



**How to Do Life  
This is How Saved People Act  
Some Things to Remember  
1 Peter 1:13-2:3**

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Peter has, in his introduction to this letter, hit us between the eyes with heavy doctrinal truth. He has detailed for us the extreme, salvation blessings we have in Jesus Christ as well as just how perplexed the prophets were about it all as they communicated truth to us.



Considering everything he has told us in the opening to his letter, Peter now moves on to the expected way we, as believers, are to behave and live in the light of this great salvation. A changed eternal destination results in changed living. The Holy Spirit ensures this.

How do the saved, do life? As a result of what Jesus does, to quote Francis Schaffer, “How should we then live?” I am reminded of a warning given in Proverbs 23.

Proverbs 23:6–8

“Do not eat the bread of a miser, Nor desire his delicacies; **For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.** “Eat and drink!” he says to you, But his heart is not with you. The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up, And waste your pleasant words.” (NKJV)

The problem is what eventually shows up externally, comes from what is going on inside. We wear masks to hide the real us.

An individual is not just the product of the forces around him. He has a mind, an inner world. Then, having thought, a person can bring forth actions into the external world and thus influence it. People are apt to look at the outer theater of action, forgetting the actor who “lives in the mind” and who therefore is the true actor in the external world. The inner thought-world determines the outward action. (Schaeffer 1982, 83-84)

It is inside where the change begins for the believer. As the Holy Spirit cleanses us, our internal thought lives begin to reflect this change. Then it begins to show externally.

The Holy Spirit inside of us brings understanding and wisdom and as believers in Jesus Christ, we become fully aware of who it is that has saved us and who it is that maintains us in our salvation.

We had nothing to do with it, it is the grace of God and achieved through the revelation of Jesus Christ. Today, as in Peter’s day, there are other voices wanting to moderate and water down what we are believing and draw us completely away from our faith. We are to be salt and light to our current generation. But if we lose our saltiness, then what good are we to anyone? Apostasy is very real and very much in vogue today.

We would all like to have some guidance on this which is why legalism seems so attractive. There it is, do this, don’t do that. But Jesus does not do that.

Yes, there are those things which are obviously commands from Him, such as remaining holy and set apart for Him in the culture of today. But He does not present it to us as a list of dos and don’ts such as we see in the law, which we are no longer under. Jesus set us free. But it is up to us and our will. His Spirit is the guide along with His word.

Francis Schaeffer referenced two things we need to consider, and they are bound up in how we react to our culture today. The first deals with compromise and the tendency to rationalize our more questionable behavior. Schaffer calls that our “own existential reality.” Our own rationalization behind the bad decisions.

As Christians, we must not slip into our own form of existential methodology. We do this if we try to keep hold of the value system, the meaning system, and the “religious matters” given in the Bible, while playing down what the Bible affirms about the cosmos, history, and specific commands in morals. We are following our own form of existential methodology if we put what the Bible says about the cosmos, history, and absolute commands in morals in the realm of the culturally oriented. If we do this, the generation which follows will certainly be undercut as far as historic Christianity is concerned. But also, if we ourselves bear the central mark of our generation, we cannot at this moment in history be the voice we



should be to our poor and fractured generation; we cannot be the restorative salt which Christians are supposed to be to their generation and their culture if in regard to the Scriptures we, too, are marked by the existential methodology. If we are so marked, we then have no real absolute by which to help, or by which to judge, the culture, state, and society. (Schaeffer 1982, 253-254)

We must take the whole Bible. We cannot pick and choose what to believe and what not to believe, as progressive Christians today tend to do.

Once we reject or water down any portion of the word, we are compromised and worthless to the cause of Christ. We have compromised on truth and as such, there is no longer any yard stick for us to measure and do life. Compromise ultimately impacts our world view and takes us away from where we should be to a place we never thought we would go as believers.

The second idea deals with worldview. Do we live our faith in Christ in view of the world? Are we transparent with others as who it is we are following. If we have compromised, then this point becomes difficult.

