

## Lesson 8: How To Be Saved, Part 2

**Memory Verse:** "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isaiah 55:7

### IV. Confession!

1. What is Jesus' invitation to us? Matthew 11:28

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What are the conditions for mercy? Proverbs 28:13

We must \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:** "The **conditions** of obtaining mercy of God are **simple** and **just** and **reasonable**. The Lord does not require us to do some grievous thing in order that we may have the forgiveness of sin. We need not make long and wearisome pilgrimages, or perform painful penances, to commend our souls to the God of heaven or to expiate our transgression; but **he that confesseth and forsaketh his sin shall have mercy.**" SC 37.2

"Confession will not be acceptable to God without **sincere repentance** and **reformation**. There must be **decided changes in the life; everything offensive to God must be put away.** This will be the result of genuine sorrow for sin. The work that we have to do on our part is plainly set before us:

'Wash you, make you clean; put \_\_\_\_\_ the evil of your doings from before Mine eyes; \_\_\_\_\_ to do evil; \_\_\_\_\_ to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.' Isaiah 1:16, 17.

'If the wicked \_\_\_\_\_ the pledge, give \_\_\_\_\_ that he had robbed, \_\_\_\_\_ in the statutes of life, without committing \_\_\_\_\_; he shall surely \_\_\_\_\_, he shall not \_\_\_\_\_.' Ezekiel 33:15." SC 39.1

3. To whom should we confess our sins? Psalm 32:5 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why? 1 John 3:4; Psalm 51:4

Because sin is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_.

And when we sin, it is A \_\_\_\_\_ God.

5. When we confess our sins, do we need to confess the exact sin we have committed?

Leviticus 5:5; Numbers 5:6,7

YES

NO

**Note:** "True confession is always of a **specific character**, and acknowledges particular sins. They may be of such a nature as to be brought before God only; they may be wrongs that should be confessed to individuals who have suffered injury through them; or they may be of a public character, and should then be as publicly confessed. But all confession should be **definite** and **to the point**, acknowledging **the very sins** of which you are guilty." SC 38.1

6. When we confess, what kind of spirit should we have? Psalm 34:18; 51:17

We should have a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_ spirit.

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**Note:** "Confession of sin, whether public or private, should be **heartfelt** and **freely expressed**. It is not to be urged from the sinner. **It is not to be made in a flippant and careless way, or forced from those who have no realizing sense of the abhorrent character of sin.** The confession that is the **outpouring of the inmost soul** finds its way to the God of infinite pity. The psalmist says, 'The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a \_\_\_\_\_ heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.' Psalm 34:18." SC 37.4

7. After Adam and Eve had sinned, how did they answer God when He asked them about it? Genesis 3:12-13 "And the man said, The \_\_\_\_\_ whom \_\_\_\_\_ gavest to be with me, \_\_\_\_\_ gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The \_\_\_\_\_ beguiled me, and I did eat."

**Note:** "When sin has deadened the moral perceptions, the wrongdoer does not discern the defects of his character nor realize the enormity of the evil he has committed; and unless he yields to the convicting power of the Holy Spirit he remains in partial blindness to his sin. **His confessions are not sincere and in earnest.** To every acknowledgment of his guilt **he adds an apology in excuse of his course**, declaring that **if it had not been for certain circumstances he would not have done this or that for which he is reproved.** SC 40.1

"After Adam and Eve had eaten of the forbidden fruit, they were filled with a sense of shame and terror. At first their only thought was **how to excuse their sin** and escape the dreaded sentence of death. When the Lord inquired concerning their sin, Adam replied, **laying the guilt partly upon God and partly upon his companion:** 'The woman whom Thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.' **The woman put the blame upon the serpent, saying,** 'The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.' Genesis 3: 12, 13. **Why did You make the serpent? Why did You suffer him to come into Eden?** These were the questions implied in her excuse for her sin, thus **charging God with the responsibility of their fall.** The **spirit of self-justification** originated in the father of lies and has been exhibited by all the sons and daughters of Adam. Confessions of this order are not inspired by the divine Spirit and will not be acceptable to God. **True repentance will lead a man to bear his guilt himself and acknowledge it without deception or hypocrisy.** Like the poor publican, not lifting up so much as his eyes unto heaven, he will cry, 'God be merciful to me a sinner,' and **those who do acknowledge their guilt will be justified**, for Jesus will plead His blood in behalf of the repentant soul." SC 40.2

8. How did Zacchaeus show that he was really sorry? Luke 19:8

He gave \_\_\_\_\_ of his goods to the \_\_\_\_\_ and restored those he had cheated with \_\_\_\_\_ times the amount stolen.

