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## Accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

To all the seed of God the Father, the generation of Jesus Christ, begotten of the incorruptible seed of life which is the word of God, greeting.

To our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ be honour and glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

In these last days, almost 2,000 years after the last writings of the new testament of the Holy Bible were completed, and almost 1,700 years after "the great whore that sitteth upon many waters" (Rev.17:1) began to implement the guise of the Roman Catholic Church; the true bride of Christ, having been all but extinguished in the millennium of obscure darkness which we still refer to as "the dark ages" (c.500-1,500 A.D.), has been, for about the last five centuries, undergoing a "coming out" or "purging" process, which the Holy Ghost calls cleansing her, "with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it (the church, his bride) to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing: but that it should be holy and without blemish." (Eph. 5:26,27)

The same seed from which we were begotten is also the very cleansing fountain which cleans and sanctifies us more and more unto the perfect day (Prov.13:14, John 15:3, 17:17, Prov.4:18). And those who are truly engendered of it will have hearts filled with it (Prov.4:20,21), and mouths speaking it (Matt.12:34,35, 1 Peter 4:11), as well as a conversation which manifests it.

The declaration of the apostle Peter, "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...", cries out the same message as the writing of Jude, "...that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." (v.3). The nature of this present battle is that of the spirit; and the offensive weapon with which we have been equipped is, "...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." (Eph. 6:17), to the intent that we might be found, "...casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God..." (2 Cor.10:5).

The reason that I write this epistle, in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ, and for the edifying of his body, the church, is to better arm all the saints of the living God against a particular heresy which is most pernicious: it is a Jesuit weapon proceeding from the great whore herself, the Roman Catholic Church, and, especially over the past century, has been readily adopted by all of her daughters (for she is truly the MOTHER OF HARLOTS—Rev.17:5); which daughters are known today as the protestant denominations: all of which proclaim to have been liberated from her, but still remain polluted with the filth of her doctrines and abominable practices.

This particular poisonous doctrine is an assault at the very foundation of the faith of our blessed Lord Jesus Christ. It is a concept which is neither mentioned nor inferred anywhere in the scripture, and yet is as readily spoken by most professing Christians as the very name of our blessed Lord Jesus Christ, as though it was the word of God, and the foundation of the gospel: which many believe it to be.

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What is it, you ask? It is the very root of a false gospel (which is no gospel) which beckons lost sinners to, "*accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour*", or, "*accept Jesus Christ into your heart*", accompanied by the false lying promise that when these lost sinners perform this pretend ritual, they have become Christians: covered by the blood of Jesus, and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and ready for heaven at that very moment.

But the truth is, that those words, or that "gospel", are found NOWHERE in the Bible, and that they are still lost in their sins, without the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ, or the power of his Spirit: and in fact they are worse off in this state than they were previously, because now they are not looking for salvation, because their lying preachers have told them that they already have it. And when they begin to wonder why they have no power to live holy and overcome sin, these same lying preachers pump them up with their "faith" teachings, with great swelling words of vanity, through the lusts of the flesh and much wantonness, which drive these poor lost souls ever deeper into the mire of religious deception.

Those to whom this epistle is addressed are established in the faith and know that New Testament salvation, which began to be preached by the mouth of Simon Peter on the day of Pentecost, 33 A.D., is entered into by the born again, repentant believer through baptism in the name of Jesus Christ and the receiving of the Holy Ghost. Those who are born of the incorruptible seed of the word of God know that the blood of Jesus Christ was shed for the remission of sins (Matt. 26:28, Rom. 3:25, Eph. 1:7, Col. 1:14), and that the only way since the New Testament church was born for any person to receive remission of sins, is to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 24:47, Acts 2:38, 22:16, 1 Cor. 6:11, Col. 2:11,12, etc...). We know also from the testimony of scripture that the baptism of the Holy Ghost is the seal of God, the earnest of our inheritance (Eph. 1:13,14), the power of the resurrection (Rom. 6:4,5, Col.2:12), and is always and without exception manifested by the recipient speaking in other tongues and prophesying (Mark 16:17, Acts 2:1-4,18, 10:44-46, 19:6, etc...).