Second, as Christians we are not only to know the right worldview, the world-view that tells us the truth of what is, but consciously to act upon that world-view so as to influence society in all its parts and facets across the whole spectrum of life, as much as we can to the extent of our individual and collective ability. (Schaeffer 1982, 254)

As we follow Him, we impact the culture. It is organic if we are faithful and unwilling to compromise. Here in his letter, Peter, having outlined the reasons for doing so, tells us what our reactions to the grace and salvation of God should be. How should we live today considering what it is Jesus has done for us and considering the change taking place in us. Do saved people live differently, or do saved people live the same as the world?

His first point is simple, but hard to do. We are to set our minds on the grace ahead of us. And what exactly does that mean? We will get there.

1 Peter 1:13–16

“Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written: “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”” (NASB 2020) Peter is saying that based on what he has already laid out in this letter up to this point, it is time to decide. This is a crisis point he personally faced and failed in three times. You see, it is in the mind where this battle is going to take place.

I have talked with way too many so-called believers who believe they have their fire insurance, but there is no change in their life. They are indulging in cheap grace. Faith with no obedience, love, or responsibility. That never did work for the nations of Israel and Judah, why would we think it works for us today? For those, Satan has attacked and turned them into apostate Christians. Those who believe they are saved, but their lives prove otherwise.

We are told that we should see the evidence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. Yet, why are fire insurance Christians continually freaked out? Maybe they really are not saved.

Paul outlines the differences between those who are still living per the flesh versus those who are living by the Spirit. In other words, those who have a true knowledge of and faith in Jesus Christ versus those who have head knowledge only or may be relying on works of some kind.



It really is about deciding. The song I learned years ago when I first became a Christian makes more sense with each year. I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back. Though none go with me, I still will follow.

Galatians 5:16–26

“What I am saying is this: run your lives by the Spirit. Then you will not do what your old nature wants. For the old nature wants what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit wants what is contrary to the old nature. These oppose each other, so that you find yourselves unable to carry out your good intentions. But if you are led by the Spirit, then you are not in subjection to the system that results from perverting the Torah into legalism. And it is perfectly evident what the old nature does. It expresses itself in sexual immorality, impurity and indecency; involvement with the occult and with drugs; in feuding, fighting, becoming jealous and getting angry; in selfish ambition, factionalism, intrigue and envy; in drunkenness, orgies and things like these. I warn you now as I have warned you before: those who do such things will have no share in the Kingdom of God! But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self control. Nothing in the Torah stands against such things. Moreover, those who belong to the Messiah Yeshua have put their old nature to death on the stake, along with its passions and desires. Since it is through the Spirit that we have Life, let it also be through the Spirit that we order our lives day by day. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.” (CJB)

Decide once and for all. Elijah pointed out the real choice for us.

1 Kings 18:21

“Elijah went up to the people and said, **“How much longer will it take you to make up your minds? If the LORD is God, worship him; but if Baal is God, worship him!”** But the people didn’t say a word.” (GNB)

Baal is Satan and he comes with the temptations of the fallen world system which many simply refuse to say no to. There are so many today who are following the lie of Satan, they are being religious, yet lost and on their way to hell.

Matthew 7:21–23

“**“Not everyone who calls me ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what my Father in heaven wants them to do.** When Judgement Day comes, many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord! In your name we spoke God’s message, by your name we drove out many demons and performed many miracles!’ Then I will say to them, ‘I never knew you. Get away from me, you wicked people!’” (GNB)

So, Peter here is crystal clear, “prepare your minds for action.” Get on with it and let’s do this! For Peter, this is not a suggestion, but an imperative. Tough minded holiness, prepared for conflict, and prepared for whatever the Lord has for us.

He knows all about making sure the mental is aligned with truth. He reassured the Lord that he would never deny Him. But when his life was potentially on the line, it became clear he still had not fully believed and as a result, was weak when he wanted to be strong.

He learned from that and now points out the imperative for all of us to make up our minds internally and make the decision once and for all to follow Jesus. The way he says it is like preparing for combat. For a people who wore robes, it was difficult to fight if your legs were not free to move, so they would prepare and gird up their loins. They would prepare, and he tells us we must do this.

