

# Plain to Succeed as A Christian

*All Scriptures from The Old and New King James Versions*

*Observe and think how we may overcome.*

*How Satan works to turn people from God.*

**2Co 2:10** Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, **11** lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

*The first deception first sin*

**Gen 3:2** And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; **3** but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" **4** Then the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die.' **5** For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." **6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

*Satan made man and woman to doubt God. He is still doing this.*

*What we see in the World today. People who don't believe in God. They quote evolution. They quote the big bang theory. But we don't realize they have not explained anything. They use these ideas to soothe their conscience that they are doing as they should. They don't realize these are only Satan's method to keep them from seeking God.*

*The word Evolution simply means change. We can not deny man has changed or animals have changed. Originally there was only one race of man now there are many. Dogs and other animals have many varieties. They claim natural selection caused this change. We believe God made this change. They believe the ape family became man. We believe God made each one separately. In other words, one "kind" did not become another kind. One species did not become another. They say mater and energy always has been and is often changing from one state to the other. We say God has always been. He created mater and energy. If we use a mathematical model of probability, we see there was not enough time for evolution in their theories to explain this by sheer chance according to our present knowledge. It would need to be far older than the age they set for the earth. This model increases in number with every change in complexity. These changes alone are almost innumerable.*

*We see religious division through out the world today. All denominations cannot be right because they all have differences in doctrine. Division only causes chaos. God is not the author of chaos. This only makes people doubt religion. People usually do not put these different ideas to the test to see which one stands up to the standard*

*of the Bible. Even in Christianity today, people don't honestly seek to test what stands up to truth (The Bible). They because of this they seek; what makes them feel comfortable. There are a few who seek to use the Bible as a standard to determine what they should do. Unfortunately, many will not use the whole Bible to direct their steps.*

*A church or man-made organization, can not and should not stray from the Bible as the standard. Satan loves this action of division! Because of this some have said it is almost impossible to understand the Bible. This is not true!*

**Psa 19:7** The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

**Psa 119:130** The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

*Scripture seems hard only because of the people who twist the scripture to confuse trying to make you believe their Doctrines.*

**2Pe 3:16** as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are **some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.**

*In other words, let the simple scriptures explain the harder scriptures. Don't let deceivers confuse you.*

**1Ti 2:14** And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

**2Co 11:3** But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be **corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.**

**2Ti 3:12** Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, **deceiving, and being deceived.**

**2Co 10:12** For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. **But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.**

**Mat 11:25** At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that **You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.** 26 **Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.**

*Now let us discuss the problems we find in teaching others. Many will not discuss the bible because they don't believe in it. Those who believe in the bible, must accept exactly what it says. But some want to ,stay where they are, because they are impressed by people where they are. They think, it is their lack of knowledge keeping them from understanding but won't study on their own. They have no confidence in their ability to understand the Bible. Others don't believe the scriptures are not completely accurate. Others claim they just don't have enough time to understand. What can I do? We must convince people to trust all of God's word. We can not teach anyone until they completely trust God's word. For those who don't have time to study with you, offer to give a document on topics to discuss later when they do have time. Correspond by mail or email or text. Use your mind to find a way.*

*Why don't we do this? - We lack self confidence. We need Faith. If we have faith in God, we see the need. But to accomplish this we need confidence in ourselves. To have confidence in ourselves; we must study to know what the scriptures say. We must pray for the faith and the wisdom that we need, and do it diligently. To keep us from error, we take others with us to keep us on track. We must study and meditate on the word of God.*

#### *Why we each member needs to study*

**2Ti 2:15** Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

**Act 17:10** And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. **11** These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

*You should realize listening to preachers, class teachers or reading books man has written about Christianity is not enough. Why? Books written by men usually in their opinion. Let us use God's opinion in his word. There is much information you need in the Bible to live a faithful Christian life. You must study on your own for your soul's sake. They cannot deliver it all to you. You must study it to give it all to yourself and others. Plain your time to do this.*

**Jas 1:3** Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. **4** But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. **5** If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

**Col 1:9** For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

**Rom 10:17** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Heb 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**2Ti 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**

**1Jn 3:18** My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. **19** And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. **20** For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

*If we don't study and meditate enough on God's word, we cannot warn the sinner of his sins. We have not learned, to be wise, by applying knowledge if we don't study. We wait for others to grab us and lead us. When someone does, we claim we don't have enough time. We let this busy life take us away from what we should do.*

**Eze 3:18** When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. 20 Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die; because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. 21 Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

*How do I lift my spirit and others spirit? Simply teach his word. Have Conversations about it to others.*

*We all need encouragement. So why don't we exhort one another to do good works.*

**Heb 3:12** Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. **13** But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

**1Th 5:11** Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

**1Th 4:1** Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God;

**1Ti 2:1** Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

**2Ti 4:2** Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

**Tit 1:9** holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

**Tit 2:6** Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, 7 in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,

*How do I overcome my own laziness? – Self-motivate by scriptures.*

**Pro 19:15** Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, And an idle person will suffer hunger.  
*Are you suffer spiritual hunger of the word of God?*

**Ecc 10:18** Because of laziness the building decays, And through idleness of hands the house leaks.

*This could be our spiritual house falling into decay. I am not talking about a physical building but God's word dwelling in you.*

**Luk 12:43** Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

*How do I keep this busy life from keeping me from my Christian duty? How do I keep from being deceived? How do I meditate to find answers? Help me to see what needs to be done and do it. Help me to know to apply wisdom to solve problems.  
Answer: Pray for God's help. And don't doubt he will do it if you if you diligently seek him.*

