

# 9 YOUR DECISION

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## KEY POINTS

1. *If you asked Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior, you have received the gift of God.*
2. *If Jesus is your Savior, you have now been given the gift of eternal life.*

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### IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY THESE QUESTIONS:

- What happens now?
  - How can I be sure?
  - What are the facts?
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If you prayed the prayer inviting Jesus into your life, you can be confident that you are a child of God and part of His eternal family. The following comments will help you as you consider the decision you have made.

## WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

### RECEIVE CHRIST

The Bible says, “To all who received Him, to those who believe in His name He gave the right to become children of God.”<sup>79</sup> To become a member of God’s family, you must receive Jesus Christ into your life. You must understand that you are receiving a gift.

## **THE GIFT OF GOD**

The Bible says, “For it is by grace you have been saved through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”<sup>80</sup> As you can clearly see, when you receive Christ you are receiving the gift that God offers. It is not based upon your works. This is so that no one can boast. After you have become a member of God’s family by receiving Christ as your personal Savior, good works and a changed life will result, but good works did not bring about that relationship.

## **YOUR CHOICE**

Receiving God’s gift is simple. Jesus said, “Here I am! I stand at the door [of your life] and knock. If any one hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and will eat with him, and he with Me.”<sup>81</sup> Jesus is saying that He will come into your life in the same way that you would open the door and invite someone into your house. This is what the Bible calls being “born again,” which means that you are born into and become a part of God’s family.

## **HOW CAN I BE SURE?**

### **HOW TO BE SURE**

The Bible says, “And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.”<sup>82</sup>

### **QUESTION**

Did you receive Jesus? Yes? Then the fact is you have eternal life. “‘I tell you the truth,’ Jesus said, ‘Whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life, and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.’”<sup>83</sup> This clearly says that if you trust Christ for payment of your sins and receive Him into your life, you will not face judgment.

### **REVIEW**

Go back and look at each action in the verse you just read.

## CONFIRM YOUR RESPONSE

“Whoever *hears My Word....And believes Him who sent Me.*”

Did you read and hear His word?

Do you believe what God said?

Do you trust Christ as your Savior?

If your reply is “yes,” and you *believe* God sent Jesus to be your Savior, then you have “eternal life.”

When do you have eternal life? Now or later? No, right now.

“And *will not* be condemned...” It does not say, “might not be condemned.”

“*He has crossed* over from death to life.”

This means, “You do not have to worry about it.” In other words, you now have eternal life on the truthfulness of Jesus’ promise to you.

So when does our eternal life start? For all of us, eternal life begins the moment we believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. And please note: these statements are based upon the fact of God’s Word, not on how you may feel.

## DO NOT DEPEND ON YOUR FEELINGS

The promise of God’s Word, the Bible—not our feelings—is our authority. The follower of Christ lives by faith (trust) in the trustworthiness of God himself and His Word.

## WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

The fact is, if you have received Christ, He has come into your life whether you feel it or not. Your faith must rest upon the assurance of God’s Word no matter what your feelings might say. When you received Christ by faith it was an act of your will. Moreover, the moment you did, many things happened.

1. **Christ came into your life.** “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.”<sup>84</sup>
2. **Your sins were forgiven.** “For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”<sup>85</sup>

## YOUR DECISION

3. **You became a child of God.** “Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”<sup>86</sup>
4. **You received eternal life.** “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”<sup>87</sup>
5. **You began the great adventure for which God created you.**  
“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”<sup>88</sup>

### **WELCOME TO THE FAMILY OF GOD!**

(Please read the instructions for the Answer Pages and Response Page on page 75. We look forward to hearing from you soon.)