Obedience to the Lord, is a decision. Just do it! It is an act of the will, and there is still more to be done as we act on the decision we made.



#### 1 Peter 1:13

“Therefore, prepare your minds for action, **keep sober in spirit**, set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” (NASB 2020)

The word here in the Greek is νήφοντες (nephontes). It means to be sober and the use of that word here following the call to make a decision, is powerful.

To become sober is to come to μετάνοια (repentance), which for him who has become sober is the advisor who cannot, be suborned or won over by flattery. The final goal which can be pointed out to the one who has thus become sober is a full amnesty on the part of the gracious power of the supreme being. (Bauernfeind 1964-, 938)

Make up your mind to keep accounts short, decide now to be obedient and if we sin, to immediately repent.

As we walk forward with the Lord, we are not to be mentally fuzzy about our obedience to Him. We have decided to follow Jesus and in that decision our focus has become laser like on Him and Him alone. We are “to be free from every form of mental and spiritual “drunkenness” or excess. Rather than being controlled by outside circumstances, believers should be directed from within.” (Raymer 1985, 843)

We have made the decision to follow Jesus and we are focused on Him and obedience to His word. As we do so, we find that we “set our hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” There is no other option for us.

Jesus Christ is indeed returning and as His church, we are anticipating Him coming and fulfilling His promise made in John 14:3 “When everything is ready, **I will come and get you**, so that you will always be with me where I am.” (NLT)

This is grace, the unmerited favor of God, the ultimate end of salvation, the rapture of the church, the resurrection of the dead in Christ and our glorification as Jesus Christ appears in the sky personally, to snatch us from this world to be with Him for all eternity, protecting us from the wrath to come.

#### 1 Thessalonians 1:9–10

“For people everywhere report how you welcomed us and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and **to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus our deliverer from the coming wrath.**” (NET 2nd ed.)

That is the first point for us to be aware of. Since we are saved, we live as a people who have made up their minds and have kept their minds focused on the Lord in obedience to His word. We are to be a people who are looking for His soon return, the rapture of the church.

Are we living in expectation of hearing, “come up here?”

This is hard mental work, and it is indeed tough to decide to go against the flow of the world system and it is hard work to stay in that place mentally, it is needed because:

#### 1 Peter 1:14–16

“As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written: “**YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.**”” (NASB 2020)



The pressure point Peter presents to us is one that Satan presented to Peter, and he presents to many of us as we walk forward in the Lord. Doing this is hard work, and we do get weary with it at times, that is when Satan shows up and suggests to go back and entertain yourself a little in that old life you left. This is why we must be determined to completely, unchangeably set in our hope in Him.

Peter decided to go back to fishing and that is where Jesus found him as He came to restore Peter. Peter knows all too well the temptation to go back. The temptation to compromise simply because that decision has not been firmed up.

The battle rages inside of all of us. The temptation for us is to be once again, conformed with the old lifestyle, “because all that is in the world (the desire of the flesh and the desire of the eyes and the arrogance produced by material possessions) is not from the Father, but is from the world.” (1 John 2:16, NET 2nd ed.)

The word translated conformed is συσχηματιζόμενοι (syschēmatizō). The word means “to form according to a pattern or mold, form/model after something...be formed like, be conformed to, be guided by.” (Arndt, et al. 2000, 979) The sense is allowing yourself to be assimilated by the world. Maybe we need to consider the world in the same light as the Borg from Star Trek. Something to be combatted against at all costs.

There is a thought though in that. If we allow ourselves to drift away from the Lord and once again become assimilated by the world, we will begin to lose our identity in Christ and once again, reflect the hive mind of the world system. When you run into someone who is running from the Lord, it is like they have lost their mind. What happened? But Paul would say yes, they have lost their mind.

Sin does that. The world does that. It wants to press us back into its mold and get us to compromise and accept their way of doing things. But in Christ, that simply is not possible anymore.

2 Timothy 2:24–26

“And the Lord’s slave must not engage in heated disputes but be kind toward all, an apt teacher, patient, correcting opponents with gentleness. **Perhaps God will grant them repentance and then knowledge of the truth and they will come to their senses and escape the devil’s trap where they are held captive to do his will.**” (NET 2nd ed.)