9. What are the steps in confession? Isaiah 55:7

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ your W \_\_\_\_\_
- B. F \_\_\_\_\_ your U \_\_\_\_\_
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ unto the Lord
- D. The Lord will have \_\_\_\_\_ upon you
- E. God will abundantly \_\_\_\_\_

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10. What is God's promise if we confess our sins? 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ us our sins, and to \_\_\_\_\_ us from all unrighteousness."

### **V. Consecration!**

11. What is God's promise to us? Jeremiah 29:13 "And ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ me, and \_\_\_\_\_ me, when ye shall \_\_\_\_\_ for me with \_\_\_\_\_ your heart."

**Note:** "The **whole** heart must be yielded to God, or the **change** can never be wrought in us by which we are to be **restored to His likeness**. By nature we are alienated from God. ... We are held fast in the snare of Satan, 'taken captive by him at his will.' 2 Tim. 2:26. God desires to **heal** us, to **set us free**. But since **this requires an entire transformation**, a renewing of our whole nature, **we must yield ourselves wholly to Him.**" SC 43.2

12. How completely must we surrender ourselves to Jesus? Luke 14:33  
We must give up \_\_\_\_\_ in order to be His disciple.

**Note:** "**Do you feel that it is too great a sacrifice to yield all to Christ?** Ask yourself the question, 'What has Christ given for me?' **The Son of God gave all** – life and love and suffering – for **our** redemption. And can it be that we, the unworthy objects of so great love, will withhold our hearts from Him? Every moment of our lives we have been partakers of the blessings of His grace, and for this very reason we cannot fully realize the depths of ignorance and misery from which we have been saved. Can we look upon Him whom our sins have pierced, and yet be willing to do despite to all His love and sacrifice? In view of the infinite humiliation of the Lord of glory, shall we murmur because we can enter into life only through conflict and self-abasement?" SC 45.1

"But **what do we give up**, when we give all? **A sin-polluted heart**, for Jesus to purify, to cleanse by His own blood, and to save by His matchless love. And yet men think it **hard** to give up all! I am ashamed to hear it spoken of, ashamed to write it. SC 46.1

"**God does not require us to give up anything that it is for our best interest to retain.** In all that He does, He has the **well-being** of His children in view. Would that all who have not chosen Christ might realize that **He has something vastly better to offer them than they are seeking for themselves**. Man is doing the greatest injury and injustice to his own soul when he thinks and acts contrary to the will of God. **No real joy can be found in the path forbidden by Him who knows what is best and who plans for the good of His creatures.** The path of transgression is the path of **misery and destruction.**" SC 46.2

13. Why must we give up everything in order to follow Christ? Jeremiah 17:9  
Because our heart is \_\_\_\_\_ and desperately \_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:** Our own way is **totally opposite** to the life of a disciple of Jesus. Can you hold onto a rope tied to a sinking ship and be lifted by a helicopter with a rope at the same time? Of course not! You must let go of one or the other. **This is why so many people have problems living the Christian life.** They try to hold onto their old way of life and be a Christian at the same time. This does not work.

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"It is a **mistake** to entertain the thought that God is pleased to see His children suffer. All heaven is interested in the happiness of man. Our heavenly Father does not close the avenues of joy to any of His creatures. The divine requirements call upon us to shun those indulgences that would bring suffering and disappointment, that would close to us the door of happiness and heaven. The world's Redeemer accepts men as they are, with all their wants, imperfections, and weaknesses; and He will not only cleanse from sin and grant redemption through His blood, but will **satisfy the heart-longing of all who consent to wear His yoke, to bear His burden.** It is His purpose to impart **peace** and **rest** to all who come to Him for the bread of life. He requires us to perform only those duties that will lead our steps to heights of bliss to which the disobedient can never attain. The **true, joyous life** of the soul is to have **Christ formed within**, the hope of glory". SC 46.3

14. What does Jesus say about serving two masters? Matthew 6:24

We \_\_\_\_\_ do it, because we would \_\_\_\_\_ one and love the other. It is I \_\_\_\_\_ to carry out the wishes of two masters, because their interests would clash. They would ask you to do opposite things.

