

Who is a Christian?
LESSON TWO IN THE SALVATION SERIES
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When you fail to distinguish your natural state from your standing in God, you begin to doubt your salvation. There are three types of Christians:

- 1) There are Christians who do not waiver when asked the question, “Are you saved?” Immediately, their answer is, *Yes*. They know it without a doubt and can not be swayed by the doubt and unbelief of others.
- 2) Other Christians are saved, but are not certain of their salvation. They base salvation on works and their natural surroundings. If they wake up one morning and don’t feel spiritual, suddenly, they feel that they’ve backslidden. They struggle to separate the natural from the spiritual on a continual basis. *Not of works, lest any man should boast* (Eph. 2:9)
- 3) Those who are not saved, but somehow are persuaded that they are.

Who is a Christian? What does it mean to be born again—saved?

A Christian isn’t someone who just does good works and attends church each Sunday. A Christian is not someone who just gives money and donations to the church. A Christian is not a person who is baptized or sprinkled. It is not a person who simply keeps the 10 Commandments. Then, what is a Christian? Although a Christian should live a moral life, attend church, pay his or her tithes, give offerings, keep God’s Commandments, doing those things will not make you a Christian inasmuch as it will help to maintain your Christianity. You become a Christian when you earnestly realize that you need God. In feeling godly sorrow for your sins, you then repent by asking God for forgiveness and receiving Jesus as Lord and Savior over your life. Through His death, Jesus paid for our sins on the cross. *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him* (Romans 5:8-9). Before we can be in right standing with God we must first be cleansed from our sins. The only way to be cleansed from sin is by placing your faith in the Blood of Jesus, which washes your sins away. After becoming a Christian, you must learn to develop a relationship with God. Without proper relationship and without spending time with Him, you will ultimately backslide or revert to the old man (Eph. 4:22-24). After becoming a Christian, you must do whatever it takes to make sure you remain in right standing with God. Spend time reading the Word of God, find and become committed to a good local church, pray without ceasing, and learn to fast.

In our lesson tonight I’ve listed for you the 10 commandments. (Exodus 20)

Commandment #1

Thou shalt have none other gods before me. (verse 3)

Commandment #2

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. (verse 4)

Commandment #3

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain...(verse 7)

This means in an irreverent or blasphemous manner; or to make the Almighty God equal with your idols or other gods.

Commandment #4

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. (verse 8)

Commandment #5

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. (verse 12)

This comes with the blessing of prolonged life.

Commandment #6

Thou shalt not kill. (verse 13)

Commandment #7

Thou shalt not commit adultery. (verse 14)

Commandment #8

Thou shalt not steal. (verse 15)

Commandment #9

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. (verse 16)

Commandment #10

Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's. (verse 21)

Notice the first commandment—“Thou shalt have none other gods before me.” Jesus knew that satan would run the same game on the people that he’d run on Him. Satan said to Jesus, “Bow down before me and I’ll give you the kingdoms of the earth....” Jesus replied, “Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou worship.”

Should Christians be Masons?

Should Christians be pledging to fraternities and sororities?

Should Christians take yoga?

Should Christians buy scented oils from Muslims and inscents?

These are the types of questions that we’ll examine in the Salvation Series. *Colossians 3*