

# **Visualized Bible Study**

## **Part 4-c**

### **God's Plan for Redeeming Man.**

**This is 3rd of 3 parts 4a/b/c.**

**Updated by  
Graeme Morrison**

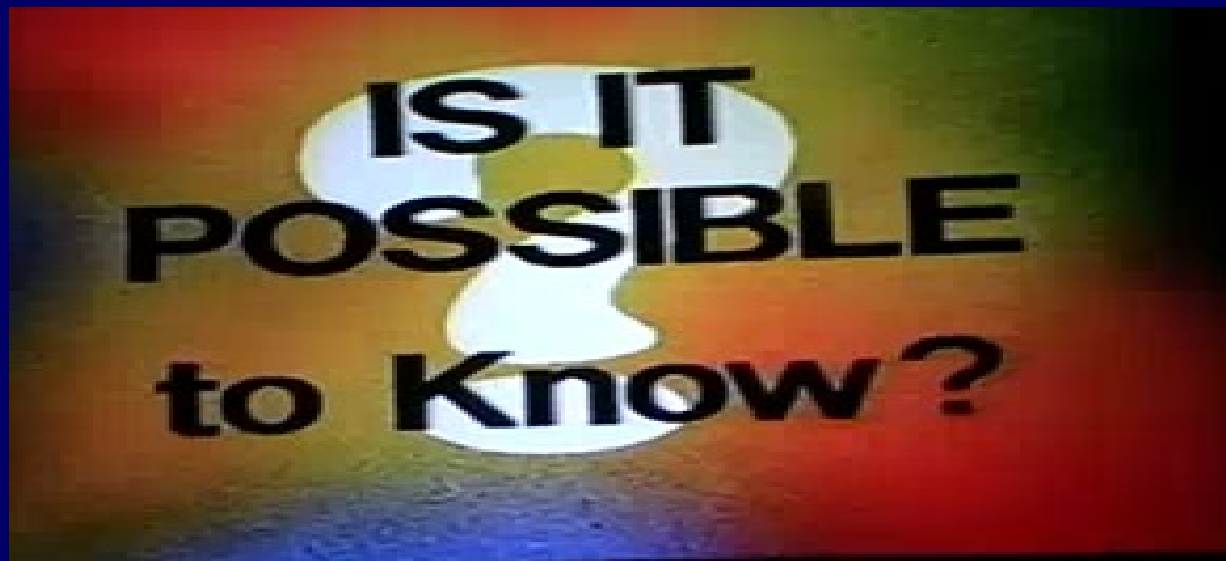
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**IS IT POSSIBLE** for a person to know  
whether or not he actually **is a Christian**,  
and that God has added him to  
**THE ASSEMBLY/ FAMILY/ KINGDOM** of God?

In other words, **is it possible** for him to know  
just **how near** he is to being saved?

**The Bible answers, "Yes."**

**2 Timothy 1:12; 1 John 2:3; 3:14;**



**WE CAN LEARN IN WHAT STATE**  
we **stand in** relation to **salvation** in precisely  
the same way that **a cross-country traveller**  
can determine whether he is in California,  
Florida or some point in between.

With a **road map** the traveller  
can determine not only  
the **proper route** to follow but also  
the **distance he has already travelled** and  
**how far he must go to reach his destination.**



**AS THE TRAVELLER CONTINUES**  
**on his way from California to Florida,**  
he expects to receive different answers to  
the same question, **"How far is it to Florida?"**



