

The Mailbox Club

Course 1

Lesson 6



SALVATION AND REWARDS

*"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*

Dear Friend,

We have been friends for some time now and we have learned many wonderful things from our study of God's Word.

This lesson is about salvation and rewards. We want to understand clearly what God's Word says about how we are saved. We will also learn about the wonderful rewards which we can earn after we are saved. But first, may I ask you a personal question?

It's the most important question in the world. It is so personal that only you can answer it. What is the question? It is this:

How are things between YOU and GOD?

Let me ask it another way. If you were to die tonight and stand before God and He were to ask you, "Why should I let you into My Heaven?" what would you say?

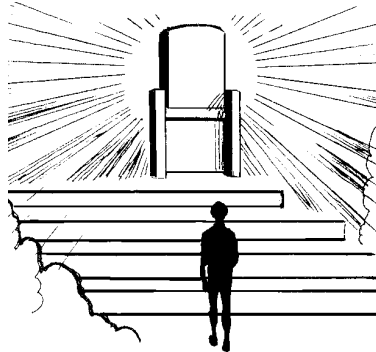
Perhaps you would say, "I haven't been so bad. I've been as good as most other people."

Or you might say, "I always went to church." Again, you might

say, "I did a lot of good things for other people."

What would you say?

If you think you would say anything like the above answers, you could be making a terrible mistake.



"But why?" you ask. "Aren't these things good?"

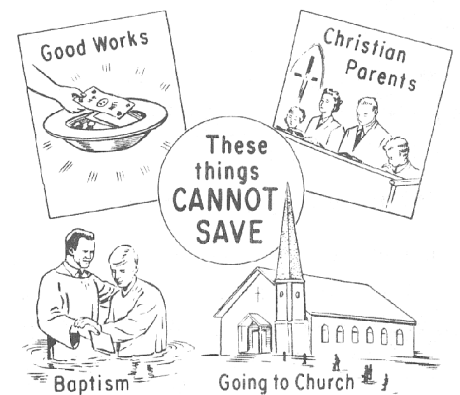
Yes, they are, but the Bible says that no one will ever get to Heaven by doing good works. No matter how hard we try, we can never be good enough to be saved.

- Having Christian parents will not save you.
- Going to church will not save you.
- Doing good deeds will not save you.
- Giving money to the church will not save you.
- Trying to keep the Ten Commandments will not save you.

- Being baptized and joining the church will not save you.

These things are good, but the Bible says,

*"a man is not justified by the works of the law...."
Galatians 2:16*



How are we saved?

We are saved by God's grace and not by our own good works. The bible says,

*"For by GRACE are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves...."
Ephesians 2:8*

What is grace? Grace is something God does for us because He loves us. Because God loves us and wants us to be saved, He has provided a wonderful salvation for us.

Now in the next few seconds you are going to read one of the most amazing statements you have ever read.

What is it? It is this:

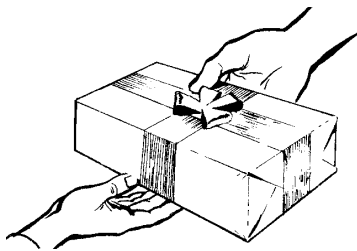
Eternal life is a free gift!

That's right - it is a free gift. Eternal life in Heaven is the most wonderful thing any person could ever have. Yet, according to God's Word, it is a free gift. The Bible says,

*"The wages of sin is death; but THE GIFT OF GOD is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
Romans 6:23*

How long does it take you to receive a gift? Just a moment of time. When someone gives you a gift, you reach out and take it and it is yours. You do not have to work for a gift, and you do not have to pay for a gift. All you have to do is receive it and it is yours.

SALVATION 
THRU JESUS CHRIST
God's Free Gift...



You ask, "But how can I receive the gift of eternal life?"

You receive the gift of eternal life when you take the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. Eternal life is in a Person -- the Lord Jesus Christ. When you receive Him, you receive eternal life. The Bible says,

*"...God has given to us eternal life and this life, is in His Son. He that has the Son has life...."
I John 5:11,12*

How can I know that I am saved?

But you say, "Is it really possible for me to know for sure that I will go to Heaven when I die?"

