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Christ's Salvation

The keys to the kingdom of God

Steve Doku

Christ's Salvation

By Yaw Steve Lartey Doku

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Thanks be to God for seeing it fit to use me to propagate His good news. I want to also thank my overseers at church, my family, friends and loved ones who have all influenced me to make it possible to do this literature. Praise be to God!

1. Being born again

In Mark chapter 1 verse 14 to 15, the Holy Bible says in the New International Version (N.I.V) that 'After John was put in prison, Jesus [Christ] went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" '

In John 17:3, Jesus says: 'Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God [the Almighty God], and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.'

In John 14:6: Jesus answered, 'I am *the way* [the way that you and I have to live our lives just as He said to Satan: 'It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but on *every* word that comes from the mouth of God in Matthew 4:4.'] and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father [or God or the Almighty God] except through me.'

In 1 John 5:11, John says God has testified about His Son Jesus Christ that He God has given us eternal life and this life is in his Son Jesus Christ. *This is the good news or the gospel to us all* that God has given us eternal life in Jesus Christ and will wipe every tear from our eyes one day.

Therefore Romans 10:9 says that: 'If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.'

Beloved we can't live anyhow we like because 1 Peter 5:8 says: We should be alert and of sober mind because the enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring

lion looking for someone to devour. Also, Luke 17:1 says: 'Jesus said to His disciples: "Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come, but woe [or sorry] to anyone through whom they come... So we should watch ourselves."' '

God says in Isaiah 55: verse 1: 'Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.' Verses 3-5 says: 'Give ear and come to me; listen that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. See I have made him a witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of peoples. Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendour.' Verse 13: 'Instead of thornbush will grow the Juniper, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. *This will be the for LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign that will endure forever.*' This means God will turn our situations around if we come to Him and instead of strife, difficulties and hardships we will flourish if we are faithful to God and abide in Him and get closer to Him. This and many other good promises is what we get or benefit from when we come to Jesus Christ as Almighty God says in Isaiah 55:10-11: '....my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it [that is His promises to us in the Holy Bible].' Beloved, Jesus Christ died and rose again for us so that He can turn our lives around for good for us; so

we need to seek Jesus Christ and God all the days of our lives.

Romans 3:23: 'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.' 1 John 1:9-10 says: 'If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him [God] out to be a liar and his word is not in us.'

Jesus says in John 10:9: that, 'I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.'

In John 3:1-5 Jesus was telling Nicodemus a Pharisee that: 'Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.... -born of water and the [Holy] Spirit.' This means after we hear the word of God and decide to come to Jesus Christ, we get a Holy Bible to read and preserve and take very good care of it to find out about this good news. You can also find out and get an audio Bible to play and listen to and find a church that believes of the baptism in water that is by immersion because Jesus Christ Himself was baptised by immersion as the Holy Bible or the Bible says; and His disciples also baptised in Matthew 3:11, verse 15-16; Mark 1:8-11 and Acts 8:38-39 that those who were baptised '*came up out of the water*' which means they were embodied in the water and came out or was birthed by the water as Isaiah 26:19 explains what being birthed means.

A church that believes also of the Holy Spirit baptism and is Bible teaching and Holy Spirit led to go to and confess Jesus Christ as our Lord and personal savi-

our, then we need to attend the new converts classes or the discipleship classes where you will be taught the basics of Christianity and the tenets or believes or doctrine of the church. And as you learn from your Bible or Holy Bible, check if their believes and practises matches with what the Bible says.

After your new convert's classes you can request and be baptized in water. Then when you have been offered the right hand of fellowship, partake in the eating and drinking of the bread and wine which symbolizes the eating and the drinking of the body and blood of Jesus Christ [that is the communion] as Jesus says in John 6:53 that 'Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man [that is Jesus Christ] and drink his blood, you have no life in you.'

And become disciples of Jesus Christ in total humility and righteousness as Jesus again says in Matthew 18:3 that 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.' And in Matthew 5:20 that: unless our righteousness surpasses or exceeds that of hypocrisy we shall again not enter the kingdom of heaven.