This is the Biblical birth of water and Spirit (John 3:5); and as it is written, "...there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one." (1 John 5:8).

Much of the problem, which leads many in the churches to embrace the false gospel of "accepting Jesus Christ", is the lack of understanding of the new birth.

The "*accept Jesus Christ*" false gospel teaches that the Holy Spirit convicts the sinner of his sinfulness, and that the sinner becomes "born again" by the ritual of saying a "*sinner's prayer*" and "*accepting Jesus Christ into his heart*".

But the Bible teaches that it is the word of God which convicts the sinner of his sinfulness (Neh. 8:9, Rom.7:7-13, 1 Cor.15:56); and that it is also the word of God which quickens the sinner, or causes him to become born again (Psalm 19:7, 119:50, Luke 8:11, James 1:18, 1 Peter 1:23);and that this miracle is not the work of the will of man, but of God (John 1:12,13, 6:65, Rom.9:16).

Our Lord himself taught, during his discourse with Nicodemus, that, "...except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3). He did **not** say that being born again makes one a son of God, or a Christian; but rather that being born again gives one power to become a son of God (John 1:12): that is, the sinner is made able to see the kingdom of God,

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and to feel godly sorrow for his sins (2 Cor.7:10), so that he can turn toward God, or repent, and gain entrance into the kingdom by being born of water and of the Spirit by means of the New Testament gospel plan of salvation (John 3:5, Acts 2:38).

And in these last days, when the fullness of the gospel finally exploded again all over the world in the late 1800's, after many centuries of being all but lost in the darkness of the middle ages, Satan has successfully injected this ridiculous heresy into the denominations through his Jesuit order (an anti-protestant organization instituted in the sixteenth century for the purpose of destroying protestant churches and bringing them back under the headship of the Roman Catholic Church), so that when a sinner hears the word of God and is quickened unto repentance (born again), that old Serpent moves right in before that sinner can hear the true gospel plan of salvation, and says,

*"Would you like to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour?  
Just repeat after me..."*

...and suddenly that new little spark of life is cut off, just like a newborn baby abandoned in a trash dumpster. If no one finds that little baby and rescues it, it will surely die. And so will the born again churchgoer who never obeyed the gospel. These poor souls are convinced that they are saved, because there is a change in their lives. And it is a real change indeed. They have been born again. They have new desires and a new attitude—an attitude of repentance and a form of godliness. And because this change is manifest in them, they are fully persuaded that the false, un-scriptural gospel they obeyed has made them Christians; sons of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. And their false pastors thicken their darkness week after week with watered-down preaching and devilish flattery.

As it is written,

"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption; for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning."  
(2 Peter 2:19,20)

And so God's people are still, even more than ever, being destroyed for lack of knowledge.  
(Hosea 4:6)

Beloved brethren, be not deceived. The false gospel, "*accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour*", is not written anywhere in the word of God. And, if it is not written, we, the people of the living God, ought never to speak it! By the grace and power of our God, let this man-made, Devil-inspired heresy be stricken from the vocabulary of every Christian, that we may no more confuse and be confused by impure words and ideas which are not of God!

As said the prophet,

"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."  
(Prov.4:23)

Beware—many of the false teachers will go to Jesus' teaching in Luke 18:10-14 as the authority for their false "sinner's prayer" gospel. But we must rightly divide the word of God (2 Tim.2:15), and recognize that the period of time chronicled in the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and

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John was still the days of the Old Covenant, before the New Testament church began to exist: and our Lord in this passage (and various others in the four gospels) was not preaching the New Testament gospel, which was still a future concept yet to be fulfilled; but rather was come, "...unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel..." (Ezek. 34:11,12, Matt.15:24), the people of God, who were already called by his name (Is.43:7, 63:19), and in covenant with him by circumcision (Gen.17:10-14, Rom.14:11); and, having been "...baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea..." (1 Cor.10:2), all that was required of them to be right with God (saved) in that period of time was to repent, and believe on the Son of God (Deut. 18:15-19, John 3:18, 5:24, etc...). That is why John the Baptist came before him, in the spirit and power of Elijah, according to the scriptures of the prophets (Is.40:3, Mal.3:1, 4:5,6), "...to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." (Luke 1:17).