Yes, it certainly is! If you have Christ, you have eternal life. You know that you have eternal life because God says so in His Word. The Bible says,

*"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life...."
I John 5:13*

If God were to ask you, "Why should I let you into My Heaven?" you could reply, "Because Jesus Christ is my Saviour. He died for my sins. Your Word says that I have eternal life."

Remember, salvation is a gift. You receive eternal life as a gift when you take the Lord Jesus as your Saviour. Now, let us think about rewards.

Rewards are earned.

Did you ever receive a reward for doing something well? Perhaps your father gave you a reward for doing well on your report card.

God gives rewards to His children for the good things they do. God does not give rewards to unsaved people, but only to His own saved children.

It will help us to understand salvation and rewards if we see that there are two great differences between them:

- 1) Salvation is free, but rewards are earned.
- 2) We have salvation now, but rewards will be given later -when we get to Heaven.

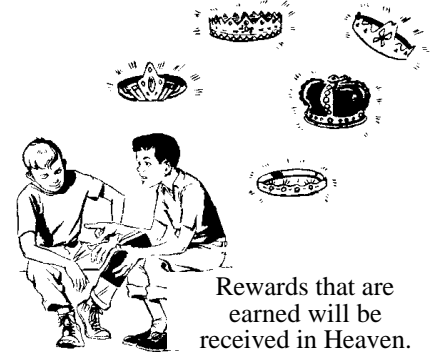
You understand that, don't you? Salvation is a gift, and you have it now. Rewards must be earned, and

they will be given out when we get to Heaven.

How do we earn rewards?

We earn rewards by faithfully serving Christ. Those who have been saved may earn wonderful rewards by the work they do for the Lord.

REWARDS - earned by Faithful Service



The Bible speaks of some very special rewards for those who faithfully serve the Lord Jesus. They are called "crowns." Crowns speak of glory -- reigning with the Lord Jesus.

There are five beautiful crowns which will be given to believers as rewards:

* 1. The Crown of Rejoicing for those who win others to Christ. This is something called "the soul-winner's crown."

I Thessalonians 2:19

* 2. The Crown of Righteousness for those who look for and love Christ's return.

II Timothy 4:8

* 3. The Crown of Glory for those who faithfully teach and preach God's Word.

I Peter 5:4

* 4. The Incorruptible Crown for those who "run a good race" in Christian life.

I Corinthians 9:25

* 5. The Crown of Life for those who suffer for the name of Christ, especially those who lay down their

lives for Him. We receive eternal life by simply trusting Christ as our Saviour. We receive "the crown of life" by being faithful.

Revelation 2:10

What happens if we do not live for the Lord?

If we live for ourselves and do not serve the Lord Jesus, we will not receive any rewards at all. Instead, we will be ashamed when we stand before the Lord.

Perhaps you are saying to yourself, "I want to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord, but how can I know whether or not I should do a certain thing?"

We should see what God says about it in the Bible. For example, God tells us that we should not curse or lie or steal or have unforgiveness in our heart toward someone. So we know that we should not do these things.

What about those things that are not mentioned in the Bible? In this case we should ask ourselves "Would Jesus like to see me do this?" If you think that He would not like for you to do it, then don't do it.

What will happen to the child of God who continues to do things that are not pleasing to God? God will chasten (spank!) him. A good father chastens or corrects his child when he does wrong. Does he chasten his child because he hates him or because he loves him? He does it because he loves him.

Our Heavenly Father is a good Father. He loves us too much to let us go on in disobedience, ruining our lives and bringing shame to His name. God will speak to our hearts when we do wrong, but if we do not listen to Him and turn from our disobedience, He will surely chasten us.

How does God chasten us? He chastens us by letting trouble come into our life. When our Heavenly Father chastens us, let us remember that He does this

because He loves us. The Bible says,

*"...whom the Lord loveth
He chasteneth....?"
Hebrews 12:6*

Christians will be judged.

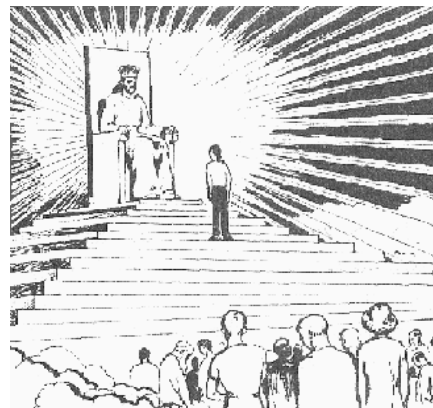
By now I am sure that you have realized that it is very important how you live your life as a Christian.

