

“GOT HEAVEN? HOW TO KNOW FOR SURE”
Pastor David Brown
Message Notes – Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008

Key verse:

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not Perish, but have Everlasting Life.” John 3:16 (KJV)

1. RECOGNIZE GOD’S LOVE: “God so loved the world...”

“God showed how much He loved us by sending His only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love...He sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.” 1 John 4:9-10 (NLT)

“See what an incredible quality of love the Father has shown us, that we should be permitted to be named and called and counted as the children of God! And so we are!” 1 John 3:1 (Amp)

“May you be able to feel and understand...how long, how wide, how deep, and how high His (God’s) love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves...” Ephesians 3:18-19 (LB)

“Come to Christ, who is the living Foundation of Rock upon which God builds...” 1 Peter 2:4 (LB)

2. RECEIVE GOD’S GIFT: “He gave His only begotten Son...”

“Out of sheer generosity He (God) put us in right standing with Himself. A pure gift. He got us out of the mess we’re in and restored us to where He always wanted us to be. And He did it by means of Jesus Christ. God sacrificed Jesus on the altar of the world to clear that world of sin.” Romans 3:24-25 (Mes)

“When we were unable to help ourselves, at the moment of our need, Christ died for us, although we were living against God.” Romans 5:6 (NCV)

“For God took the sinless Christ and poured into Him our sins. Then, in exchange, He poured God’s goodness into us.” 2 Corinthians 5:21 (LB)

“(Since salvation) is by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.” Romans 11:6 (NIV)

3. RESPOND TO GOD'S OFFER: "...whoever believes in Him..."

"For the free gift of eternal salvation is now being offered to everyone..." Titus 2:11 (LB)

"In this new life one's nationality or race or education or social position is unimportant; such things mean nothing. Whether a person has Christ is what matters, and He is equally available to all." Colossians 3:11 (LB)

"Now God says He will accept and acquit us – declare us 'not guilty' – if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, by coming to Christ, no matter who we are or what we have been like." Romans 3:22 (LB)

"...(we) are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus." Romans 3:24 (NIV)

4. RELY ON GOD'S PROMISE: "...should not perish by have everlasting life."

"...we are now members of God's own family. And God has reserved for His children the priceless gift of eternal life; it is kept in heaven for you...And God, in His mighty power, will make sure that you get there safely to receive it, because you are trusting Him." 1 Peter 1:3-5 (LB)

"What a God we have! ...Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we're been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven, and the future starts now!" 1 Peter 1:3-4 (Mes)

"We, too, wait anxiously for that day when God will give us our full rights as His children, including the new bodies He has promised us – bodies that will never be sick again and will never die." Romans 8:23 (LB)