Israel did not need to become sons and daughters of God; they already were (see Matt.9:2,22, Is.43:6,7, Jer. 31:9). They needed to repent—turn from their wicked ways back to God—so they could see their Messiah. That was the ministry of John the Baptist (see John 1:31, Luke 7:29,30). The scripture testifies that those who rejected John's message and baptism remained blinded by their sins, and could not see their Saviour. But to those who obeyed John's message, and heard and obeyed the words of Christ the Lord, he spoke with gladness many times, "...Thy faith hath saved thee..." (Luke 7:50, 18:42, 19:9, 23:43, etc...). At that time, that was the requirement of God for Israel to be saved. It is necessary for the people of God today to know and understand that these people lived, and these events took place, during the dispensation of the Old Testament, and that the New Testament church and gospel under which we live today had not yet been brought into existence and revealed. The New Covenant spoken of by Jeremiah the prophet (Jer. 31:31-33), and Ezekiel (Ezek. 36:27), and referred to by the apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 6:16, became manifested on the day of Pentecost, 33 A.D., fifty days after the resurrection of our Lord, as it was written in the law (Lev. 23:9-16). That was the day that this "...better covenant, which was established upon better promises..." (Heb.8:6) was come to all the world: to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile (Rom.1:16, 2:9). That was the day the New Testament church of Jesus Christ was born: and from that day (and not before) the New Testament gospel has been preached all over the world unto this day; and it is still the same as when Peter and the other apostles of our Lord first preached it, and it is still just as necessary for the true saints of God to earnestly contend for it, as we are admonished by our faithful brother Jude in his epistle (v.3).

Another common trick of the enemy is to take the words of Paul in Romans 10:9,10 out of context (as it was written that many would—2 Peter 3:15,16), and substitute this phrase for the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is a very grave and dangerous error for several reasons...

First, the passage in question begins in the middle of a sentence-- "...That if thou shalt confess..." (Rom. 10:9); and the false teachers who think this is the gospel always fail to back up to the beginning of the sentence, because the context of this passage ruins their interpretation of their selected clause. The sentence begins in verse 6, and is a teaching by Paul concerning "the righteousness which is of faith" versus "the righteousness which is of the law" (verse 5). All of chapters 9,10, and 11 of Romans are concerning the plan of God for Israel and the Gentiles, and this passage is no exception. In it, Paul alluded to the law (specifically Deut. 30: 11-14), in which God was testifying to Israel that they had heard his law, and were without excuse for not keeping it, because it was in their mouths and in their hearts, that they might do it (Deut. 30:14). And now Paul is using this same precept for the New Testament

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church, the difference being that we no longer must keep the law of commandments contained in ordinances (Eph. 2:15), which Christ our Lord abolished in his flesh; but, "...that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Rom.8:4): which righteousness is fulfilled in us by continuing in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ and his resurrection (Heb.3:6,14, Col.1:23), and continuing to confess his name before men (Matt.10: 32,33, Luke 12:8,9); both of which can be accomplished in men and women only by the Spirit of Christ himself in us (Matt.10:19 , 20, Mark 13:11, Luke 21:14,15, Rev.19:10).