The Bible says that, one day, we must stand before the Lord Jesus to be judged. Every believer will be judged for the things he did after he was saved, whether good or bad.

This judgment is called "the Judgment Seat of Christ." The Bible says,

*"For we (believers) must all
appear before the judgment
seat of Christ; that every
one may receive the things
done in his body...."
II Corinthians 5:10*

This judgment is not to see whether or not we will go to Heaven. Every believer will go to Heaven. This judgment is for rewards.



If we have faithfully served the Lord Jesus, this will be a time of great rejoicing for us because we will receive wonderful rewards.

If we have lived for the good times of this world instead of living for the Lord Jesus, we will be ashamed. Perhaps some of us will wish that we could live our lives over again, but that will not be possible. The time to live for the

Lord Jesus is now. The time to serve Him is now.

*"Only one life, 'twill soon
be past, Only what's done
for Christ will last."*

Do you know some people who do not know Christ as their Saviour? Would you like to win them for Him? Then start praying for them. Tell them about the Saviour.

If you win them to Christ, you will receive the soulwinner's crown. And you will shine as the stars forever and ever. the Bible says,

*"...they that turn many to
righteousness (shall shine)
as the stars for ever and
ever." Daniel 12:3*

Discovered Gem

◆ Salvation is a free gift, but rewards are earned by faithful service.

Memory Verses for Lesson 6:

*"The wages of sin is death;
but the gift of God is eternal
life through Jesus Christ our
Lord." Romans 6:23*

*"For by grace are ye saved
through faith; and that not
of yourselves: it is the gift of
God: Not of works, lest any
man should boast."
Ephesians 2:8,9*

*"For whom the Lord loveth
He chasteneth...."
Hebrews 12:6*

*"For we must all appear
before the judgment seat
of Christ; that every one
may receive the things done
in his body, according to
that he hath done, whether
it be good or bad."
II Corinthians 5:10*

Has the Lord Jesus come to live in your heart?

If so, please use the space below to tell us how you came to know Him as your Saviour. If you are not saved, tell us this.

THOSE WHO WIN SOULS...

will receive the Soul-Winner's Crown when they get to Heaven. You can help win others to the Lord Jesus by telling them about these lessons. If you want us to send lessons to a friend of yours, just fill out this slip. If you have additional names, send this same information on another piece of paper.

PLEASE PRINT!

Name_____	Age_____
In care of_____	
Mailing Address_____	
City_____	
State_____	Zip_____
Name sent in by_____	

QUESTION PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Turn to the Question Page as you finish each lesson. Fill in the answers for that lesson before going on to the next lesson.
2. When you have studied the lesson and completed the Question Page, carefully detach the question page from the lesson.
3. Print your name and address in the space provided at the bottom of each Question Page. Be sure your correspondence school name and your return address is on the return envelope.
4. Fold the Question Page and place it a return envelope with a First Class stamp in the proper place and mail back to your Correspondence School.

Please remove this page and return with your answer sheet.

QUESTIONS: Fill in every blank.

1. We are saved by _____ and not by our _____ works. Complete: "For _____ are ye saved _____; and that not of yourselves...."
2. Grace is _____ because _____.
3. You receive the gift of eternal life when _____.
4. God gives rewards to _____ for _____. Does God give rewards to unsaved people? _____.
5. There are two great differences between salvation and rewards:
 (1) Salvation is _____, but rewards are _____. (2) We have salvation _____, but rewards will be given _____ when _____.
6. We earn rewards by _____.
7. If we live for ourselves and do not serve the Lord, will we receive and rewards? _____.
8. What will happen to the child of God who continues to do things that are not pleasing to God? God will _____ (_____) him.
9. Is it important how we live our life as a Christian? _____.
10. Will every believer be judged by the Lord Jesus for the things that he did after he was saved? _____.

PLEASE PRINT

You must return answer sheet before you get next lesson.

Name _____ Age _____

Parent's name _____

Mailing address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send in your answer sheet only!