**In California** someone answers,  
“**2,310 miles** to Florida.”



**In Utah**, the answer is,  
“**1,840 miles** to Florida.”

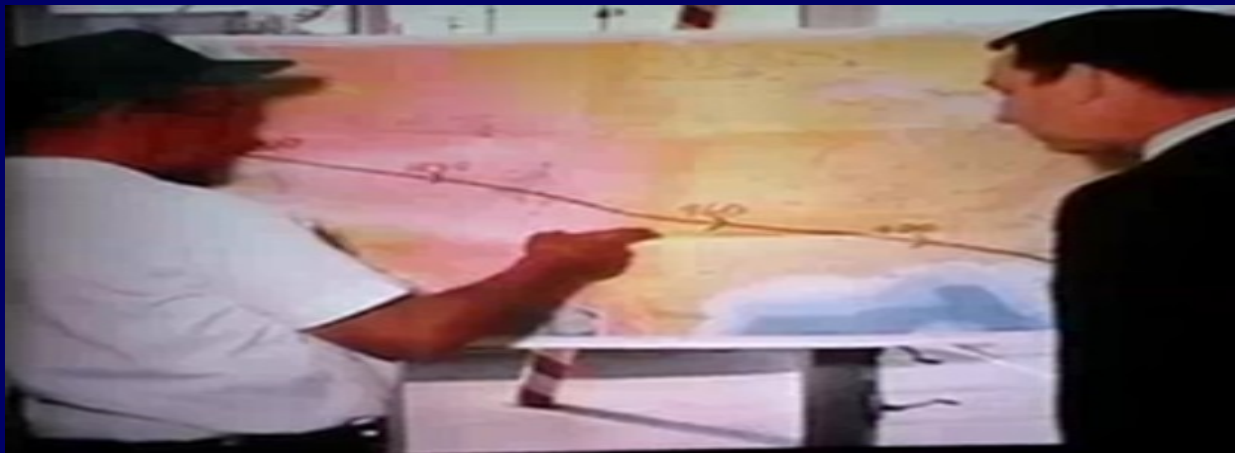
**In Oklahoma, Still a different answer is given**  
**“960 miles to Florida.”**



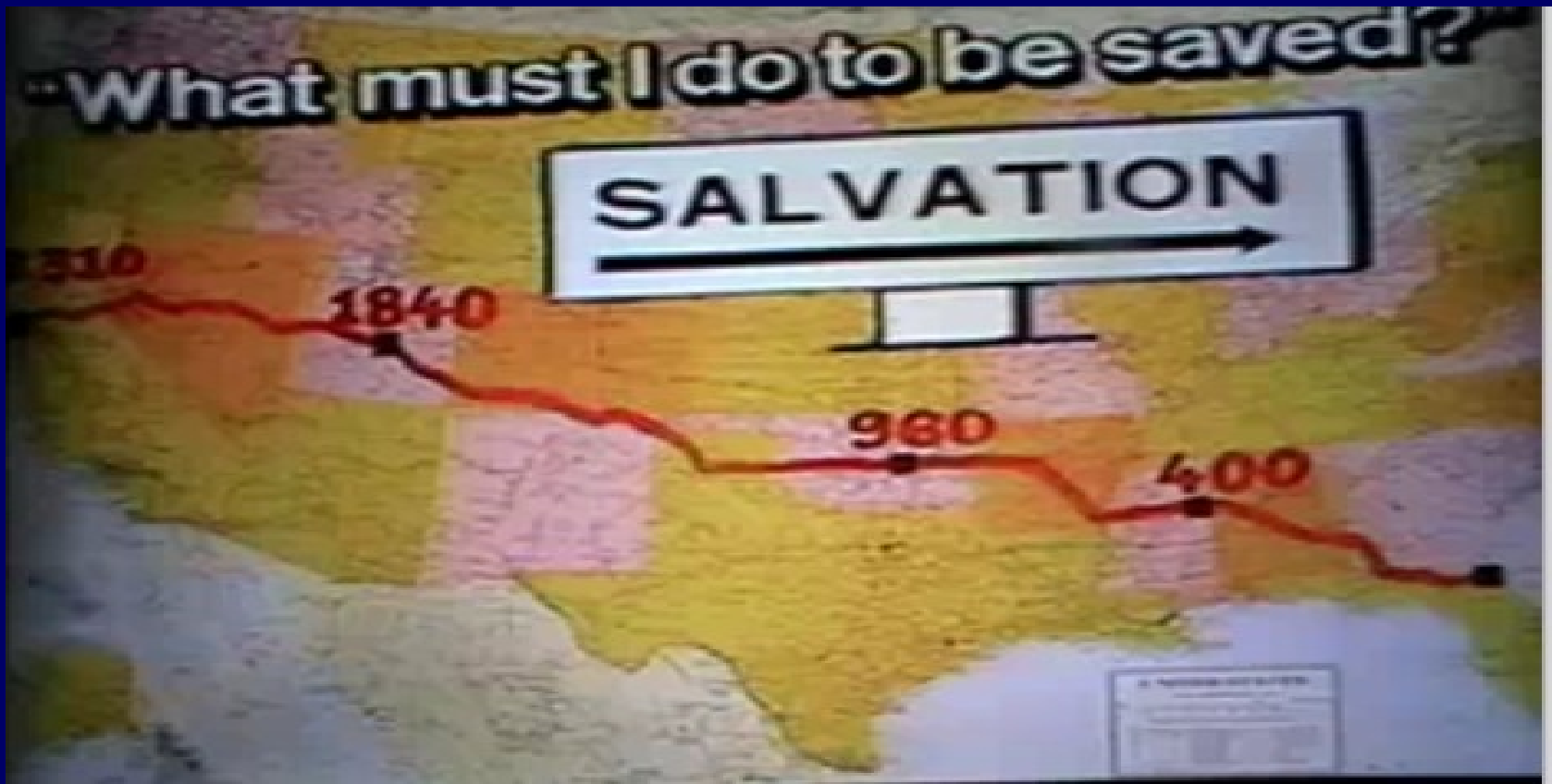
**In Mississippi the traveller is told,**  
**“400 miles to Florida.”**

