

What Must I Do?

Mark 10:17-19

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When a young man asked Jesus what he must do in order to inherit eternal life, the Savior said, "Keep the commandments." Jesus did not contradict nor negate salvation by grace when He said man must *do* something. We saw in the last message that God wants everyone to be saved, but not all will be. The reason some will not inherit eternal life is because they will not submit to God. They will not demonstrate their faith and trust in Him by doing the things He has asked.

Jesus told the rich young ruler he must keep the Ten Commandment Law of Moses. He lived under Moses law. We, on the other hand, live under the law of Christ which came into effect when Jesus died on the cross. Let's briefly consider in this message the things God has asked each of us to do to inherit eternal life.

First, believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. The importance of belief is beautifully expressed in John 3:16. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Next, that belief must be demonstrated in turning from a life of sin without God to a life of service to Him. Acts 17:30 says, "These times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent."

Third, the believing, penitent soul must confess Jesus as Lord. Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Fourth, one must be baptized into Christ. Galatians 3:27 affirms, "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." That is the point at which sins are remitted. Ananias told Paul in Acts 22:16, "Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

Finally, to inherit eternal life, one must live faithfully as a servant of the Lord. Revelation 2:10 presents the Lord's promise, "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Do you remember what Jesus said in Matthew 7:21-23? "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; **but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.**" if you and I want to enjoy the melodious tones of the Lord's voice in eternal bliss, we must listen to and obey His voice in this life.