We also have to ask Jesus Christ or God to baptize us with or give us His Holy Spirit. And at least read and meditate on 3 to 4 chapters of the Holy Bible a week. Read from both the Old and New Testament side by side together. I recommend the New International Version (N.I.V.) Holy Bible. And about lifting up holy hands, Exodus 17:11-12 says: 'As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and

put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up -one on one side, one on the other- so that his hands remained steady till sunset.' Therefore 2 Chronicles 6:12-13 says that: 'Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in front of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands.... He stood on the platform and knelt down before the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven.' But then, Paul the herald and true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles, says in 1 Timothy 2:8 that: 'Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.' Paul also let's us know in Romans 11:11-32 (N.I.V.) that: '...Verse 15: For if their rejection [Israel's rejection] brought *reconciliation* to the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?... Verse 25-26: I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved. As it is written.... Verse 28: As far as the gospel [or good news] is concerned, they are enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs,....'

Paul says in Colossians 2:16 that 'therefore do not let anyone judge you [therefore do not worry] about the Sabbath day, about what you eat or drink, or in regards to a religious festival or a New Moon Celebration. Because the guilt of such sin has been taken away, nailing it to the cross with Jesus Christ by God. Therefore this is what I think about the Sabbath: God said 'Remember or Observe the Sabbath day *by* keeping it holy (Exodus 20:8; Deuteronomy 5:12): '[In] Six days you shall *labour*

and do all your work, but [on] the seventh day is a sabbath [or rest] to the LORD your God. On it....' So I think it's about labouring or working for any six days and resting on the seventh but keep it a holy or sacred day for God, doing His will and pleasing and honouring or worshipping Him [God] even as you fellowship and interact with others and show love towards your neighbour and all and are holy to God. That means, not offend God. That is what Holiness means, not offending. That day becomes a holy and sacred day unto the Lord your God, the time to have time for God and rest.

Isaiah 5:12-13 says therefore my people will go into exile for lack of understanding because God's people had no regard for the deeds of the Lord, nor respect for the work of His hands; because they were not seeking God and His ways. Isaiah 27:11 says: '....For this is a people without understanding; so their maker has no compassion on them, and their Creator shows them no favour.' Job says in Job 28:28: "And he [God] said to the human race, 'The fear of the Lord -that is wisdom and to shun evil is understanding' " which means they were continuing in their sinful or evil ways and were not shunning evil. If we live in our own way, -in sin- God's favour or grace will be hard to rest on us because God hates sin. So He wants us to seek Him as He says in Jeremiah 5. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit desires the salvation of all as 1 Timothy 2:1-6 let's us know.

Acts 4:12 says: 'Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved' [except the name of Jesus Christ].

1 Thessalonians 5:9 also says: For (Because) God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. A new creation

Beloved one thing I have noticed in life and in Christianity is that, to be able to enter or make it into the kingdom of God or eternal life, one has to be a really good person seeking after and doing good things; who has repented of their sins and has come to Jesus Christ and looking up to God to help him do good and live a noble and a godly life. If you are that type of person, let God help you. Come to Jesus Christ! Because He can help you! Jesus says in Luke 13:24-25: "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' "

This is what the devil has done to us: we now have to overcome seven trials from the church of Laodicea in Revelation 3:14-22 where we have to truly repent and let Jesus Christ into our lives and clothe up and store up spiritual treasures in heaven; to the trials of the church of Ephesus in Revelation 2:1-7 before we are given the *right* to eat from the tree of life which was initially created free of charge for us to have and enjoy before the fall of man or humans.

