

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Filling in the Gaps – Lesson 6
Christianity

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This study requires much reading in order to completely understand and answer all the questions correctly. When a passage of scripture is noted the student must stop, read the passage before continuing on in the study.

Our lesson begins in 2 Peter 1:1-4 Notice in the text that there is something to be obtained. This epistle is written to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. The grand object obtained by faith is God's righteousness. That is to be as right as God is right: to be as pure as God is pure: to be as holy as God is holy: to be as free from sin as God is free from sin.

Let us contrast for you Biblical Christianity with every religion or non-religion on the face of the earth. Biblical Christianity says that no one is good enough to earn heaven on their merits.

Good enough will vary depending upon the particular variety of religion. Long enough will vary depending upon the sincerity of the one seeking everlasting life. But whatever religion you want to investigate, it will teach that if you are good enough long enough God will give you a passing grade (as opposed to a failing grade) and you will have earned a place in heaven.

Biblical Christianity states that you must possess the absolute holiness, righteousness, unblemished purity of God Himself; or there is no eternal life for you. Our text says there are those who have multiplied peace (v. 2), promise of everlasting life (v. 3), escaped corruption (v. 4) because of His divine power hath given unto us. The passage says that what was given to these believers was God's own righteousness (v. 1). By grace they were given God's own purity, God's own perfection. God's own goodness.

The first verse tells us how they obtained this incredible gift. *Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith.* Religion says, "Believe in yourself and you will get to God." Religions demand ceremony, or sacrifice, or money, or a series of deeds. At the end of the day, who are you left to trust? Not God but yourself. On the other hand, the man, woman, boy, or girl who has not put their faith in themselves but in God, who boast not of their own righteousness but depend fully upon the righteousness of Jesus Christ, who have hope not in their merits but in the merits of Jesus Christ has imparted to them - such a one is reckoned as righteous by the Lord.

What is now called Christianity is just one more appeal to self-confidence. Just one more appeal to do the best that you can - and God will have to let you into heaven. Nothing could be further from the truth.

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The Holy Bible says we can have the precious promises of peace and life as God's gift if we will exercise proper faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

What about Jesus?

Many people believe in the little baby Jesus in a manger, dependent upon Mary held in her arms. Many people believe in the miracle-working Jesus. Others give a nod to the great teacher who set a noble example for mankind. Many people believe in the Jesus who died that awful cruel bloody death on a cross, falsely accused and misunderstood. Some even go so far as to believe that Jesus rose from the dead and returned to heaven in triumph. All these are true intellectual facts, while you must have the correct facts about Jesus Christ, an intellectual understanding of who Jesus is and what He did is a far cry from faith in the righteousness of God - given by and through the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Think with me. If Satan were here and had to tell the truth, he would say that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin in a manger at Bethlehem. He knows that. He is not saved. If you asked him if Jesus Christ always spoke the truth, if Jesus Christ worked miracles, if He walked on water, healed the sick and raised the dead, Satan would say. "Of course He did!" He cannot deny these facts. Jesus Christ died upon the cross and rose from the dead, Satan knows that. The devil knows that Jesus Christ sits at the right hand of God the Father enthroned as the resurrection and the life. All this knowledge gets you no closer to heaven than the devil himself. If you have the correct intellectual facts but have not yet put your faith in Jesus Christ the Lord you do not have eternal life. You have the necessary facts but not the necessary righteousness.

Read all of Romans 3:20-28, Verse 20 *Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.* It does not matter that you see yourself as better than others. In God's sight, nobody is good enough.

Verse 22 *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:* All have sinned and we are only justified by His grace, through His precious blood. Did you read Romans 3:20-28 very carefully? The Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, is one hundred percent righteous. He has never sinned. He will never sin. He is pure holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners (Hebrews 7:26). Compared to Him we are all sinners and come short of the glory of God. Do you see the difference between knowing all and believing all. You must understand that His righteousness is the only way.

If it is your intention to go to heaven when you die, there is only one way you must put your faith and trust in Him, then He will give you His righteousness. In Romans 3 When God looks upon the believer He sees him as righteous. It is not the believer's own righteousness but the very

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righteousness of God. Thus, when someone asks, "Are you going to heaven?" you say, "Yes!" because you are not trusting in yourself but you are trusting Jesus Christ.

