures:

***“...no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again. ....no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.”*** – (Jesus in John 3:3,5 NIV)

Jesus’ words here to the Jewish teacher Nicodemus are pretty clear. You must be born anew even to see the Kingdom of God. To get in, you must be born of water and the Spirit. This for some is difficult to understand. There are various ways of expressing it, but consider just this: Your past sins, your impurities and all are washed away and you get a new spirit. The old has gone and the new has come. John the disciple explained this in John 1:12-13 (Good News Translation) as indeed moving to a place where God himself becomes your father. So, while you still have the same old body and mind, suddenly you have a new spirit. And life thereafter is one ideally of working to renew your mind and body to get it in line with your spirit.

***If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*** – (Paul in Romans 10:9 NIV)

Looking at the original Greek words in which Paul wrote this passage, declare with your mouth that “Jesus is Lord” means aligning yourself with the fact that Jesus is your Lord, i.e. – your boss. You do what Jesus says. What did he say for you to do? Whatever you have heard from him in prayer or otherwise and all Jesus said that is recorded in the Bible. The word “believe” here is absolute belief, such as believing there is enough oxygen in the room where you are located to keep you alive. Otherwise you would be gone out of there! And then the word translated saved means total salvation, in all ways, wholeness physical and mental and financial and all ways. You don’t get into heaven because your family members are Christians or because you go to a church often or because other people pray for you. All that may help you get closer to God, but you yourself have to make the commitment, have to make the decision, have to ask Jesus to be your Lord.

***“Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”*** (Jesus in Matthew 18:3 NIV)

What are little children like? They believe what their parent tells them. Absolutely.

If you do not already know the Lord or perhaps you are not certain you are in the Kingdom, here is the plan:

- sincerely ask Jesus to be the Lord of your life (e.g., you obey what he says. In today’s words, he is your boss, a very wonderful boss to be sure.). Saying as simple a prayer as **“Lord, forgive me for all my sins. Please be the Lord of my life.”** will surely work. Also **“Lord, I give myself to you. Please be my Lord.”** If you have sincerely done this, you are in the Kingdom. Really. You should sense that truth deep in your heart. You should have a sense of elation! You are there.

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- separate yourself from anything and any activity that is not of God or is opposed to God!
- And if you think you need help believing, or are wondering if you have the requisite faith, ask Jesus to help you. He is ready and willing. Just say **“Jesus, help me, I don’t know what to do.”** Or be even more specific, as a man once said to Jesus: **“Help my unbelief!”** And read the Bible. Go be around people you think are serious believers.

There is one more additional step of assurance available. Paul in Ephesians 1 makes the point that when you believed in Jesus you were marked with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, and that the Holy Spirit is a deposit guaranteeing your inheritance. The Holy Spirit is a real, tangible assurance that you are in the Kingdom. Some of you may not recognize the Holy Spirit or may not have any tangible sense of his presence. If so, just pray for that. Ask to be filled with, even baptized with the Holy Spirit, to experience his wonderful presence. Or ask a Spirit-filled believer to pray for you to receive that. It is the presence of the Holy Spirit that you sense when you are praying or reading scripture and you are suddenly touched by a phrase, a thought, a revelation, or maybe receive some new guidance or insight or comfort and tears come to your eyes. John 14-16 describes a great deal about the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12 describes the gifts that come with being baptized in the Spirit.

Again, simply doing what Jesus and Paul have said as noted above puts you in the Kingdom and ready to go when the Lord comes. And this wonderful Holy Spirit guarantee is more of God’s abundance for his believers. Remember, the Holy Spirit is God, a member of the Trinity.

NOTE: Available resources to help:

**JUST HOW DOES ANYONE EVER REALLY GET INTO HEAVEN?** – Our teaching CD that you may request over our website or by calling. You may watch our videos “Getting into Heaven” on this on our website or YOUTUBE.

**WHAT DID JESUS DO?** – Our three CDs that cover what Jesus did and may be ordered individually or all together from our website or by calling the ministry. You may watch videos on this on our website or YOUTUBE as well.

**WAKE UP AMERICA! JESUS IS COMING SOON!** – Our book that covers all aspects of the return of the Lord, all that Jesus did, how a person can go with Jesus when he returns, and more. This too can be ordered over our website or by calling the office, or from Amazon.

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## **FORK IN THE ROAD....THAT'S WHERE WE ARE NOW**

We are indeed now at the fork in the road long expected. As things steadily get ever more difficult in these days and as persecution of believers increases more and more, eventually each person who calls himself a Christian will come to this fork in the road.

And at that moment a person may choose to just continue to go forward and upward in their belief in Jesus and his words and the gospel, living with Jesus as their Lord, seeking to do what they can to help in God leading others to Jesus. They are choosing that no matter what happens they will stand on their faith. Their belief in Jesus cannot be shaken. They are choosing the praise of God over that of man.

Or a person may fall away from that definition of a believer, falling away from the gospel and Jesus' words, falling away from following what the Bible has said. Rather they may choose to go on with a cultural church, one that for example accepts homosexuality and abortion and so on, maybe one that is ok with combining their church with non-Christian religious groups. Maybe with increasing persecution against Christians they will drop away entirely from anything that would have them called Christian. They are choosing to receive the praise of men rather than of God.

This second group will be by far the larger of the two groups. Already today you can see many denominations that are and will be attractive to people in the second group.

Eventually, and that very soon, Jesus will come and collect his sheep, which will all come from people in the first group. Make sure that is where you are.

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***May you live in the blessings of God always.***

***John***

**Our thanks again to all who contribute to this ministry with your financial donations as well as to all those who pray for us and assist in other ways!**

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