

# **Gospel Chain of Salvation**

- **God's Side of Salvation** – Grace, Blood, and the Gospel
- **Man's Response to God** – Faith, Repentance, Confession
- **Entering Into Christ** – Baptism and New Life
- **Living the Saved Life** – Works, Hope, Endurance

The Scriptures make a simple, but profound claim:

- God, “according as His divine power, hath **GIVEN unto us ALL things**, that **Pertain** unto life and godliness, through the Knowledge of Him, that hath **Called** us, to glory and virtue.” ([2Pet.1:3](#)).

Salvation, therefore, is not guesswork.

It is not shaped by human theories, church traditions, or modern religious philosophies ([Col.2:8](#)).

It rests entirely, upon the revealed Word of God,

- Where, “**the sum** (or totality) **of Thy Word is truth**” ([Psa.119:160](#)).

Because “**All scripture is given by inspiration of God...**” ([2Tim.3:16–17](#)), every instruction God gives regarding salvation, is essential—NONE can be added, altered, or removed ([Prov.30:6](#); [Deut.4:2](#); [Rev.22:18-19](#)).

Many today teach Grace alone, the Blood alone, Faith alone, Confession alone, Works alone or Baptism alone, but the Bible affirms, that NO single command stands alone, and NO single truth saves, apart from the others.

**God’s plan is a complete and unified, interconnected gospel chain.**

Remove one link, and the entire chain becomes inoperative.

Simply put, the **Gospel Chain of Salvation**, cannot be re-forged by man ([Gal.1:8-9](#); [2Pet.3:16](#)).

Throughout Scripture, God shows that **His blessings**,

always **Follow** obedience, in the **Order** He reveals—**NOT** before, and **NOT** apart from it.

- Noah found grace, yet still had to “**do all that God commanded him**” ([Gen.6:8](#); [Gen.6:22](#))
- Israel received a promise, yet Jericho fell only after the seventh day ([Joshua ch.6](#); [Heb.11:30](#))
- Naaman heard God’s word, yet was cleansed only after dipping the seventh time ([2Kngs.5:1-14](#)).

In every age, **God’s Pattern** is the same:

- **Divine Instruction**, followed by human Obedience, resulting in Divine Blessing.

**So it is, with Salvation.** God has forged every link in the gospel chain.

- Grace Provides.
- The Blood Purchases.
- The Gospel Proclaims.
- Faith Responds.
- Repentance Turns.
- Confession Acknowledges.
- Baptism Unites.
- Works Demonstrate.
- Hope Anchors.
- And Endurance Completes.

**Which** of these, can be removed?

**Which** may, be ignored or replaced?

**Which** command, can be denied, without destroying the Gospel Chain, that God Himself constructed?

This lesson looks carefully and reverently, at each link in the **Gospel Chain of Salvation**—

- **God’s Side,**
- **Man’s Response,**
- **Entering Into Christ,**
- **and Living Faithfully unto Eternal Life,**

So that every heart may hear, understand, and submit to the whole or “**all the counsel of God**” ([Acts 20:27](#)),

As it is the “**Sacred Writings, which are able to make thee wise unto Salvation...**” ([2Tim.3:15](#)).

May we approach this study with honesty, humility, and a sincere desire to receive every word, God has spoken. Let's begin where the Bible begins—with...

## I. God's Side of Salvation – (Grace, Blood, and the Gospel)

Before considering any individual gospel link, we must remember that salvation begins with God Himself. Scripture says He is 'the Savior of all men' ([1Tim.4:10](#)). His love ([Jn.3:16](#)), His mercy ([Titus 3:5](#)), and His eternal purpose ([2Tim.1:9](#)), all stand behind every blessing, in the **Gospel Chain of Salvation**. Every gospel link exists, because God first willed, that man be saved ([1Tim.2:3-4](#); [2Pet.3:9](#)).

Before we consider man's response, Scripture begins by showing us what God has done. So, let's first look at the foundation He laid,

### A. The Grace of God, that Makes Salvation Possible

Grace is the beginning of salvation.

Without it, no sinner could ever hope, to stand before God.

- "For by **Grace** are ye saved through faith; and that **NOT** of yourselves: it is the **Gift of God**." ([Eph.2:8](#))

Explanation:

- **Grace** is God giving what we need, and not what we deserve.
- Yet Scripture teaches, that **Grace** must be received, accepted, and obeyed ([Acts 20:24](#); [2Cor.6:1](#); [Heb.12:15](#); [2Thess.1:7-9](#))—as Noah did when he followed God's commands ([Gen.6:8,22](#)).