**The traveller is not disturbed  
over receiving different answers  
to his same question,  
“How far is it to Florida?”**

**The different answers  
show that at each point  
he has moved  
closer to his destination.**

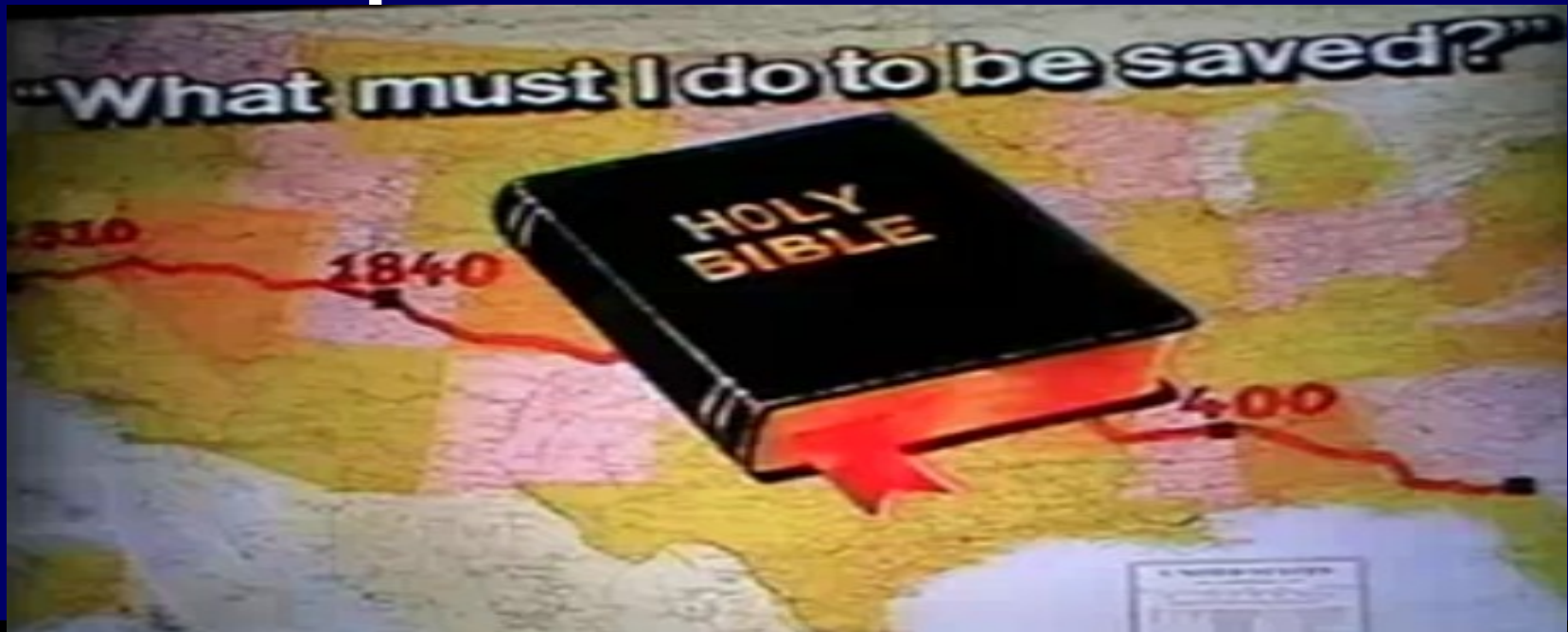


**IN THE SAME WAY**  
**as a person travels toward salvation,**  
**different answers will be given**  
**to the same question,**  
**"What must I do to be saved?"**





