

THE WHY AND HOW OF BEING SAVED

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INTRODUCTION:

DEUTERONOMY 30:19 (NLT) God created us free will moral agents that will never cease to exist. Because of our free will, He gives us a period of time on earth to prove to Him how we will use it. Our primary purpose is to choose between life and death, good and evil. Our main concern should be to determine where we want to spend our eternal living. Why? Because once we enter eternity, we're there eternally. According to Jesus, we can choose eternal comfort or eternal torture. **LUKE 16:22-25** God made it possible for us to spend our eternity with Him, but He won't force us to do so. That's up to us to decide. Today's message will focus on the why and how of being saved. The goal is to inspire us to choose life.

WHY?

1. Three reasons why being saved is necessary.
 - A. In Adam, everyone dies spiritually. **ROMANS 5:12 (NCV)** If we weren't spiritually dead, we wouldn't need saved. **ACTS 4:12** "Must" means it's necessary, vital or required. **JOHN 3:7, ACTS 16:30-31** There are things we could do, should do and must do. Being saved is a must.
 - B. We can't save ourselves. **MATTHEW 19:25-26** No amount of human works, morality, or religious activity can save. Keeping the Jewish law can't save us. **GALATIANS 3:11 (NLT)** Nothing we do can change the course of destruction we are on as human beings. **PROVERBS 16:25** It's impossible to save ourselves, and every attempt to do so leads to death.
 - C. Our creator made a way for us to be saved. **JOHN 3:16** God wouldn't provide what we don't need. Why provide an incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension and a coronation if it wasn't necessary? Being saved comes at a great price. **1 PETER 1:18-19 (NLT)**

HOW?

1. How can one be saved? **JOHN 1:29**
 - A. Apart from Christ, no one can be saved. **JOHN 10:9, 14:6, 1 TIMOTHY 2:5, REVELATION 5:6-10**
 - B. Only Christ can bridge the gap between a Holy God and sinful man. **ROMANS 4:25 (NLT), 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21, and 1 PETER 3:18 (HCSB)**
 - C. The only way to be saved is by grace through faith. **EPHESIANS 2:8-9** Our faith is in what Christ did for us, not what we can do for ourselves. **ACTS 4:12** Only the Name of Jesus saves.
 - **JOHN 1:11-12** We must receive Him.
 - **ROMANS 10:8-13** We must believe God raised Him from the dead, confess Him as Lord, and call upon His name.
 - **ACTS 2:38** We must repent, or have a change of mind.

CONCLUSION:

We need saved because of what Adam did. In Adam, the entire world is on a crash course with eternal torture. There's nothing we can do to escape it on our own. God made a way of escape for everyone in Christ. By calling upon His Name, one can become a new creation and be saved. **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**