The Bible says,

- "For the **Grace of God**, that bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men, **Teaching** us that, denying ungodliness and (denying) worldly lusts, we should **Live** soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." ([Titus 2:11-12](#))

Explanation:

- Grace not only saves—it instructs.
- True grace, transforms the life of the believer.

Intertwined with God's grace is His mercy, for the Scriptures say,

- "According to His mercy, He saved us" ([Titus 3:5](#)).

Grace forms the first link, in the **Gospel Chain of Salvation**.

Without this opening link, no other link could exist.

**Grace** does not cancel obedience; **Grace** makes salvation possible, and **Obedience** is how we accept it. **Grace** never eliminates obedience; it **Invites** and **Requires** it ([Rom.6:1-2](#)).

...And that grace, was revealed through a price paid—a sacrifice beyond measure.

### B. The Blood of Christ

The blood of Jesus, is at the center of every saving blessing.

- "...Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins, in His own blood." ([Rev.1:5](#))

Explanation:

- Forgiveness, redemption, cleansing—all flow from the sacrificial death of Christ ([Eph.1:7](#); [1Pet.1:18-20](#)).
- Without His blood, the gospel chain collapses.

The Bible says,

- “...**how much more shall the blood of Christ...**  
**purge your conscience from dead works, to serve the living God?**” ([Heb.9:14](#))

Explanation:

- Christ’s blood not only removes sin—it purifies the conscience for holy living.

The gospel chain holds, because the blood of Christ holds, the entire redemptive plan together.

- **Grace** provided the gift, and **Christ’s blood** paid its price.

And not only are we redeemed by His death, but we are saved by His life,

- for He now “**ever lives to make intercession**” for His people ([Rom.5:10](#); [Heb.7:25](#)).

But how does God deliver this grace and make the blood effective in our lives?

Through...

## C. The Gospel of Christ

The gospel is God’s chosen means to call, instruct, convict, and save.

Paul said,

- “**For I am NOT ashamed**, of the **Gospel of Christ**: for it is the **Power of God** unto salvation...” ([Rom.1:16](#))

Explanation:

- The gospel is the story (or record) of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ ([1Cor.15:1–4](#)).
- It saves, and it will judge all men ([Rom.2:16](#)).
- Grace and gospel are always bound together ([Acts 20:24](#)).

Paul said,

- The Word, “**effectually worketh also, in you that believe.**” ([1Thess.2:13](#))

Explanation:

- The gospel is not a mere message—it is God’s active power, working within obedient hearts.

The gospel joins God’s grace and Christ’s blood, forming a complete, unbreakable beginning to the chain. Salvation begins with God.

- **His grace:** provides; **His Son’s blood:** purchases; and **His gospel:** proclaims the path

The **Holy Spirit** also plays a saving role, for He convicts, renews,

and revealed the **Gospel** itself, through inspired men ([Jn.16:8](#); [Titus 3:5](#); [2Pet.1:21](#)).

Now we turn to...

## II. Man’s Response to God – (Faith, Repentance, Confession)

With God’s foundation laid, the question becomes: **How must we respond to His love?**

### A. Faith IN Christ Jesus

Faith is more than belief; it is trust, grounded in hearing God’s Word.

- “**So then Faith cometh by hearing, and Hearing by the word of God.**” ([Rom.10:17](#))

Explanation:

- Faith is essential, as “**without Faith, it is impossible to please Him**: for he that cometh to God **Must Believe** that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them, that diligently seek Him” ([Heb.11:6](#))
- Jesus said, “**ye shall die in your sins: for if ye Believe not, that I AM**” ([Jn.8:24](#); [Ex.3:13-14](#))
- **Faith changes**, conviction, affection, and loyalty.

- Jesus said, “...these are written, that ye might believe...” ([Jn.20:30-31](#))

Explanation:

- Faith is grounded in written evidence—NOT emotion or tradition.

Faith is the sinner’s first grasp of the gospel chain—reaching toward the salvation God provides.  
Faith is the doorway to obedience, but not the end of obedience.

From faith, flows the next crucial response:

## B. Repentance

Repentance is a change of mind, that leads to a change of life (read and study [Matt.21:28–30](#)).  
It begins with godly sorrow— the sincere grief produced, when a heart is convicted by God’s Word.