**The answer to this question  
always depends  
on just how near  
the questioner is to salvation.**



**This can be determined only by consulting  
God's spiritual map, the Bible.**

**I Psalms 119:105;**

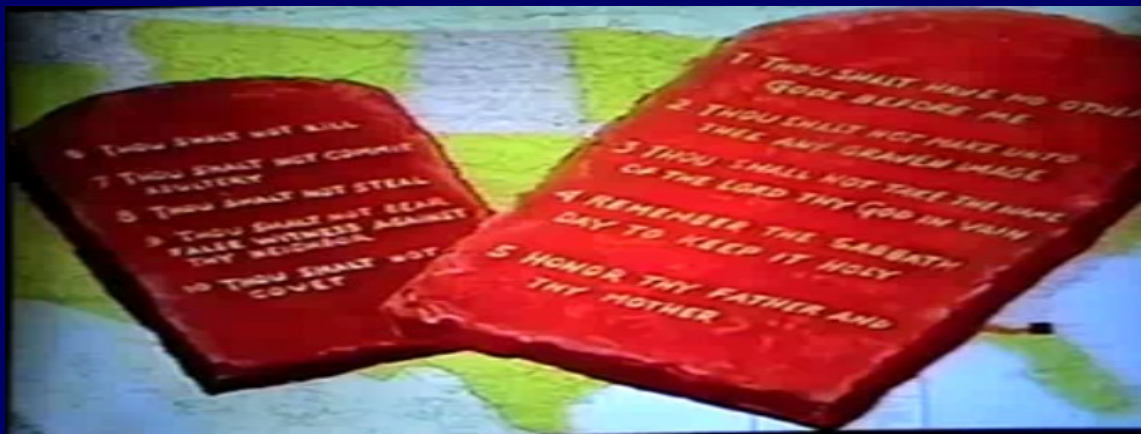
**JESUS POINTED** the rich young ruler to the Scriptures in answer to his question, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?”



Since the **Old Testament Law** was then **in effect**, Jesus' answer to this young ruler was **to keep the commandments of the Law of Moses.**

**Jesus' answer** was appropriate because the **Old Testament Law of Moses** was **God's only spiritual map** until the **Saviour died on the cross.**

**Luke 18:18-27;**



**AT THE END OF JESUS LIFE ON EARTH**  
when **He hung on the cross**  
between two thieves,  
**the Old Testament was STILL in effect.**



**When one of the thieves**  
**Showed an interest in salvation,**  
**Jesus answered him,**  
**“Today you shall be with me in paradise.”**  
**(Luke 23:43;)**

**This answer is different**  
**from the answer Christ**  
**has given for us today.**

**Because the thief lived and died**  
**under the Law of Moses**  
**before New Testament Law**  
**came into effect. Heb 9:14-17;**



This is why **Jesus' answer** to the penitent thief **did not include New Testament baptism.**

After all, how could anyone have been **buried in baptism with Christ** before **Christ, Himself, had been buried in the tomb?**

*Colossians 2:12-14;*

**The thief LIVED and DIED  
under the Law of Moses**

**Before Christ gave the great commission**  
**Matt 28:18-20 Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:47;**

**“that repentance and forgiveness of sins  
should be preached in His name to all  
the nations beginning at Jerusalem.”**

**God by His Grace** (unmerited favour) has  
supplied **the means of our salvation** through  
**the Death Burial and Resurrection of Jesus.**

**But we who recognize we are sinners in need  
of salvation, need to respond to this message  
of grace in the way that Christ has decreed.**

**To enable us to be saved by God's Grace**  
**We need to be**  
**“born again of water and Spirit.” John 3:3-5;**  
**by being having our sins**  
**“washed away by the blood of the lamb.”**  
**Revelation 1:5;**

**SINCE JESUS HAS DIED** for our sins,  
the man in the "lost state,"  
as represented in the chart, must **look**  
**in the New Testament** for his answer to the  
question, "What must I do to be saved?"