This is why we preach repentance. Until a man repents, he can never agree with himself that there is no other way to heaven but Jesus Christ. Until a man abandons his self-confidence, his self-hope, his trust in his religion, he will never be saved. As unpopular as it is, we teach that there are NO other ways to get to heaven. We do that because many religions believe that by trusting their good deeds, baptisms, church membership is enough to make God happy tipping the balances in their favor to merit a place in heaven. All of which are just not true. Good deeds are nice, joining yourself to a body of believers to help in the work, giving money to the poor are all noble deeds, but even all that without trusting in the Saviour first, will only earn you a front row seat in Hell. Sadly when a man says the only way to heaven is Jesus Christ he is considered hateful and accused of condemning other people's religion. In fact, by saying there is no hope of gaining heaven apart from the righteousness of Jesus Christ, agreeing with the word of God, he is condemned by everyone else except God.

That is why people who say they are Christians, and who also say that people of other faiths can go to heaven, are testifying to the fact that they are not Christians. They may participate in some system of works labeled Christian, but they do not understand the righteousness and the salvation that is in Christ Jesus. Romans 10:1-3 *Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. Look carefully. They believe in God. They believe God gave the scriptures. They offer sacrifices to God. They go to the temple they built for God and worship Him there. They believe there are no other gods. They are zealous. What did they miss? Verse 3 says *For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.**

Behold Jesus Christ. He is God's righteousness. He is the only one who is fully righteous. Behold the entire human race. They have sinned and come short of the glory of God. They are not righteous.

Only the work of the Holy Spirit of God in the human heart can show a man that he is unrighteous, that he has sinned, that he has failed to measure up to the glory God requires for entrance into heaven. If the Holy Spirit can ever convince that man that he will never be good enough to make heaven on his merits, that man or woman will be left with but two options. One, he can reject the truth of the Bible and trust himself or his religion. Two, he can humbly accept his unworthiness and submit to the righteousness of God.

The man who comes to God owning himself a sinner and trusting the merits of the sinless Son of God will be pardoned by God and given eternal life, for

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the Lord will give him faith in Jesus Christ for absolute righteousness. (Galatians 3:22) The man who continues to trust in himself will die in his sins wakening in hell. This is why the greatest danger to the souls of men/women does not lie in vice or immorality, but in religion. The most damning of all religions is one mixed with humanistic self-love. Anything that reinforces man's false belief that he is good enough to earn eternal life pushes that man closer to damnation.

Review the simple steps of obtaining Eternal Life and a place in Heaven with God forever.

1. Repent – be willing to give up your sin and any preconceived ideas that there are other ways to get to heaven.
2. Believe that Jesus Christ died, that he was buried and that He rose again the third day.
3. Ask Jesus Christ to take away your sin and give you eternal life.
4. Thank Him, for He did what you asked.

Your faith is required to initiate what God has told you to do. Step 1

See there is no doing involved no works, no baptisms, no church membership; Eternal Life is predicated on you making a decision to do what God has told you to do.

You may of heard the term, "put your faith and trust in Jesus Christ" – between step 1 and 2 God gives you the faith of Jesus Christ. So the hardest step you must do is to be willing to repent, then God takes over. If you have ever rode a bicycle, you know that first push on the top pedal is the hardest, then when the bottom pedal come to the top, that second push is a lot easier.

The Bible says that Jesus Christ will supply the necessary and only acceptable righteousness to everyone that believes.

Luke 14:11 For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Notes

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Name _____

Note: must include scripture with all your answers, including the T/F.

1. Whose faith saves you?
2. What does religion teach outside of biblical Christianity?
3. What is the first thing you must do to have Eternal Life?
4. How do you obtain absolute holiness?
5. What happens after you humble yourself to God?
6. Define the righteousness of God?
7. How are those treated who teach the only way to Heaven is through Jesus Christ?
8. Why is Satan going to Hell and a Lake of Fire?

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9. In the life of a non-believer, what is the purpose of the Holy Spirit?

10. Explain the bicycle principal?

11. Why is it easier for Churches to preach self-love, than true biblical Christianity?

12. Why is intellectual Christianity not enough to please God?

13. Why did Jesus call the religious leaders of His time a generation of vipers?

14. What was the purpose of this lesson?

True/false

- Jesus Christ alone is the only way to go to heaven.
- Good deeds, kind acts, baptism, church memberships, will never tip the scales enough for God to allow you a place in Heaven.
- The steps of salvation begin with your decision to repent.

**Scripture memorization**

John 14:6; Luke 14:11; Acts 4:12

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

Any questions?