

WHAT MUST  
I DO TO BE  
*Saved?*

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*The Plan Of  
Salvation*

By  
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Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Friend,

Congratulations! Your requesting this booklet tells me that you have just given your heart and life to the Lord Jesus Christ, or else you are seriously contemplating this extremely serious event — the most important event that one could ever undertake, the salvation of your soul.

The acceptance of Jesus Christ is not only the answer, but the only answer to all of life's problems, and above all, the answer to sin. To find the Lord, is to find Eternal Life.

The moment that one accepts Christ as one's personal Saviour, He becomes the Lord of your life, and at that time, your name is added to the Lamb's Book of Life (Rev. 21:27).

The Scripture says that "*All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God*" (Rom. 3:23). To remove the terrible stain of sin, one must accept Christ as one's Saviour, there is no other way.

Romans 10:9-10 says: "*If you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes unto Righteousness; and with the mouth, confession is made unto Salvation.*"

The information contained in this Booklet addresses the Great Plan of Salvation, and as well, the living of an overcoming, Christian life. If you will read and follow the suggestions herein, I guarantee a successful and joy-filled life in Christ.

Everything that follows is totally Scriptural. In other words, the Bible is the foundation.

Our Lord Jesus Christ was so concerned about us, as Christians, that He spent a good part of His human Ministry setting down instructions as to how we should live in order to have a successful Christian Life. It behooves every Christian to know the Word of God, and to follow it with all of our strength.

The old song says:

*“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
“That saved a wretch like me.  
“I once was lost, but now I’m found,  
“I was blind, but now I see.”*

In the Master’s service, yours,



Jimmy Swaggart

## THE PLAN OF SALVATION

A long time ago, a Roman Jailer asked of the Apostle Paul the most important question that could ever be asked, “*What must I do to be saved?*”

Paul’s answer was immediate, to the point, clear, and concise. He said:

“*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house*” (Acts 16:30-31.)

That’s how simple that it actually is.

A man named Nicodemus pretty much asked Jesus the same question. Jesus answered him by saying, “*You must be born again*” (Jn. 3:1-8).

## ALL ARE SINNERS

The Bible tells us in Romans 3:23 that “*All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God.*”

That means that all are sinners, actually born that way, in desperate need of the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, there are no exceptions to this. That means you and me, and all others for that matter.

Paul also said in Romans 6:23, “*The wages of sin is death!*”

So, that means that unless something is done about this terrible situation, that all will be eternally lost. However, God did not leave things there. He loves us, every one of us. It is His Desire that “*Not any should perish, but that all should come unto repentance*” (II Pet. 3:9).

## WHAT DID GOD DO ABOUT THIS SITUATION?

The Scripture plainly says, “*And God so loved the world* (so loved sinners, and that means you) *that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever*

*believes on Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life” (Jn. 3:16).*

What does that mean?

Man as a sinner could not save himself. In other words, such was and is impossible; consequently, God literally became man, came into this world born of the Virgin Mary, and then died on Calvary to pay the price for man’s Redemption. As should be obvious, the price was high. But thank God, it was everlastingly paid by Jesus Christ, that “*WHOSOEVER WILL, MAY COME AND TAKE THE WATER OF LIFE FREELY*” (Rev. 22:17).

### **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST?**

Going back to the Scripture which we quoted in the Foreword of this booklet, Paul says:

*“If you shall confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart man believes unto Righteousness; and with the mouth, confession is made unto Salvation” (Rom. 10:9-10).*

To believe on the Lord Jesus Christ is more than just giving mental assent that He is the Son of God. Millions do that and aren’t saved.

When the Scripture speaks of one believing, it simply means that one accepts Who Jesus is, which is the Son of God, and what He has done, which refers to Him dying on Calvary, in effect taking our place, in order that we might be saved.

It means to accept Him, and Him Alone as your Saviour, resolving to make Him the Lord of your life, and to follow Him with all of your heart, mind, soul, and strength as long as you live.

## **SUBSTITUTION AND IDENTIFICATION**

As we have already stated, man being eternally lost and helpless to save himself, God had to provide a means of Salvation whereby sinful man could be made righteous. He did that by providing His Own Son, Who gave His Life on Calvary, thereby paying the terrible price which we could not pay. That price was His Own Precious Shed Blood.

He became our Substitute.

What does that mean?

It means He did for us what we could not do for ourselves. There was a terrible sin debt owing due to man's fallen condition. As stated, that refers to every single human being, none excepted. With no way to save ourselves, God had to provide a Saviour, which He did. It was done simply because He loves us so much (Jn. 3:16).