1 John 1:9.

“But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous, forgiving us our sins and cleansing us from all unrighteousness.” (NET 2nd ed.)

As soon as we confess and repent, we are back in fellowship and once again, Spirit enabled to make good decisions. Now we know better, before Jesus, we were ignorant of the fact we were dancing to the devil’s tune. But once we come to Christ, we now know better.

We have new life in Christ, we should live like it. We have set our minds on what our future looks like in Jesus and rather than conforming with the world, we are to conform with Jesus Christ. He is our King.

The phrase, what would Jesus do, is much more than just a slogan, it is to be our lifestyle. We are to conform to Him.

How do I do that? How do I become more like Jesus? Simple, spend time with Him, get to know Him and learn what He likes and doesn’t like. Our goal should be to perform to a very exclusive audience. An audience of one. Jesus is who we desire to please. Our goal, our desire in life should be to hear the following upon arrival at the throne.



Matthew 25:21

“His lord said to him, **Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.**” (NKJV)

Here is the thing, Jesus is holy, God is Holy and He has called us to be the same, Holy. “Believers are called to holiness. God’s will has always been that His children reflect His character. The goal of Christianity is not only heaven when we die, but Christlikeness now (cf. Rom. 8:29–30; 2 Cor. 7:1; Gal. 4:19; Eph. 1:4; 2:10; 1 Thess. 4:7; 5:23; 2 Thess. 2:13; Titus 2:14). Jesus’ task was not only remission of sin, but the restoration of the image of God in fallen mankind.” (Utley 2000, 222)

The culture would have us convinced that becoming a Christian is all about me. How can I have my best life right now? How can I experience material prosperity, right now? How can I have health, right now? There is no such thing as “what’s in it for me” Christianity.

Jesus was pretty clear on this.

Matthew 16:24–25

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will find it.” (CSB)

2 Timothy 3:12

“In fact, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” (CSB)

So much for the First Church of Me. You, know, where everything circles solely around you. The coffee is just right, the snacks, perfect. The gospel is watered down and there is no call for anyone to serve doing anything. The pastor is on a pager or speed dial ready to come over at a moments notice, and no one ever asks you to give a dime to the ministry. And church doesn’t start until late in the morning. Up front, there is a running scoreboard so you can keep up with the latest scores while listening to the music and the sermonette.

Yeah, we don’t do that here at Calvary Chapel.

As believers in Christ, we have the responsibility to prepare our minds for battle and to be holy. That means keeping short accounts with God, being obedient to Christ, and refusing to be assimilated by the world. We are to be holy and reflect the image of God to the world around us.

### **Warning!**

None of us will ever achieve absolute holiness here on planet earth in this body. When Peter quotes from Leviticus 19:2, he is reminding those who came from a Jewish background, for those who come from a gentile background, this is new information and something that they look forwards to as they become more like Jesus.

1 Peter 1:17–21

“If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.” (NASB 2020)



As believers and followers of Jesus Christ, we have a vital on-going relationship with the God of the universe, the Creator of everything. He calls us friends (John 15:15), we are adopted members of the family, brothers and sisters with Jesus Christ (Romans 8:12-17, Galatians 4:1-7) and joint heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17, Galatians 4:6, Ephesians 3:6). That is indeed all true, but it is also true that He is the Holy God.

We are His, and yes, we will indeed be Holy as He is at a point in the very near future. But as with all things, balance is required, even in this. We must not presume He will blink at our failures.

We have access into the throne room to take our petitions directly to the Father. He listens and He is indeed involved in our lives. But He is still God, and we must remember that.

When we gather on Sundays and spend time worshipping the Lord, we are indeed being led straight into the throne room and attributing worth and praise and honor to Him and Him alone. He is truly Holy, and it is all possible because of His grace. We had nothing to do with this, He did it all.

Ephesians 2:8–10

“For by grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so that no one can boast. For we are his creative work, having been created in Christ Jesus for good works that God prepared beforehand so we may do them.” (NET 2nd ed.)

