

## RECEIVING ENTERAL LIFE

However, Jesus Christ, the sinless ([1 Peter 2:22](#)), eternal Son of God became a man ([John 1:1,14](#)) and died to pay our penalty. "God demonstrates His love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Jesus Christ died for us" ([Romans 5:8](#)). Jesus Christ died on the cross ([John 19:31-42](#)), taking the punishment that we deserve ([2 Corinthians 5:21](#)). Three days later, He rose from the dead ([1 Corinthians 15:1-4](#)), proving His victory over sin and death. "In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" ([1 Peter 1:3](#)).

By faith, we must change our mind set regarding Jesus Christ - who He is, what He did, and why - for salvation ([Acts 3:19](#)). If we place our faith in Him, trusting His death on the cross to pay for our sins, we will be forgiven and receive the promise of eternal life in heaven. "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son so that anyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life" ([John 3:16](#)). "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" ([Romans 10:9](#)). Faith alone in the finished work of Christ on the cross is the only true path to eternal life! "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast" ([Ephesians 2:8-9](#)).

If you want to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, here is a sample prayer. Remember, saying this prayer or any other prayer will not save you. It is only trusting in Jesus Christ that can save you from sin. This prayer is simply, a way to express to your faith in Him and thank Him for providing for your salvation. Say this .....

"Lord Jesus, I know that I have sinned against you and ask for forgiveness. I believe that You died on the cross for me to remove the punishment for my sins. I confess with my mouth that You are the Lord and believe in my heart You were raised from the death and now You are sitting at the right hand of the Father. I accept You as my Lord and Saviour. I also believe that I am born again. Thank You for Your wonderful grace and forgiveness - the gift of eternal life! Thank You Jesus for accepting me today Amen.

Have you made a decision for Christ because of what you have read here? If so, please click on the "I have accepted Christ today" button below.

I have accepted Christ today

## ETERNAL LIFE

When the Bible speaks of eternal life, it refers to a gift of God that comes only “through Jesus Christ our Lord” ([Romans 6:23](#)). This gift is in contrast to the “death” that is the natural result of sin.

The gift of eternal life comes to those who believe in Jesus Christ, who is Himself “the resurrection and the life” ([John 11:25](#)). The fact that this life is “eternal” indicates that it is *perpetual* life—it goes on and on and on, with no end.

It is a mistake, however, to view eternal life as simply an unending progression of years. A common New Testament word for “eternal” is *aiónios*, which carries the idea of *quality* as well as *quantity*. In fact, eternal life is not really associated with “years” at all, as it is independent of time. Eternal life can function outside of and beyond time, as well as within time.

For this reason, eternal life can be thought of as something that Christians experience *now*. Believers don’t have to “wait” for eternal life, because it’s not something that starts when they die. Rather, eternal life begins the moment a person exercises faith in Christ. It is our current possession. [John 3:36](#) says, “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life.” Note that the believer “has” (present tense) this life (the verb is present tense in the Greek, too). We find similar present-tense constructions in [John 5:24](#) and [John 6:47](#). The focus of eternal life is not on our future, but on our current standing in Christ.

The Bible inextricably links eternal life with the Person of Jesus Christ. [John 17:3](#) is an important passage in this regard, as Jesus prays, “Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” Here, Jesus equates “eternal life” with a knowledge of God and of the Son. There is no knowledge of God without the Son, for it is through the Son that the Father reveals Himself to the elect ([John 17:6](#); [14:9](#)).

This life-giving knowledge of the Father and the Son is a true, personal knowledge, not just an academic awareness. There will be some on Judgment Day who had claimed to be followers of Christ but never really had a relationship with Him. To those false professors, Jesus will say, “I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!” ([Matthew 7:23](#)). The apostle Paul made it his goal to *know* the Lord, and he linked that knowledge to resurrection from the dead: “I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his

sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead” ([Philippians 3:10–11](#)).

In the [New Jerusalem](#), the apostle John sees a river flowing from “the throne of God and of the Lamb,” and “on each side of the river stood the [tree of life](#). . . . And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations” ([Revelation 22:1–2](#)). In Eden, we rebelled against God and were banished from the tree of life ([Genesis 3:24](#)). In the end, God graciously restores our access to the tree of life. This access is provided through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world ([John 1:29](#)).

Right now, every sinner is invited to know Christ and to receive eternal life: “Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life” ([Revelation 22:17](#)).

How can you [know that you have eternal life](#)? First of all, confess your sin before our holy God. Then accept God’s provision of a Savior on your behalf. “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” ([Romans 10:13](#)). Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for your sins, and He rose again the third day. Believe this good news; trust the Lord Jesus as your Savior, and you will be saved ([Acts 16:31](#); [Romans 10:9–10](#)).

John puts it so simply: “God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life” ([1 John 5:11–12](#)).