Jesus being the Substitute, if we identify with Him, which means to accept what He did at Calvary's Cross on our behalf, we will be saved. It is that simple!

He became our Substitute, and upon our identification with Him, we are rewarded with Eternal Life (Rom. 6:23).

## **FAITH AND NOT WORKS**

The only thing required to obtain this glorious and wonderful Salvation is to simply believe on Christ, exactly as Paul said, which means to have Faith in Him.

What does that mean?

It is actually very simple. The Lord made it this way in order that all may have equal opportunity.

It simply means that you believe or have faith in what He did, and accept it for yourself on a personal

basis. That's all that God requires. But of course, to believe and have faith, even as we have already said, means to accept the Lord as your Saviour and, as well, to make Him the Lord of your life.

First of all, man must understand that he is a sinner. That includes all (Rom. 3:23). As such, he needs a Saviour. There is only one Saviour, only One Who has paid the price for man's Redemption, and that Saviour is the Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, if one does not accept Christ, one cannot be saved.

Millions attempt to earn their Salvation in many and varied ways other than accepting Christ. Or else they attempt to become saved by accepting Christ as well as adding other things to Christ.

The Scripture says: *"FOR BY GRACE ARE YOU SAVED THROUGH FAITH; AND THAT NOT OF YOURSELVES: IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD: NOT OF WORKS, LEST ANY MAN SHOULD BOAST"* (Eph. 2:8-9).

That means the Church cannot save you, and neither can Water Baptism save you, or anything else for that matter, as important as those things may be in their own way. I have said this because millions think that they are saved by being baptized in water, or joining a Church, or performing good works, etc.

While those things may be important in their own right, they have absolutely nothing to do with one being saved. One is saved simply by trusting Jesus Christ, even as we have already said.

That means that one can be saved anywhere: in Church, on the street corner, watching a Christian Telecast, listening to a Christian Radio Program, or even reading this Booklet.

Where one is doesn't matter. It is what one believes that really counts.

The moment that one confesses the Lord with one's mouth, and believes in one's heart, and does so truly, at that moment, and wherever you may be, you are saved. As we have stated several times, it is just that simple.

Incidentally, when the Jailer asked Paul the question, "*What must I do to be saved?*", he was actually at that time in the jail with Paul and Silas. Every evidence is that he at that moment, in that jail, believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, and was instantly saved (Acts 16:27-34).

### **IT IS TIME NOW!**

In fact, if you have not already given your heart and life to Jesus Christ, it is time that you do so, and actually it can be done this very moment.

I am going to ask you to read these words below, and actually say them out loud. As well, I am going to ask you to believe them with all of your heart, and if you will do so, you will be instantly saved. Please say them with me as you read:

*"DEAR GOD IN HEAVEN, I COME TO YOU TODAY AS A LOST SINNER."*

*"I AM ASKING YOU THAT YOU SAVE MY SOUL AND CLEANSE ME FROM ALL SIN."*

*"I REALIZE IN MY HEART MY NEED OF SALVATION, WHICH CAN ONLY COME THROUGH JESUS CHRIST."*

*"I AM ACCEPTING CHRIST INTO MY HEART AND WHAT HE DID ON THE CROSS IN ORDER TO PURCHASE MY REDEMPTION."*

*“IN OBEDIENCE TO YOUR WORD, I CONFESS WITH MY MOUTH THE LORD JESUS, AND BELIEVE IN MY HEART THAT GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD.”*

*“YOU HAVE SAID IN YOUR WORD WHICH CANNOT LIE, ‘FOR WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL UPON THE NAME OF LORD SHALL BE SAVED’ (ROM. 10:13).”*

*“I HAVE CALLED UPON YOUR NAME EXACTLY AS YOU HAVE SAID, AND I BELIEVE THAT RIGHT NOW, I AM SAVED.”*

If you have sincerely prayed these words, which I have written out for you, and believed in your heart upon the Lord Jesus Christ, you are at this moment saved, and your name is written down in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Congratulations!

### **SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD NOW BEGIN TO DO**

In the next few pages, I am going to give you some simple instructions that you should follow in order to live an overcoming, Christian Life. They are very important.

You are now a *“new creature in Christ Jesus”* (II Cor. 5:17). As such, you have the Divine nature within your heart, which is the Nature of God, which means that the Holy Spirit actually now resides within your heart and life.

