

RIGHTEOUS LIVING

I am becoming more like Jesus everyday. Once we have received the holy spirit on the inside, our lives will change. The bible tells us that "...if any man be in Christ Jesus, he is a new creature: old things are passed away..... As new creatures our lives should point others to Christ. It is now our responsibility to live a clean life according to the bible as an example to others. In Matthew 5:13-16 Jesus tells his disciples...they are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. God is expecting for his sons and daughters to live like him. This is mission possible, with Christ in our lives we can live in this world and be free from sin. Romans 12:1-2, Matt.5:48, Jude 1:24 This comes lifestyle comes through praying (1 Thessalonians 5:17), fasting (Matthew 6:16-18), studying your Bible (1 Timothy 2:15) so that you may be able to daily live like Christ would have you to live and keep his commandments (John 14:15).

RAPTURE (CATCHING) AWAY OF THE SAINTS

We have a promise that if we follow the Master's plan, we will inherit eternal life with Christ. John 3:16. Jesus told his disciples in John 14:3, that he would go away to prepare a place and that he would come again and receive us. Jesus will return for his people, 1 Thess. 4:16-17, Heb. 9:28.



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BELIEF STATEMENT

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The Master's Plan

At Valley Overcomers we KNOW that Jesus is the Master Builder. Jesus divinely orchestrated the construction of his church by becoming the chief cornerstone (Ephesians 2:19-22). The cornerstone is the first stone that sets the model by which a building or in this case "the church" was established. Jesus created a blueprint/plan for the modern church. We believe by following the blueprint Jesus established we will be OVERCOMERS and inherit eternal life Revelation 21:7. To ensure our names are written in the book of life we must live life according to the Master's plan. Heaven is attainable, but remember we must do it like God said it.

FOUNDATION: The principles for how you live your life

The foundation for our lives should be Jesus Christ. Jesus said in Matthew 7:24-27 that "whosoever heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them is like a wiseman". The plan for our lives and how we make it to heaven was given by Jesus Christ in I Cor. 3:10-11 Paul. The only way to successfully build our lives is by Jesus Christ, any other actions are in vain Psalms 127:1.

FAITH

Belief in Jesus Christ and that he is the Son of the living God. He died for my sins and on the 3rd day he rose and is the all powerful living God. A life with Christ is impossible, if faith in Christ is absent, Hebrews 11:6. In order to believe (have faith) you have to know whom you are believing in. Jesus asked Peter in Matthew 16:16 Whom do men say that I am, Peter told him thou are the Christ son of the Living God. Peter also preached that neither is their salvation in any other name but the name of Jesus Acts 4:12. Our faith toward Jesus is required to receive anything the God's plan has in store for us James 1:6-7. Before you come to Jesus you must believe that Jesus Christ lived and that He is the Son of God. You must also believe that He is risen from the dead and is alive forever more. Believe is key to salvation because in Hebrews 11:6 it says, "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for He that cometh to God must believe that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." The Bible also says in Romans 10:9, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." In the story of Phillip and the eunuch (Acts 8: 29-39) after the eunuch heard Phillip preach to him about Jesus and the eunuch decided he wanted to be baptized, Phillip said to the eunuch, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he [the eunuch] answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

REPENTANCE

I have a change in my heart and mind about things that are God does not like. I have chosen to change my life and turn away from those things and live for God. Receiving Christ requires a change in our lives. God's plan for us is to live a life free of sin, which are the things that separate us from him as shown in Isaiah 59:2. In order to start a relationship with God we must have a change of heart and mind toward sin. In Acts 17:30 God commanded all men everywhere to repent. Peter also preached in Acts 2:38 that we should repent and be baptized. Galatians 5:19-21 tells us what we need to avoid to stay close to God. How we repent according to Matthew 3:8 is to bring gifts to show that we are ready to change our lives, these gifts are a change in heart and mind. To repent literally means to make a 180-degree turn from the direction you were headed. In 2 Corinthians 7:10 it says, "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." The sorrow of the world is being sorry when you get caught. Being godly sorrowful means to think about what you have done and how it made God feel. In other words, godly sorrow is being sorry because you hurt God. This is not repentance, but it leads to repentance. True repentance is more than tears or an emotion, it requires CHANGE. Repentance is giving up, literally turning around and doing the opposite of the wrong that you had done. Repentance is necessary to salvation and a prerequisite to baptism for the Bible says in Acts 2:38, "Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ." The key to repentance is not you keeping yourself from sin, but it's allowing and trusting God "who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless" (Jude 24). Perfection is not out of reach, it comes from God.

BAPTISM OF WATER

I have been baptized (fully immersed in water) for the remissions of my sins in Jesus Name. Baptism is required for the removal of sins from our lives. It is important to follow God's plan regarding baptism. Colossians 3:17 tells us that whatever we do in word or deed to do it all in the name of Jesus Christ. In Acts 10:43 Peter states that through his name (Jesus) whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. Jesus tells Nicodemus in St. John 3:5 that if a man is not born of the water and the spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. In Mark 16:16 the Bible says, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Acts 2:38 also commands baptism as does John 3:5 when it says, "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." The Bible also commands that "...whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." There is no instance in the Bible where someone was baptized saying, "In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost."

This is part of a command of Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19 where Jesus told his disciples to, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." As noted in Matthew 28:16, Jesus was talking to his eleven disciples. This number includes Peter, the same Peter who had the keys to the kingdom of God (Matthew 16:19) and the same Peter who commanded people to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ in Acts 2:38. Was Peter being disobedient? No, he understood that when Jesus said name, he did not say names so there was no plurality in his request and also understood there is salvation in no other name. The Bible says, "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead... Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among me, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:10,12). There are many instances in the Bible where people were baptized calling the name of Jesus, Acts 10:44-48, 19:1-6, 22:16, to name a few. Baptism is the "putting on of Christ" according to Galatians 3:27 and it is deemed the "answer of a good conscience toward God" in 1 Peter 3:21. Romans 6:1-6 compares baptism to a death to sin so that you are free from serving it any longer. Baptism is essential to salvation. The name of Jesus is

BAPTISM OF SPIRIT

I have received the gift of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues. In God's plan he wanted to put his spirit down in each one of us. It was important to God that we knew he would not leave us St. John 14:18. Jesus told his disciples that he would send the comforter which is the holy ghost in St. John 14:26. John 3:8 says, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whither it goeth: so is everyone that is born of the Spirit." Being born of the Spirit is when you receive the Spirit of God into you, the Holy Ghost. As this scripture shows there is always sound associated with the Holy Ghost that acts like wind. You can't tell where the wind stops or starts and you can't see it, but when it hits something you hear it and see its effects. The first time the Holy Ghost fell the people all began speaking in tongues (Acts 2:1- 4). Speaking in tongues happens when the Holy Ghost hits you and you begin speaking in a language that you have never learned. It is a sign that one has the Holy Ghost. Mark 16:16-17 says that those that are believed and baptized... "shall speak with new tongues". The Holy Ghost fell with tongues in Acts 10:44- 48 and again in Acts 19:1-6. Some would argue that tongues are one of the spiritual gifts spoken in 1 Corinthians 12, but in the same list of gifts are faith and healing, things every believer should demonstrate (Mark 16:16-17; Romans 12:3). The Holy Ghost when you have it comes into your heart (Galatians 4:6).