Here in verse 17, Peter reminds us that as believers, we should also remember His character and His attributes and not allow our familiarity to become an excuse for evil. There is no such thing as cheap grace.

This consciousness of God’s being the Father of the Christians shows up in all of Paul’s opening greetings, as it does in 1 Pet. 1:2. But while it is an important truth in that it allows Christians to know they belong, it can be presumed upon, and therefore Peter couples it with a warning here, as John the Baptist did in Matt. 3:9. Their relationship will not bring them indulgent treatment in the final judgment. (Davids 1990, 70)

We are still, each of us, individually accountable to the Lord. We all have a job evaluation coming up, the Bema Seat of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10

**“For all of us must appear before Christ, to be judged by him. We will each receive what we deserve, according to everything we have done, good or bad, in our bodily life.”** (GNB)

Earlier, Peter reminded us that we needed to remain in the Lord and not allow ourselves to be sucked back into the world. If we do, then we are answerable for it to the Lord. We are saved, but this is a job review, what have we done with our lives since we were saved?

There are two events in the scriptures we need to remain acutely aware of as we look at this. The first is the story of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11), the other, King David.

Ananias and Sapphira were both believers there in the church in Jerusalem, but they both decided to be less than honest about a gift to the church alleging it was the total proceeds from the sale of a parcel of land, yet it wasn’t. That lie resulted in both going home to the Lord, immediately, as a lesson to the church. But Ken, they were both saved? Yes, they were.





We forget that God is holy and “God judges justified sinners. And if He judges us on earth, sometimes even to the point of physical death, it is certainly not difficult to believe that He will judge us in heaven for the way we lived here.” (Lutzer 2015, 11)

Then there is King David, a man after God’s own heart, but he blew it. He committed adultery, then murder. Yes, he did indeed repent, but God still judged him for his failure.

2 Samuel 12:13–14

“David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. **Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die.**”” (ESV)

Discipline here in this life is still a very real thing. We must never forget that.

Here is the thing we must remember, He “impartially judges according to each one’s work.” Yes, we are not under condemnation. Yes, we will enter heaven with the righteousness of Jesus Christ credited to our account and are indeed saved forever.

But—and this is important—we should not conclude that every Christian will do well at the judgment seat of Christ. We can suffer serious loss; many of us might stand in shame before Christ as we see our lives pass before us. It is not true, as some teach, that ten minutes after our personal confrontation with Christ our meeting will have little significance because all of us will essentially receive the same reward. What happens at the judgment seat can have permanent consequences. (Lutzer 2015, 12)

1 Corinthians 3:10–15

“Using the grace God gave me, I laid a foundation, like a skilled master-builder; and another man is building on it. But let each one be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Yeshua the Messiah. Some will use gold, silver or precious stones in building on this foundation; while others will use wood, grass or straw. But each one’s work will be shown for what it is; the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire—the fire will test the quality of each one’s work. If the work someone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward; if it is burned up, he will have to bear the loss: he will still escape with his life, but it will be like escaping through a fire.” (CJB)

God is not one to be trifled with or presumed upon. His judgment will be just and perfect. Yes, we are saved, but how have we lived since then. What is our motivation? Again, the battle takes place upstairs in the mind and we can lie to ourselves about the “why” we are doing anything.

I know I have accumulated quite a bit of wood hay and stubble over the years. There are things I have done that outside, looks to be for the Lord, but my motivation may not have been all that pure. I participated in a ministry while in Bible School, solely to get to know a girl I wanted to date.

Then there those times I wound up visiting visitors to church simply because I was guilted into it. We should serve the Lord from a heart of gratitude for what He has done for us, not simply because someone makes you feel guilty for not doing so.

Stupid reasons to do ministry? Yes, they were. They will burn up. Peter here is reminding us about the character of God and how we are not to be presuming upon that. We are to “conduct ourselves in fear during the time of our stay on earth.”



We are not from around here; we have a home in heaven. Our rewards and punishments that we receive here in this world, they are not important at all in the grand scheme of things. But what we received once we get home, that will make it all worth it. Again, I want to hear “well done good and faithful servant.”