Outside these rewards or scope is Hell or Perdition. And about life after death, Isaiah 66:24 says: 'And they will go out and look on the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; the worms that eat them will not die, the fire that burns them will not be quenched [the worms will continue recurringly to eat them likewise

the fire that burns them]; and they will be loathsome to all mankind.' 'there is no peace' says the Lord, 'for the wicked' -Isaiah 48:22. Just like in the story of Lazarus and the rich man in Luke 16:19-31, and please note that Jesus Christ said in the story, Abraham replied to the rich man being *tormented* in Hell or Hades, in the verse 31 that 'if they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced *even if someone rises from the dead*' as the story illustrates what happens after death. Jesus also said in Luke 20:37-38 that 'God is the God of the living, for to him all are alive' even though He has created the second death. Please repent because salvation means eternal life which according to God, is not and cannot be found in hell or perdition.

A voice told me one time clearly and audibly, I think it was God's voice that 'Satan and his demons were rebels in Adam's time.' So I advise do not rebel against God cos it can or will kill you.

When our forefathers Adam and Eve -the first humans God created- disobeyed God and ate from the forbidden tree -the tree of the knowledge of good and evil- their entire lives was plunged in darkness. Every ounce and minute part of them became evil. This means everything that came out and belonged to them, became evil. Unfortunately, this could not wear out through generations or by birth so God came down to us as Jesus Christ through birth by a virgin called Mary who conceived Him after God had chosen her and the Holy Spirit had implanted Him -Jesus Christ the Son of God- in her womb (Matthew 1:20). So consequently He also became sin even though He never sinned growing up in His whole life. His aim was to

bring His light into our dark situation so you and I can overcome sin and have eternal life and live forever.

So why did God come down as Jesus Christ to die for us? Jesus said in John 6:51 (N.I.V.) that: 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for *the life* of the world.' In John 6:53 Jesus says that: 'Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.' That is partake in the communion (which is the eating and drinking of the bread and wine which symbolizes the eating of the body and the drinking of the blood of Jesus Christ). He also goes on to say in John 6:56-57 that: 'Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.' John 15:5 Jesus says: 'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.' 2 Corinthians 5:17 Paul says: 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come [so we become a new creation]: The old has gone [the one God formed from the ground for our ancestors and forefathers, Adam and Eve], *the new is here!*' *We are fossilized.*

Therefore, however, taking the communion unworthily, pronounces judgement and grave consequences on that person as 1 Corinthians 11:23-34 says. So it means that we only gained death disobeying God and eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and bad. Again Paul says about the people of God before Jesus Christ came, in 1 Corinthians 10:3-5 that: 'They all

ate the same *spiritual* food and drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ [Exodus 32:33]. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.' So this is so that God can make us anew in His image, Christ Jesus and make a better covenant as Hebrews 8:6 says with us. We are also cleansed or sanctified with the blood of Jesus Christ as Hebrews 9:22 says, and we grow in God as Deuteronomy 6:25 says to build a righteous life for ourselves and as Jeremiah 3:22 indicates and tells. As He overcame the world and did the job that no one could do and completed and fulfilled the Law of God for us.

And so God promises in Psalm 50:23 that: 'Those who sacrifice thank offering honour me, and *to the blameless I will show my salvation.*' *Do not let Satan succeed at you! So in a nut shell, it doesn't pay to disobey God because He truly wants the best for us.*

Jesus said in John 5:22-23: 'Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgement to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.' My understanding of the relationship between children and the elderly or their own parents is that they should humble themselves before them and give or show them respect. Honour them just like they would honour God but you should not love them more than God; therefore disobeying God in preference to their parents or the elderly as the Holy Bible says in Exodus 20:12, Matthew 10:37 and for every elderly in Leviticus 19:32. Do not in other words let them make you sin against God but honour them.

A Voice said to John the baptist or Elijah; the man who was meant to prepare the way for Jesus Christ and reveal Jesus Christ to Israel "Cry out..." in Isaiah 40:6-8 only. Where the inverted comma or quotation mark closes or ends and as John himself testifies in Matthew 3, Mark 1:1-8, Luke 3:1-20 and John 1:19-34. Verses 9-14 of Isaiah 40: God says to Elijah through Isaiah , You who bring good news to Zion and Jerusalem, 'say to the towns of Judah, "*Here is your God!*" *See the Sovereign LORD comes with power,...*' It is you and I's duty to believe everything that God our maker says even as 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 also lets us know that: 'Now the Lord is the Spirit [that is the Holy Spirit], and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.'