The entirety of your life is now going to be different. You have been cleansed from all sin and have embarked upon the greatest journey that one could

ever undertake. A whole new world is about to open up to you.

You now have something to live for, and something to which you can look forward. Living for Jesus is the most exciting life that one could ever live, the most fulfilling, the most rewarding, the most wonderful. There is absolutely nothing in the world that can compare with this which you have just received and which will never end.

But of course, Satan, the enemy of your soul, is not happy at all about you giving your heart to Christ Jesus; consequently, he will do everything he can to cause you problems, even attempting to get you to turn back. However, if you will heed carefully the following instructions that we will give, Satan will not be successful in pulling you back, and total victory will be yours.

### **DAILY BIBLE STUDY**

We are directed by the Word of God to study the Bible. Jesus said, in John 5:39, to “*search the Scriptures. . .*”

Paul, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in II Timothy, said, “*Study (the Scriptures) to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth*” (II Tim. 2:15). The only way that one can intelligently divide the Word of Truth, in other words, to know and understand sound Doctrine, is to know the Word of God.

For you to know the Bible is the single most important thing you can ever do. Consequently, you ought to make it a part of your daily life.

Jesus said, “*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*” (Mat. 4:4).

That means that as natural food is necessary for your physical well-being, likewise, the study and understanding of the Word of God is necessary for your spiritual well-being. In other words, as much attention as you give to your three meals a day, you ought to give that much attention to the Word of God, and on a daily basis. As your natural food is necessary, so must be your spiritual food.

Everything that one wants to know about God is found in the Bible. God has expended much time and energy over many years giving us His Word. He did it for our benefit, as should be obvious. However, He isn't going to inject that information into us. If we want to know God, to understand Him, and to live for Him, in other words, to live completely in harmony with Him, we must read the instruction book, actually to study it, which is the Word of God.

When you were born as a little baby, someone poured milk into your system, and if they had not done so, you would have weakened and soon died. Nothing flourishes and grows without nourishment. And today, as a newborn (spiritually speaking), you must have nourishment if you are to stay alive spiritually, and flourish, and eventually grow into a mature person of strength and power in the Lord.

The Holy Bible is that nourishment. It is wonderfully conceived to afford both milk to the newborn, and meat to the more advanced. God in His Infinite Wisdom designed one Book capable of astounding and delighting the newest convert, while absorbing and stimulating the most seasoned Believer in Christ. It is truly, of all things in this world, "*all things to all men.*"

The Psalmist said, "*Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet, and a Light unto my path*" (Ps. 119:105).

In fact, the Word of God is the only true Light and the only true Lamp that's in the world today.

You should start studying the Bible, beginning with Genesis and read it all the way through, exactly as you would read any other Book. Admittedly, there are some things difficult to understand, especially for one who has just given his heart to the Lord; however, if you will ask the Lord to help you understand His Word, He will surely do so. The Psalmist also said, "*I have not departed from Thy Judgments: for Thou hast taught me*" (Ps. 119:102).

As we've already stated, you now have the Holy Spirit living in your heart and life, and He will teach you how to understand the Word if you will only ask for His help.

### **SOME THINGS THAT WILL HELP YOU**

I am going to encourage you to avail yourself of the opportunity of securing our *Commentaries* written on the Bible, which will help you understand the Word of God, and as well, to secure our CD Teaching Series, which are available on almost every subject in the Word of God.

If you will write for a catalog, we will send you one instantly, which will give you all the information you need respecting these various different Bible Study Helps.

### **YOUR PRAYER LIFE**

From the moment you accepted Christ as your Saviour, your life has been changed. You have experienced a joy and peace which the cares of the world cannot take away. This "*blessed assurance*" was given to you as a free gift from God. Without doubt, you

feel the compulsion to thank Him for what He has done for you. It is completely fitting that you should feel this way.

In order to properly thank Him, which we should do constantly, we must develop a daily prayer life — exactly as we develop a daily time of Bible Study.

Prayer is communication with God. It is for the following:

1. Praise: As stated, we should praise the Lord, which means to thank Him for what He has done for us. The more we live for the Lord, the more we will realize the worth of our Salvation, and the more we will want to thank Him for that.

2. Communion: Prayer is one of the greatest ways to communicate with God. What a blessing to be able to talk directly to your Heavenly Father. As well, during times of prayer, the Lord will also speak to your heart, giving you leading and direction.