- “For **godly Sorrow** worketh Repentance, to salvation, not to be repented of...” ([2Cor.7:10](#))

Jesus said plainly,

- “Except ye Repent, ye shall all likewise Perish.” ([Lk.13:3](#))

Explanation:

- Scripture illustrates repentance clearly ([Matt.21:28–30](#)).
- It requires turning away from sin—NOT continuing in it.
- **Godly Sorrow**, produces the desire to change; Repentance puts that desire into action.

The Bible says that we...

- “...**should REPENT and Turn to God, and do works meet for Repentance.**” ([Acts 26:20](#))

Explanation:

- Repentance restructures the life; it produces actions, consistent with a changed heart.

Examples:

- “**Let him that stole, steal No more**” ([Eph.4:28](#));
- “**Go and sin No more**” ([Jn.8:11](#)).

Repentance strengthens the gospel chain, by turning the heart, in the direction of God’s will.  
No one becomes a new creature, while remaining or continuing in the same sinful life.  
Repentance precedes renewal (or a changed life).

After faith and repentance, the Bible gives the next response...

## C. Confession of the Lord

Confession acknowledges Christ, openly and willingly.

- “...**with the mouth Confession is made unto salvation.**” ([Rom.10:9-10](#))

Explanation:

- **Confession Begins** before baptism ([Acts 8:37](#)) and **Continues** for Life ([Matt.10:32–33](#)).
- **Confession** is not a single statement; it is a Lifelong Allegiance.

As we consider these **Responses**—faith, repentance, and confession,  
we must **Remember**, that God revealed them, in a **Divine Order**.

- **Faith** leads the sinner, to **Repentance**;
- **Repentance** prepares the heart, for **Confession**;
- and **Confession** looks forward, to **Entering Christ IN Baptism**.

Salvation cannot occur, when God’s order is altered, shortened, or rearranged.

Each response, builds upon the previous one, forming a chain of obedience, that honors God’s revealed will.

The Scriptures now reveal the moment of...

### III. Entering INTO Christ – (Baptism and New Life)

Obedience now moves, from belief **To Action**—from hearing **To Entering**, the very body of Christ.

#### A. Baptism: The Entry Point INTO Christ

Baptism is NOT the end of obedience;

It is the moment, God **Forgives** sins and **Adds** the believer to Christ.

- “**For as many of you, as have been Baptized INTO Christ, have Put ON Christ.**” ([Gal.3:27](#))

Explanation:

- Only baptism puts one INTO Christ ([Rom.6:3–4](#)).
- It is the moment, sins are washed away ([Acts 22:16](#)), the new birth begins ([Jn.3:5](#)), and salvation is granted ([1Pet.3:21](#); [Mk.16:16](#)).

Even Jesus Himself entered the waters of baptism to “**fulfill all righteousness**” ([Matt. 3:15](#)), showing that baptism is not optional for sinners, when even the sinless Son would not begin His work without it.

- The Bible says, “**...Buried with Him IN Baptism, wherein also ye are Risen with Him, through the Faith of the operation of God...**” ([Col.2:12-13](#))

Explanation:

- In baptism, God’s power acts—raising the sinner, to new spiritual life.

Baptism is the gospel link, where God joins the obedient believer to Christ—where the gospel chain becomes personally applied.

Baptism is NOT optional.

It is the God-given point of transition, from lost **To Saved**.

With baptism complete, the believer is...

#### B. Raised to Walk in Newness of Life

Baptism unites us, with Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection.

- “**...even so we also, should walk in newness of life.**” ([Rom.6:4](#))

Explanation:

- Christ died, was buried, and rose again.
- Baptism is the God-ordained likeness, of that saving pattern, producing a new spiritual life.

- The Bible says, “**Put off the old man... and put on the new man...**” ([Eph.4:22-24](#))

Explanation:

- New life requires daily renewal—laying aside the old, and embracing the character of Christ.

If baptism is the moment where,

- sins are washed away ([Acts 22:16](#)),
- where God grants new birth ([Jn.3:5](#); [Titus 3:5](#)),
- where the believer puts on Christ ([Gal.3:27](#)),
- and where one is united with His death, burial, and resurrection ([Rom.6:3-5](#); [Col.2:12-13](#))

—then outside of baptism, none of these blessings exist ([Eph.1:3](#)).

Salvation cannot be found outside the moment, God Himself appointed, for cleansing and union with Christ.

Now we look at, how the saved remain faithful, until the end.

## IV. Living the Saved Life – (Works, Hope, Endurance)

And once we rise to walk in newness of life, we must continue, in the things God has revealed, through...

