

UNBELIEVER

Natural Man, Sinner

The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”
(Psalm 14:1)

In regard to Jesus and salvation, the world is divided into two groups—unbelievers and believers.

We, the believers, are people who, at a certain point in our lives, received Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior. We have a new identity: children of God. We stepped out from death to life, from darkness to light, from the dominion of Satan to the kingdom of God, and from the wrath of God to peace with God. In Jesus Christ we have received eternal life and the forgiveness of sins.

Until that happens, one is an unbeliever, and this is his or her current state according to God:

Sits in darkness and the shadow of death	Luke 1:79
In darkness and in the dominion of Satan	Acts 26:18
Doesn't accept the things of the Spirit of God	1 Corinthians 2:14
Blinded by the god of this world (Satan)	2 Corinthians 4:3, 4
Slave to those which by nature are no gods	Galatians 4:8
Dead in sins	Ephesians 2:1
Son of disobedience	Ephesians 2:2
Walking according to the Prince of the power of the air	Ephesians 2:2
Child of wrath by nature	Ephesians 2:3
Without God in the world	Ephesians 2:12
Without hope	Ephesians 2:12
In domain of darkness	Colossians 1:13
Alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds	Colossians 1:21
Eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power is his or her destination	2 Thessalonians 1:9
Held captive by the Devil to do his will	2 Timothy 2:26
In the snare of the Devil	2 Timothy 2:26
Corrupted in the world by lust	2 Peter 1:4

For thirty-six years of my life I belonged to the first group—the unbelievers. Quite proud of it too, flaunting here and there my atheistic beliefs. Twenty-three years living under a communist regime probably had a lot to do with my self-sufficiency. Coming to America in the seventies and through the popular slogan of those days: “You are #1,” I got even deeper into the lies of Satan. I wasn't like those “fools” who believed in God. I believed in myself.

It wasn't until the “self” came crashing down, that I began to look for God. I cried out, “I do believe; help my unbelief.” Our beloved Father answered me immediately.

If you are an unbeliever, I sure hope that you will come to the end of self as well and turn to God as I did so many years ago. It was definitely the best thing I have ever done in my life. I thank God for it every day.

If you are an unbeliever, God is knocking at the door of your heart right now; He wants to come in. Jesus is your only hope for spending eternity in God's kingdom. If you leave this world without Jesus, you will stand before God one day in your own righteousness (*you will stand before Him; your unbelief does not negate God*), and your righteousness will never "do." Perfection is the requirement of our holy God. From God's standpoint, Jesus is the only standard for righteousness.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.
(Romans 3:23)

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23)

The forgiveness of sins is in Christ Jesus. If you don't have Jesus—if you don't believe in Him—you will die in your sins (John 8:24). It is your unbelief, the deliberate rejection of Jesus and His finished work on the cross and His resurrection that will condemn you to eternal separation from God, and you will perish.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.

He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

(John 3:16–18)

We, the believers, will stand before God clothed in the righteousness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:27). We want you to stand with us. There is a remedy for your unbelief and it is not to stop sinning, but to simply start believing. When Jesus takes up residence in your heart, He will "clean house." There will be a change of ownership. You will belong to God and move to a different group: The Christians, saints by calling—the believers. (Read chapter "Christians.")

The following is a guideline of a prayer, if you are ready to receive, by faith, the gift God is offering to you in the name of His Son Jesus.

Heavenly Father, I want the life you are offering me in Your Son Jesus. I believe that He died for the forgiveness of my sins and rose again three days later. Today, I want to receive Him, and in Him the eternal life and

*the forgiveness for all my sins. Jesus, be my personal Lord and Savior.
Thank you for my salvation.*

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

(Romans 1:18–20)

But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

(1 Corinthians 2:14)

This I say therefore, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind,

being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart;

and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality, for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

(Ephesians 4:17–19)

The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,

dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed.

(2 Thessalonians 1:7–10)

For this is contained in Scripture:

“Behold I lay in Zion a choice stone, a
precious corner stone,
And he who believes in Him shall not be
disappointed.”

This precious value, then, is for you who believe. But for
those who disbelieve,

“The stone which the builders rejected,
This became the very corner stone,”

and,

“A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense”;
for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word,
and to this doom they were also appointed.

(1 Peter 2:6–8)