3. Petition: We are admonished to ask the Lord for the things that we need. He, as our Heavenly Father, desires to do good things for us. However, we must remember that it is His Will which we seek, and not our personal will. Consequently, all the things we ask Him for, and we should readily ask Him for whatever it is we need, should always be done with the idea in mind, that we want His Will and not ours. Please read the following Scriptures carefully (Mat. 18:18-19; Mk. 11:24; Lk. 11:9-10; Jn. 14:13-14; 15:7).

## **THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Now that you are saved, you should ask the Lord to baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4).

While it is certainly true that the Holy Spirit came into your heart and life the moment of your Salvation,

still, He now wishes to endue you with power from on high. Consequently, Jesus told all of His followers immediately before His Ascension, that they should “*wait for the Promise of the Father*” (Acts 1:4). He was speaking of being “*Baptized with the Holy Spirit*” (Acts 1:5).

You must understand that there is a great difference in being “*born of the Spirit*” than being “*Baptized with the Spirit.*” They are two different works altogether.

To be “*born of the Spirit*” is that which took place at your conversion, as the Holy Spirit brought you to Christ and performed the work of regeneration within your heart and life. To be “*Baptized with the Spirit*” is in order that you may have Power with God (Acts 1:8). Every Believer should ask the Lord to fill them with the Holy Spirit, and expect to receive (Lk. 11:13).

### **THE SIGN OF BEING FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT**

Once one is Baptized with the Holy Spirit, many things will transpire in our heart and life. In other words, there will be many telltale signs that we have been filled.

However, the initial physical evidence that one has been Baptized with the Holy Spirit, is that they will speak with other Tongues as the Spirit of God gives the utterance (Acts 2:4; 10:45-46; 19:1-7).

There is nothing in the Bible which suggests that this awesome indwelling power of the Holy Spirit has been declared unavailable in our day. We know there are literally millions of committed, fruitful, effective Christians, who give all the credit for their effectiveness to the experience of having been Baptized with

the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking with other Tongues. In fact, for you to be what you ought to be in Christ, the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is an absolute necessity.

Jesus died on Calvary that men may be saved. The great Salvation process includes the Holy Spirit taking up abode within our hearts and lives. Every Christian needs Him desperately. And to be sure, His full potential cannot be realized, unless we go on and be Baptized with the Holy Spirit, which as stated, will *always* be accompanied by the speaking with other Tongues as the Spirit of God gives the utterance (Acts 2:4).

He is our “*Helper,*” and as well, “*guides us into all Truth*” (Jn. 16:7-15).

## **WATER BAPTISM**

What is the significance of Water Baptism? Haven't we, by confessing Christ with our mouths, done everything the Bible tells us to do to insure Salvation? Is there any reason we should go further in proving the fact of our conversion? In Truth, there are several reasons for Water Baptism.

First of all, Jesus set the example for us by being baptized in water. He did it to “*fulfill all Righteousness*” (Mat. 3:13-15).

Water Baptism signifies the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence, when He was Baptized in water, this signified that which He would do in order to secure our Salvation.

We likewise are to be Baptized in water, as a public proclamation of our submission to God, and acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ, as our Savior. Water Baptism does not save us, or contribute anything toward our Salvation, but is rather a sign that we have already been

saved, which we wish to declare to the entirety of the world. In fact, Water Baptism is the great symbol that one has given his heart and life to Jesus Christ.

As well, it typifies our death to the old life, with all that was ugly and ungodly being buried, and us being Resurrected into a new life in Christ Jesus. That's the reason that Water Baptism is by emersion. It signifies the old man being buried, and the new man being raised in newness of life (Rom. 6:4).

### **THE WILL OF GOD FOR YOUR LIFE**

Now that you have become a Child of God, the Lord has a perfect Will for your life. In other words, you are very important in the Kingdom of God, and the Lord will treat you accordingly.

Inasmuch as you have given your heart and life to Him, He will now open up the Kingdom of God to you, and your place in that Kingdom (Jn. 3:3). In fact, one of the great works of the Holy Spirit in your heart and life, is to bring about "*the Will of God*" for you (Rom. 8:27).

In other words, the idea is that your will be swallowed up in the Will of God, which is the most wonderful, fulfilling life there could ever be.

If you will allow the Holy Spirit to have His Way within your life, He will bring about the Will of God, and help you to walk in that Will, doing what the Lord wants you to do.