**Jas 1:2** My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **4** But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. **5** If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

**Luk 14:11** For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

*We all understand the need to make plans to accomplish any task we set in our minds to do. To build a house we know we need plans. To go on vacation, we know we will need to plan a route. We plan for places to stay. Why don't we use the same planning to accomplish our spiritual life? We should anticipate any questions anyone would ask us as we talk to others. We should keep our own documents to give others, if they don't have time to listen. We must learn not to offend in our presentations but at the same time not compromise the truth of God. We must not submit to telling people they are wrong. We must use scriptures to show someone's error. We should not apologize for what scripture says. We must show confidence in God's word. We do not need to come off as some great scholar but only show we are someone trying to understand God's word and share it with others.*

*We must strive to accomplish the task. Count the cost and accept what we must do.*

**Luk 14:28** For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it— 29 lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' **31** Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. 33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. 34 "Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? 35 It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

*We should not become weary in the task. Do what we can. Pray for God's help.*

**Gal 6:9** And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**Mat 11:27** All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. 28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

**Joh 6:27** Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him." **28** Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" **29** Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

*We should not be discouraged when someone does not respond to the gospel at first. We may be planting a seed which may grow or not. It may give an opportunity for others to teach and cause faith to grow. Remember God will give the increase.*

**1Co 3:6** I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. **8** Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. **9** For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.

*This lesson has been to encourage those who want to be faithful brethren.*

*For those who need to repent of sin and ask for prayers of the brethren.*

**1Jn 1:9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Help can come from our brethren so seek their help.*

**Jas 5:16** Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

*For those who have need to obey the gospel. I offer this encouragement.*

## *The steps to salvation:*

### *Hear*

**Joh 9:31** Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.

**Rom 10:16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" **17** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

*Believe in Christ.*

*Believe with Faith all the Gospel.*

*Our belief must be more than acceptance that God is. The devils do this. They believe and tremble. It must be a belief that leads to faith in trusting in God and doing his commandments. Believe God's Word (The Bible). Believe in Jesus Christ. If you truly Believe then you will do all that is commanded. If you don't then you are as the Devils who believe and tremble.*

**Heb 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**Mar 1:15** and saying, **"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."**

**Joh 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

*God has given you the right to become the sons of God. This right is accomplished through complete obedience. You should not perish, but you can if you refuse to follow all he said to do in complete obedience.*

**Mar 1:15** And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

**Joh 6:29** Jesus answered and said to them, **"This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."**

**Joh 6:69** Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

**Joh 8:24** **Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."**

**Act 8:37** Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

**Act 19:4** Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."

**Heb 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**1Jn 5:1** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. **3** For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

**Rom 10:16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" **17** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Jas 2:19** You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!

### *Repent of Sins*

*Repenting is not just an acknowledgement that you sinned but is the action to turn away from your sins.*

**Mar 1:15** and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

**Mar 6:12** So they went out and preached that people should repent.

**Act 3:19** Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

**Act 17:30** Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

### *Confess*

*Confession is not just speaking of your belief in Christ and his commandments but telling others of your knowledge of Christ as God. Be willing to do this as long as you live.*

**Mat 10:32** "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. **33** But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

**Luk 12:8** "Also I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God. **9** But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God.

**Rom 10:8** But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): **9** that 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. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

### *Obey God in Baptism*

*Why people don't understand the necessity to obey all God's commands for salvation, is beyond me. It is as if they are telling God that they know better than God. If God spoke of it in his word it is necessary! Even Christ showed an example to follow him in all things he did. John's baptism was the baptism of repentance. Christ told John to baptize him to fulfill all righteousness. Follow Christ example being baptized into Christ.*

**Luk 1:76** And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; 77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins. Note: John was that child.

*Christ baptism was to supplant John's baptism.*

**Act 19:2** He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. 3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

**1Pe 3:21** The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

**Rom 6:3** Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

*Also, if you were not baptized for the remission of sins you were not baptized for the right reason! Salvation requires the remission of sins. You can't have the remission of sins without Salvation. Act 2:38*

*In this passage we see Peter receiving the power on high opening the kingdom of God. The Comforter the Holy Spirit telling these men through Peter what they need to do for salvation from God.*

**Act 2:36** "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**NKJV**

*How can anyone say these steps were not for salvation? Peter had just been baptized in the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit delivered the message through Peter telling those who were there; how to be forgiven and saved from their willingness to crucify Jesus. He said it was for the remission of sins. Is not remission of sins Salvation? You cannot have salvation without the remission of sins.*

*You better be careful you can be speaking against the “Work of The Holy Spirit”. Don’t blaspheme (blaspheme is to speak against the Holy Spirit or his work). I suggest you study all passages on “the remission of sins”. I have found all passages with “remission of sins” referring to salvation in the New Testament.*

*Endure to the end. God will be with you.*

**Mat 10:22 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.**

*How else can we have a good conscience but obey the commands given to hear the gospel, believe in faith, repent of sins, confess Christ before man, and to obey God in baptism.*

*Will you be saved today?*

**Questions or request for Bible studies: Contact Mt Olive Church Of Christ Mt Olive AL. 205-631-9182 Or contact me, Michael R. Rouse. 205-607- 4139 [avoidsin2@gmail.com](mailto:avoidsin2@gmail.com)  
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