1 Peter 1:18–21

“knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.” (NASB 2020)

As we remember how we were redeemed, then we should understand.

Most of us grew up and learned how to do life from our parents or grand parents. Peter though, quickly takes that idea apart when he compares it to what we have in Christ through redemption. Life without Jesus, no matter how it is lived, is futile and meaningless.

Since we have been redeemed, the past is no longer important. What is important is who paid the price for us and how that was done for us on the cross.

We have been redeemed, purchased, set free by someone else paying the ransom for us. The word Peter uses here is ἐλυτρώθητε (elutrōthete). The sacrificial death of Jesus is understood not only as a “valuable” form of ransom, but as an expression of that vicarious service of Jesus Christ, who brings to bear the “free-of-charge” character of the redemption by God in history. (Horst and Schneider 1990-, 366)

The redemption to which the author refers in this context is not so much from human sin or guilt as it is from a former way of life. (Achte-meier 1996, 127)

We have been set free from the path our upbringing set us upon. Not all of us grew up in homes where our parents knew and loved the Lord. Many of us instead were being trained and groomed to become the best pagans possible. But Jesus redeemed us from that life and changed the course for us.

The ransom price paid was His blood. We have been liberated from the chains of the sinful path we were on, by the blood of Jesus Christ. Peter was an eyewitness to that event, and it forever change him.

1 Peter 1:20–21

**“For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world**, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.” (NASB 2020)

For those who are still wondering about why let go of a lifestyle that was laid out by one's ancestors, Peter lets us know that this new life predates all of that and has roots deep in the past. Pre-creation. That Christ was known before the world's beginning suggests that God had designed this plan for redemption even before sin began (cf. 2 Tim. 1:9; Rev. 13:8). (Keener 2021, 108)

Redemption was planned even before the creation of the world. But it is now, in these last days, that it has been revealed. When Jesus went to the cross, “on that day, the Messiah officially paid the penalty for sin. The Greek word for times used here is the one from which we get our English word “chronology.” It refers to the successive eras of human history until the fullness of time came, when the redemption price was finally paid (Gal. 4:4; Heb. 1:1–2). Again he emphasizes that the Messiah came for their sake.” (Fruchtenbaum 1983, 13)



But that means God knew about the fall and what would happen in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3 before He ever created Lucifer, the universe, or anything else for that matter. Yes, it does indeed. “The Fall did not take God by surprise. He already knew what He would do in view of it, and Who would do it (“Christ ... was foreknown before the foundation of the world”). We have two good reasons why we can come to God: what Christ did for us (He redeemed us), and what God did for Christ (He raised Him and gave Him glory) for what Christ did for us.” (Constable 2003, 1 Pe 1:20)

Yes, Peter is telling us that God is omniscient and Jesus is God. What does it mean that God is omniscient? It is more than knowledge of everything.

“An omniscient being can only be capable of knowing what can be known by anyone—contradictions cannot be known, nor can false propositions be known as true, nor can what others’ internal sensations feel like to them be known by anyone else, nor can future indexical propositions be known before the future occurs. A divine being who is omniscient knows the informational content of every proposition and every experience that a being with God’s attributes can know. Since his attributes are all perfections, they do not likely preclude him from knowing something he should know as the maximally-great being.” (Feinberg 2001, 315)

As Peter puts it, our faith and hope are in God.

Through His sacrifice, the blood of Jesus we are believers in God. God is the one who raised Jesus from the dead. God is the one who gave Him the glory He is now enjoying as He sits at the right hand of the Father interceding for us.

So how about you? This salvation costs us nothing other than believing. In exchange, we receive eternal life and the promise of being evacuated before the Tribulation begins. That is rapidly becoming a really big deal.

Romans 3:21–24

“But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.” (NLT)

Romans 10:9–13

“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”” (NLT)

### **ABC’s of Salvation**

- A. Acknowledge that you are a sinner, tell Him that.
- B. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sin and that He rose from the dead.
- C. Confess that Jesus is Lord. Tell someone about what you have done.



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