### A. Works of Righteousness

The Bible says we are to be,

- “A **PATTERN** of good **WORKS**” ([Titus 2:7](#))
- “**ZEALOUS** of good **WORKS**” ([Titus 2:14](#))
- “**READY** to every good **WORK**” ([Titus 3:1](#))
- “**CAREFUL** to **MAINTAIN** good **WORKS**” ([Titus 3:8](#) & [14](#))

We are not saved by works alone—but we are saved unto works.

- “For we are His **Workmanship**... unto good works...” ([Eph.2:10](#))

Explanation:

- “Ye see then, how that by **WORKS** a man is justified, and **NOT** by faith **ONLY**.” ([Jas.2:24](#))
- The Bible says, we will be “judged, ...according to our **WORKS**” ([Rev.20:12](#); [2Cor.5:10](#)).

So, we better have the right kind of works, if we are to be JUDGED by them.

And those works, are the WORKS of God, the WORKS of righteousness, and NOT of men.

- “he that **Faureth Him**, and **WORKETH** righteousness, is **ACCEPTED** with Him.” ([Acts 10:35](#))

Obedience is not legalism—it is love demonstrated.

These works, spring from a confident expectation in God’s promises ([Heb.11:1](#)).

### B. Hope and Endurance

Hope sustains the believer; Endurance carries him home.

- “We are saved by HOPE...” ([Rom.8:24](#))
- “being Justified by His Grace,  
we should be **Made HEIRS**, according to the HOPE of eternal life.” ([Titus 3:7](#); [Titus 1:2](#))
- “HOPE to the end,  
for the Grace that is to be brought unto you, at the revelation of Jesus Christ” ([1Pet.1:13](#); [Rom.15:13](#))

Explanation:

- Hope anchors the soul ([Heb.6:19](#)).
- Endurance is required for salvation ([Matt.10:22](#)).
- Christians must remain steadfast, growing, and faithful ([2Pet.1:4–10](#)).

**These qualities guard the heart from drifting, and keep the Christian anchored IN Christ.**

The Bible says,

- “Cast not away therefore your confidence... ye have need of patience...” ([Heb.10:35-36](#))

Explanation:

- Endurance is strengthened, by confidence in God’s promise.

These final links, show how the gospel chain remains strong, from the moment of salvation, until eternal life.

**Hope** looks upward, **Endurance** looks forward, and both keep the Christian Unmovable.

The saved must **Continue**: working, hoping, and enduring;

Because **Salvation**, is not a single moment, but a **Lifelong Walk**.

## V. Closing Thoughts

The Scriptures declare that

- God's grace **SAVES** ([Eph. 2:8](#); [Acts 15:11](#))
- The blood of Christ **SAVES** ([Eph. 1:7](#); [1Pet. 1:18-20](#); [Rev. 1:5](#)).
- The gospel **SAVES** ([Rom. 1:16](#); [1Cor. 15:1-2](#); [Jas. 1:21](#); [2Thess. 2:14](#)).
- Faith **SAVES** ([Acts 16:31](#); [Jn. 8:24](#); [Heb. 11:6](#)).
- Godly sorrow + Repentance **SAVES** ([2Cor. 7:10](#); [Lk. 13:3](#); [Acts 11:18](#); [Acts 17:30](#)).
- Confession **SAVES** ([Matt. 10:32-33](#); [Rom. 10:9-10](#); [Acts 8:37](#)).
- Baptism **SAVES** ([1Pet. 3:21](#); [Mk. 16:16](#); [Acts 2:38](#)).
- Works of Righteousness is **ACCEPTED** ([Acts 10:35](#)), which will be judged ([Rev. 20:12](#); [Rev. 22:12](#); [2Cor. 5:10](#); [Jas. 2:24](#)).
- Hope **SAVES** ([Rom. 8:24](#)).
- Endurance **SAVES** ([Matt. 10:22](#); [Rev. 2:10](#)).

**Which** of these gospel links, can we remove? **Which**, may we ignore or replace?

Alter or Remove any one of them, and the gospel chain God constructed, cannot save.

God has revealed every step, and Christ has fulfilled every promise.

Nothing stands between us and salvation, except the **Choice** to obey His call.

All of the gospel links are ready; Christ has forged the gospel chain.

The only missing gospel link, **is our Response** (yours and mine).

Source: Adapted from a Sermon by Johnny Ramsey  
Other credits: Gordon J. Pennock [1957 - <https://www.truthmagazine.com/archives/volume1/TM001082.htm>]  
Edited & formatted by Michael Wright