**Note:** "In giving ourselves to God, **we must necessarily give up all that would separate us from Him.** Hence the Saviour says, 'Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not **all** that he hath, he cannot be My disciple.' Luke 14:33. **Whatever shall draw away the heart from God must be given up.** Mammon is the idol of many. The love of money, the desire for wealth, is the golden chain that binds them to Satan. Reputation and worldly honor are worshiped by another class. The life of selfish ease and freedom from responsibility is the idol of others. But **these slavish bands must be broken.** We cannot be half the Lord's and half the world's. **We are not God's children unless we are such entirely.**" SC 44.1

15. What is Christ's example? Philippians 2:5-8

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of \_\_\_\_\_, and took upon him the form of a \_\_\_\_\_, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he \_\_\_\_\_ himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

16. What will it be like if we have the mind of Christ?

1 John 4:7 "Beloved, let us \_\_\_\_\_: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God."

1 John 4:12 "No man hath seen God at any time. If we \_\_\_\_\_ one another, God dwelleth in \_\_\_\_\_, and his love is perfected in us."

1 John 4:16 "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in \_\_\_\_\_ dwelleth in \_\_\_\_\_, and God in him."

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1 John 4:20 "If a man say, I love God, and \_\_\_\_\_ his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

We will \_\_\_\_\_ each other.

17. Can we change our hearts? YES NO  
Romans 8:7 "Because the carnal mind is \_\_\_\_\_ against God: for it is  
\_\_\_\_\_ subject to the law of God, neither indeed \_\_\_\_\_ be."

Jeremiah 13:23

Can the Ethiopian change his skin? YES NO

Can the leopard change his spots? YES NO

Can we do good, that are accustomed to do evil? YES NO

18. We cannot change ourselves, but what can we do? Joshua 24:15

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ you this day whom ye will serve; ... as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

We can and we must \_\_\_\_\_ to serve the Lord.

19. When we choose to serve the Lord, what has God promised to do in us? Phil. 2:13

"For it is God which worketh in you both to \_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_ of his good pleasure."

1. God will help you to be W\_\_\_\_\_ to change.

2. God will empower you to be able to D\_\_\_\_\_ His will.

20. Read Revelation 22:17.

1. What is the work that God can do? He invites you to \_\_\_\_\_.

2. What is the work others can do? They can invite you to \_\_\_\_\_.

3. What is the work that **only** you can do?

Only **YOU** can respond to the invitation of the Holy Spirit and C\_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:** "Many are inquiring, 'How am I to make the surrender of myself to God?' You **desire** to give yourself to Him, but you are **weak** in moral power, **in slavery** to doubt, and **controlled by the habits of your life of sin**. Your promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand. **You cannot control your thoughts, your impulses, your affections**. The knowledge of your broken promises and forfeited pledges weakens your confidence in your own sincerity, and causes you to feel that God cannot accept you; but **you need not despair**. **What you need to understand is the true force of the will**.

This is the **governing power** in the nature of man, the **power of decision, or of choice**. **Everything depends on the right action of the will**. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to **exercise**. You **cannot** change your heart, you **cannot** of yourself give to God its affections; **but you can choose to serve Him**.

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You can give Him your will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. Thus your **whole nature** will be brought **under the control of the Spirit of Christ**; your **affections** will be centered upon Him, your **thoughts** will be in harmony with Him. SC 47.1

"**Desires** for goodness and holiness are right as far as they go; but if you stop here, they will **avail nothing**. Many will be lost while hoping and desiring to be Christians. They do not come to the point of yielding the will to God. They do not now choose to be Christians. SC 47.2

"**Through the right exercise of the will, an entire change may be made in your life.** By yielding up your will to Christ, you ally yourself with the power that is above all principalities and powers. You will have **strength from above** to hold you steadfast, and thus through **constant surrender to God** you will be enabled to live the new life, even the life of faith." SC 48.1

It is so crucial that we understand this. It says "EVERYTHING depends upon the right action of the will." It is not gritting our teeth and trying to resist temptation in our own will power. It is making a decision, a choice, against the temptation, saying "Not my will, but thine be done." We make this choice, whether we **feel** like it or not. If you firmly and consistently exercise your power of choice on the side of God's will instead of the cravings of your sinful nature, you **will** gain a **complete victory** over them. Then that thing will not have any power over you any more. It is true freedom. You can only have this freedom through a **complete surrender** of your will to Christ. Don't waver in your **decision** and be half-hearted about it.

Romans 13:14 says: "But put ye \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord Jesus Christ, and make \_\_\_\_\_ provision for the \_\_\_\_\_, to fulfill the \_\_\_\_\_ thereof." **Choose** right and **all** the power of heaven will be yours to **do** right.

"**Firmness** and **decision** are necessary. ... It is an important **law of the mind** – one which should not be overlooked – that when a desired object is so **firmly denied** as to remove all hope, the mind will **soon cease to long for it**, and will become occupied in other pursuits; but so long as there is any hope of gaining it, **a persistent effort will be made for its attainment.**" ST, March 11, 1886 par. 12.

Use your power of choice firmly and decidedly, without any loopholes, on the side of God's will. CHOOSE right.