Acts 4:33 says: 'With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all.' So the apostles' testimony was that Jesus came and existed in human form and died and rose again from the dead just as Jesus Christ Himself confirmed in Luke 24:36-53.

Christianity therefore is from the disciples of Jesus Christ when He sent them to all the world and from Jesus Christ and God Himself to us when He sent them to preach the good news or the gospel to us (Matthew 28:16-20). It is the commandments given to the Israelites in the Holy Bible we obey as Almighty God Himself told Abraham when Abraham asked God in Genesis 17:18-21 'If only Ishmael [the father of the Islamic peop-

le] might live under your blessing and God replied, 'Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.... *But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year.*' God promised Abraham in Genesis 15:13-14 that 'Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and they will be enslaved and mistreated there. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions (that is the Israelites in Egypt).' Therefore God tells Moses in Exodus 3:15 that: 'Say to the Israelites (then in Egypt), that 'The Lord, the God of their fathers -the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob- has sent me to you.' -this has hence become God's eternal name and the name by which we must call Almighty God from generation to generation. In John 4:22 Jesus therefore said to the Samaritan woman: 'You Samaritans worship what you *do not know*, we worship what we do know *for salvation is from the Jews*'. Later in that conversation between the Samaritan woman and Jesus Christ, in verses 25-26, Jesus revealed Himself as the Messiah [which means The Saviour of this condemned world. A messiah means a saviour]. Even in the Quoran in Surah 10:94, the angels attending Mohammed/Mohammad told him that 'If you O Mohammad are in doubt of the truth of these words, *ask those who read the scriptures before you.*'

John warns us in 1 John 2:18-25 that many other teachings that denies that Jesus is the Christ or the Messiah has gone out from them but they did not really belong to them or Christianity because they are lairs

and deny that Jesus is the Messiah and such a person is the antichrist –denying the Father and the Son. Ephesians 4:4-6 therefore says: ‘There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; *one Lord, one faith, one baptism*, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.’

One might also argue, but the Bible has many translations or interpretations. 1 John 4:1 says: ‘Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world [as God’s qualities are Holy and Righteous and Love].’ This is all part of what Jesus says about deception. But in cases that is genuine as I explain, often this is the case with translating from one language to another. How I interpret might be different from how you may interpret; but the main message or idea is preserved in all. Jesus also then says in Mark 4:24 that: we should therefore ‘consider carefully what we hear for [or because] *with the measure we use*, it will be measured to us –and even more.’ That is with the measure or standard we live and go about our lives, it will be measured back to us and even more. This is how I believe we find out about God’s ways. But I recommend the New International Version or the N.I.V. Holy Bible.

3. The keys to obeying God's commands

Jesus Christ told me when He took me to His judgement throne (as my testimony) to tell people that we will all come through or deal with the spirits of Death, Sexual Immorality and Satan. This means death or cowardice, sexual immorality and idolatry. One important experience or scene I had that I remember was that Jesus Christ actually told or asked me to literally come through Death, Sexual Immorality and Satan. And at that time I was confused and puzzled; bewildered. It didn't occur to me Jesus was offering me eternal life even though He was there to help. As I started to pass through Death, almost instantly, I forgot what I was meant to do or focus on just like the Bible says in 2 Corinthians 4:4 that "The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God" because I was a sinful Christian.

I began to lust after Death because I was inside it or was engulfed in it -Death. And I ended up in a conversation with it which after a while, I became afraid because I thought I was going to see human parts in it and it also told me that, in the conversation, it will show me some white people (it's people) but I should not touch one of them and it will meet me in prison. Later I decided to go and take my seat forgetting what Jesus had said to me.

I thought I was on a wild escapade or adventure at that time even though Jesus actually said "this is how it is like..." Which coming to think about it or analyse it, by the much grace of God, have seen that, 'that is how