

Step 1 - Victorious Christian Living.

You must be: **“Saved”**

Romans 10:9-10 – (9) That if thou confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart that God raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (10) For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

When I first read Romans 10:9 and 10 I thought God stuttered. Then I realized it was because I did not have an understanding of the difference between “Saved” and “Salvation”. If the two words mean the same thing then the two verses seem to be saying the same thing but if the two words mean different things then it makes sense what God is trying to say here.

Let me try to define the two words as I understand them:

Saved: Being “Saved” has to do with entering into a right standing with God and living with God in heaven forever.

Salvation: Has to do with appropriating into your life everything that Jesus Christ did for you on the cross. It is walking in the “Victory” that Jesus Christ provided while you are still here on this earth. I heard a preacher once say “Salvation, in the old testament, meant total victory over our enemy. In this case our enemy is “Satan” and the fact is we have total “Victory” over Satan while we are here on this earth. We just need to learn how to manifest the Victory Christ won for us on the cross into our lives.

In this writing I want to talk about being “Saved”. In order to do that you have to mention John 3:16 along with Romans 10:9 and we have to introduce the idea of “Obedience”. See being “Saved” is not based on “Sin” but rather it is based on “Obedience”. “Sin” is actually the results of “Adams Disobedience”. I mention this because people look at their actions, Sin, and try to determine if they are worthy of being “Saved” and entering into a “Relationship” with God. So most people look at themselves, their Sin, with the help of religious leaders, and try to determine if they are worthy. Let me help you with that, you are not worthy, no one will ever be worthy, stop trying to become something it is impossible for you to become. As long as you are in this world you will Sin and fall short of being worthy or as the bible puts it “Righteous”. Jesus Christ is the only “Righteous” one that ever walked this earth and he will be the only “Righteous” one to ever walk this earth that is why you must put on his “Righteousness”.

So let's look at a few scriptures and why obedience is the key to being “Saved” not “Sin”. Here are the two verses that best describe the process of being “Saved”:

John 3:16-17 - (16) 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. (17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Romans 10:9 – (9) That if thou confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart that God raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Let's introduce a third scripture about Obedience:

Romans 5:19-21 - (19) For by one's man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. (20) Moreover the law entered, that offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: (21) That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. We are looking at the idea of being "Saved" as an act of obedience. So lets look at what separated us from God:

Romans 5:19 - For by one's man's disobedience many were made sinners,. When Adam was disobedient and ate of the apple in the Garden of "Eden" we were made "sinners" which separated us from God. I hope we all can agree, based on this scripture, it was because of Adams disobedience that we are separated from God and it has nothing to do with our sin.

Now lets look at what always us to be reconciled with God. Part 2 of Romans 5:19:

Romans 5:19 - so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. When Jesus Christ went to the cross it was in obedience to what God asked him to do. It was the obedience of Jesus Christ that makes his "Righteous" available to us and if we accept what he did we are righteous in the eyes of God. So once again I hope we all can agree, based on this scripture, it was the obedience of Jesus Christ that allows us to be reunited with God and it has nothing to do with our sin.

Hopefully this makes sense, our separation from God was because of Adams disobedience, and our being able to be reunited to God has to do with the obedience of Jesus Christ. It truly has nothing to do with you, your sin, how nice you are, how mean you are, your good works, your bad works, it has nothing to do with your actions. It has to do with are you going to be obedient o God or not.

Let me explain. It would be nice if when Jesus Christ went to the cross it totally wiped out what Adam did but it did not. What it did was made the "Righteousness of Christ" available to all that believe. The choice is yours, if you are obedient, you will be saved, reunited with God and live in heaven forever. If you are disobedient, you will remain separated from God and live in hell forever.

"Obedient to what?" you ask. Well that is easy, let's bring back into play John 3:16 and Romans 10:9.

John 3:16-17 - *(16) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever beleiveth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* (17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; *but that the world through him might be saved.*

Romans 10:9 - *(9) That if thou confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart that God raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

Obedience – Your Part - It's really that simple – if you are "Obedient" to do what these scriptures above instruct you to do you will be "Saved", "Reunited with God", and spend eternity in heaven with your new father God.

Once you are "Saved" you are made "the Righteousness of Christ". Your "Sin" will never separate you from God because God only sees you from that day forward through the Blood of Christ. I'm Italian and the best way I can say it is "Once you receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior you are part of the family and once a part of the family always part of the Family, Amen"

Romans 5:21 - That as sin hath reigned unto death, *even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.*

In closing I just want to point out what is highlighted above in Romans 5:21. *That scripture has to do with your “Salvation” and how well you are going to live in the here and now. In the here and now “Your Sin” plays a big role in receiving the “Blessing of God”.*