This point brings to light the second reason for the error of the false teachers: that being very simply that this passage, and in fact the entire epistle, is not addressed to lost sinners to tell them how to become Christians. Rather, as are all the New Testament epistles, it is addressed to Christians (Rom. 1:7) to teach and admonish us to stay in the faith, and to give us teaching and instruction so we may better understand the God we serve and the gospel we have obeyed. This passage in Romans 10:9,10 is NOT the way of salvation to lost sinners! The apostle Paul only preached one gospel (Gal.1:8), as is made evident by searching the scriptures in the Acts and the epistles. But here Paul is teaching the church the difference between the righteousness of the law and the righteousness of faith; explaining that our righteousness before God is no longer in animal sacrifices and divers washings and carnal ordinances, but is in believing in our hearts that God raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, and in confessing his name with our mouths. Then, in verses 11-15, Paul explains the importance of this precept—for "...how shall they hear without a preacher?" ...

Thirdly, in chapters 6 and 8, Paul already discussed in great detail water baptism and the baptism of the Holy Ghost, which is the gospel we (the church of God) have already obeyed; and which the original recipients of this epistle (the saints at Rome) had already obeyed when it was read by them. It is not difficult to understand: it is only the impure teachings of reprobate men which cloud the understanding of the truth. As it is written, "Unto the pure all things are pure; but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled (Titus 1:15). But the words of God are all plain to them that understand (Prov.8:9).

The misunderstanding of this passage of scripture has literally millions of poor lost souls subverted and on their way to eternal destruction today, as a result of the false "*accept Jesus Christ into your heart*" doctrine. May God Almighty grant to his true ones the grace to seek him, and to discover the simplicity of the pure word of the holy scriptures, and the plain truth revealed therein, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Another verse the false preachers love to use (out of context) to spread their "*accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour*" heresy is Revelation 3:20.

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." (Rev.3:20)

Oh, yes—they love to beseech lost sinners with their emotional pleas to, "*Open the door of your heart, and invite Jesus in to be the Lord of your life...*".

But they fail to tell these poor lost souls that the words they are misusing were never intended for lost sinners. They are the words of our Lord Jesus Christ to a cold and disobedient church—the church of the Laodiceans. These words are not addressed to the world, nor are they

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addressed to the denominations which reject the New Testament gospel. The only true church in the New Testament is the church of Jesus Christ, and only those who have obeyed the New Testament gospel (Acts 2:38) are a part of it, for the scripture declares plainly that whosoever has not received the Holy Ghost is none of his (Rom.8:9, Eph. 1:13,14), nor are those who have not been baptized in his name (Gal. 3:27, Acts 19:3-5, 2 Thess. 1:8,9) .

Saints of God, these words are a wake-up call to the cold, half-hearted, apathetic people of the Lord in these last days, who are, by the multitudes, on the very edge of being sealed by God into the filth of Sodom with which they have compromised, if they do not awake to righteousness and the fear of God, and become transformed by the power of God from dead churchgoers into living soldiers, boldly proclaiming the light of the gospel of God in a world enveloped in thick darkness, fearing God only and not the faces of men, and seeking to lay up for themselves treasures in heaven instead of on earth. These words are a patient plea of love from our gracious Lord, who said just before it, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." (Rev.3:19).

These words are for the church.

Included herein have been revealed a few of the methods by which the false teachers of this age are propagating this ungodly heresy of "*accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour*", by which deception many multitudes are perishing in their sins, while fully convinced that they are Christians.

Now the words of our Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 13:24 seem so much clearer:

"Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able."

Brethren beloved all over the world, called of God to be saints; a chosen generation, royal priesthood, and holy nation; let us heed the Spirit's call in these final hours to be diligent to seek and serve our great Almighty God with all our hearts and lives, which is merely our reasonable service. Let us seek his face with prayers and fastings, and beseech him whole-heartedly to cleanse us from every belief, practice, and word which is not of him, so that we may serve him acceptably with reverence and godly fear. Let us stop thinking ourselves to be something when we are nothing, deceiving ourselves into a spiritual death sleep, and flee for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us, in the fear of God reverencing him, obeying him, giving him the sacrifice of praise continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name; and standing fast in one Spirit—the Holy Spirit—with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel. Let us run the race as if there was only one prize, with all diligence, and take good heed to the words of our glorious Lord in Revelation 21:7,8...

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Amen.