Actually, the Lord has a perfect Will for every Believer and that means you. What He has for you, cannot be done by anyone else. So you are to seek the Will of God, and you will find beautifully and wondrously, the Holy Spirit making Jesus more and more real in your heart, and bringing you to the place in which God desires that you be.

Isn't that wonderful to have such help, and above all, to have such leading and guidance (Jn. 16:13-15).

### **FAITH IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST**

As a new Believer you were saved by putting your Faith in Christ and what He did by paying the price for your Redemption on the Cross (Jn. 3:16).

However, not only is Faith in the Cross necessary for Salvation, it is necessary, as well, that you continue to have Faith in the Cross even on a daily basis, which will guarantee you Victory in your everyday life. This is the answer for Victory over cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, uncontrollable temper, depression, gambling, jealousy, envy, greed, every type of immorality, and in fact, every problem that besets humanity (I Cor. 2:2).

As the Believer constantly exhibits Faith in the Cross and should do so forever, the Holy Spirit then provides all the help necessary, in order for Victory to be had in every capacity (Jn. 14:16-17). In fact, there is no reason why any Christian should be dominated by any type of sin whatsoever. If Faith in the Cross is exhibited, the Holy Spirit will always guarantee Victory for the Believer. The key is the Cross, because it is through the Cross that the Holy Spirit works (Gal. 6:14; Rom. 8:1-2, 11).

### **CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

The Church is the Body of Christ, not a particular building by the side of the road. Actually you are now a part of that Body, and Jesus Christ is its Head. So, if at all possible, it is very important that you find a good Church to attend.

The following is what should be taught and preached in the Church:

1. Salvation through the Blood of Jesus Christ should be preached. Any Church teaching Salvation by any means other than the shed Blood of Jesus Christ, in other words, what the Lord did on Calvary's Cross, in order to redeem humanity, is promoting something contrary to the Word of God (Mat. 26:28; Acts 20:28; Col. 1:20; Heb. 9:22; I Pet. 1:18-19).

2. The Church should teach the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking with other Tongues, which is available to all Believers, and is received after conversion (Isa. 28:11-12; Acts 2:4; 10:45-46; 19:6; I Cor. 14:4-5, 14-18).

3. A victorious, overcoming Christian life should be preached (Rom. 6:11; I Cor. 15:57-58; Eph. 6:10-13; James 1:22; I Jn. 5:4-5; Rev. 2:7). This means victory over sin in every capacity.

4. Divine Healing according to the Word of God should be preached (Ex. 15:26; 23:25; Isa. 53:5; Mk. 6:13; James 5:14-15; I Pet. 2:24).

We believe that the Bible teaches that Jesus Christ heals today, the same as He did in Bible days.

5. The Rapture of the Church should be taught and preached. This refers to the time when the Church shall be taken out of this world in order to be with the Lord. It could happen at any moment, with every single Believer whether dead or alive, being resurrected. In fact, the Resurrection and the Rapture are one and the same (I Cor. Chpt. 15; I Thess. 4:13-17).

6. The soon and eminent return of our Lord to Earth, to take up His rightful position as King of kings and Lord of lords should be preached. He will be accompanied at that time by every Saint of God who has ever lived. In other words, all who were taken up in the Rapture (Resurrection), will then come back

with Him to this Earth, which will begin the Kingdom Age (Rev. Chpt. 19).

7. Whatever Church is attended, should be a Church filled with a group of people, whether the number is little or large, with the consuming desire to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the entirety of the world. The taking of the Gospel to all is priority with God, as should be obvious.

Someone brought you the Gospel, and you should love the Lord enough, to desire strongly that everyone else have the opportunity to hear exactly as you did. Whether they except or not, is their privilege; however, that they have the opportunity is absolutely paramount.

To be frank, the greatest way we can thank the Lord for giving us His Great Salvation, is to tell this grand story to others in whatever way we can, and as well, to help support those who are taking the Gospel to the world. That must be our consuming desire in all things (Mk. 16:15-16). For those who do not know and have not had the privilege to hear, Jesus died in vain.

They must hear and their hearing depends largely on you and me. *"How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they are sent?"* (Rom. 10:14-15).

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If you have given your heart to the Lord, we would very much appreciate you letting us know about this single most important event in your life. Please complete the form below and return it to the address given:

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I have given my heart and life to the Lord Jesus Christ and He has saved my soul. I earnestly solicit your prayers and those of Family Worship Center.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State/Prov.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No.

*Please mail to:*

**Jimmy Swaggart Ministries**  
P.O. Box 262550  
Baton Rouge, LA 70826-2550

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