

What Do You Believe God Requires Of A Person To Enter Heaven?



Put another way, what does God require you to believe to enter heaven?

Consider the following in light of what God says in His Word—the Bible.

The Bible teaches that God exists.

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). “Know that the LORD, He is God! It is He who made us” (Psalms 100:3).

“Whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

Do you believe God exists?

**The Bible teaches that God is holy,
righteous, and just.**

“His work is perfect, for all His ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is He” (Deuteronomy 32:4). “God is a righteous judge” (Psalms 7:11). “The LORD of hosts is exalted in justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy in righteousness” (Isaiah 5:16). “Are you not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong...” (Habakkuk 1:12-13). “Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts” (Isaiah 6:3). “Just are you, O Holy One... Lord God the Almighty, true and just are your judgments!” (Revelation 16:6-7).

***Do you believe God is holy,
righteous, and just?***

The Bible teaches that everyone is a sinner, falling short of God's perfection.

“For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it” (James 2:10). “All wrongdoing is sin” (1 John 5:17). “Whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin” (James 4:17). “There is no one who does not sin” (1 Kings 8:46). “There is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins” (Ecclesiastes 7:20). “There is none righteous, no, not one” (Romans 3:10). “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). “For we all stumble [and offend] in many ways” (James 3:2). “If we say we have not sinned, we make Him [God] a liar” (1 John 1:10).

Do you believe you are a sinner, falling short of God's perfection?

The Bible teaches that there are consequences for sin.

“Your iniquities [sins] have made a separation between you and God” (Isaiah 59:2). God said, “The soul who sins shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4). “The wages of sin is death [spiritual separation from God]” (Romans 6:23). “Sin when it is fully grown brings forth death” (James 1:14-15). “It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). “Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire... and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever” (Revelation 20:10; 14-15).

Do you believe there are consequences for sin?

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is God.

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel [which means, God with us]” (Matthew 1:23). “God said to Moses, say this to the people of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you’” (Exodus 3:14). Jesus said, “For unless you believe that I AM you will die in your sins. Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM” (John 8:24; 58). Jesus said, “I and the Father are one” (John 10:30). “The LORD is the true God” (Jeremiah 10:10). “We know that the Son of God has come... His Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life” (1 John 5:20). “For in Him [Jesus Christ] the whole fullness of Deity dwells bodily” (Colossians 2:9). “Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’” (John 20:28-29). “Our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).

Do you believe Jesus Christ is God?

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is the only Savior and the only way to heaven.

“I am the LORD, and besides Me there is no Savior” (Isaiah 43:11). “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11). “We have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world” (1 John 4:14). “There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name [Jesus Christ] under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12). Jesus said, “I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6).

Do you believe Jesus Christ is the only Savior and the only way to heaven?

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sins.

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him [Jesus Christ] the iniquity of us all” (Isaiah 53:6). “Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3). “For our sake He [God] made Him [Christ] to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). “He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree” (1 Peter 2:24) “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God” (1 Peter 3:18).

Do you believe Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sins?

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is alive today.

“Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead” (Matthew 28:5-7). “We are witnesses ... They put Him to death by hanging Him on a tree, but God raised Him on the third day, [we] ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead” (Acts 10:39-41). “Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, He was buried, He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

***Do you believe Jesus Christ
is alive today?***

The Bible teaches that there is nothing you can do to earn your way into heaven.

“One is justified by faith apart from works of the law” (Romans 3:28). “A person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ” (Galatians 2:16). “He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy” (Titus 3:5). “For by grace you [are] saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9). “It is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace” (Romans 11:6).

Do you believe there is anything you can do to earn your way into heaven?

The Bible teaches that salvation is by faith alone in Christ alone.

“Jesus said to him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by Me” (John 14:6). “There is salvation in no other One; for there is no other name under Heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). “For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes [ongoing trust in, relying on] in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved” (Acts 16:31). “Jesus said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live.... Do you believe this?’” (John 11:25-26). “Without faith it is impossible to please Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

Do you, by faith alone, believe in Jesus Christ alone as your Lord and Savior?

The Bible teaches that you should repent of your sin and trust in Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, “Repent* [change your mind about whatever is keeping you from trusting Christ], and believe the Gospel [Christ died for our sins and arose again]” (Mark 1:15). God “commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a Man [Jesus Christ] whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead” (Acts 17:30-31). Jesus said, “unless you repent, you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3).

*Repentance is a change of heart and mind from self to Christ which leads to a change of behavior.

Do you believe you should repent of your sin and trust in Christ?

The Bible teaches that if you believe all these things, you give evidence that you have eternal life.

“He who believes [has ongoing trust and a desire to obey] in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides upon him” (John 3:36). Jesus said, “Whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life” (John 5:24) “I have written these things to you who believe on the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have everlasting life, and that you may believe on the name of the Son of God” (1 John 5:13).

If you truly believe all these things with a desire to obey God, you give evidence that you have eternal life!

The Bible teaches that those who believe in Jesus Christ are to be baptized and declare their faith to others.

The Ethiopian eunuch asked, “What prevents me from being baptized [public confession and identification with Christ]?” Philip answered, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” The Ethiopian answered, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God” (Acts 8:36-37).

“Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God” (1 John 4:15). Paul said, “I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16). If you truly believe these things, take a moment right now to confess your belief to God and others.

If you believe in Jesus Christ, are you willing to be baptized and declare these beliefs to God and others?

The Bible teaches that those who believe in Jesus Christ will be learning and living the teachings of God's Word.

“So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, ‘If you abide in my word [live in accordance to my teachings], you are truly my disciples’ (John 8:31); and “If you love me, you will keep [observe, practice] my commandments [precepts, teachings]” (John 14:15). “Whoever says ‘I know Him’ but does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps His word, in him truly the love of God is perfected [matured]. By this we may be sure that we are in Him: whoever says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked [and conducted Himself]” (1 John 2:4-6).

If you believe in Jesus Christ, will you now commit yourself to learning and living the teachings of God's Word?

When someone receives a very special gift, especially one that is not deserved, they are overwhelmed with appreciation. If you accepted God's Gift, Jesus Christ, by placing your trust in Him, it would be appropriate to express your thanks to Him. Why not take the time to express a prayer of thanks to Him now?

If you would like to discuss what is contained in this booklet, please contact:

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