Since this man  
**Begins** his spiritual journey  
as an **“unbeliever,”**

The **answer for him** at this point  
will be **the same as that given**  
**to the unbelieving Philippian jailer,**  
**“Believe on the Lord Jesus.”**

**Acts 16:31; John 8:24;**

**An unbeliever must first be told to BELIEVE.**

# THE MAN COMES INTO THIS "STATE" when he believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

IMPORTANT  
QUESTION

AT WHAT POINT ARE SINS  
FORGIVEN?



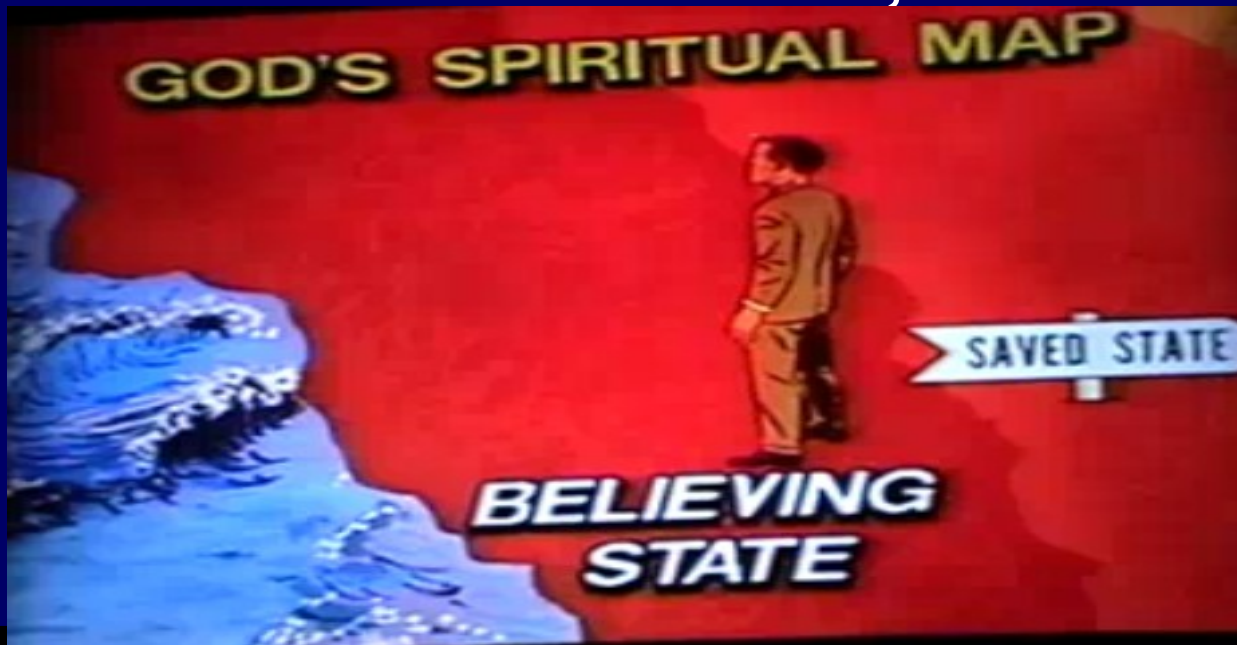
believe  
hear

TIME LINE

OLD MAN  
(LOST IN SIN)

**Belief** can come only through  
**hearing or reading**  
**the Sword of the Spirit - Word of God.**

Romans 10:17;



Unfortunately, **many people live and die**  
in the **“believing state”**  
**mistakenly feeling that they are saved.**

**When they consult their spiritual road map  
more carefully, they see that  
their faith must move them  
over several milestones  
before reaching the "saved state"  
which leads to eternal life.**



The man in the “believing state”  
still must ask,

“What must I do to be saved?”

Since the believer is nearer salvation  
than when he was an unbeliever,  
his answer will be different.

This is illustrated by the events  
on the Day of Pentecost when believers  
were told what to do to be saved.



**ON THIS DAY** which we have already studied,  
several thousand Jews believed Peter's  
message as he preached a sermon  
proving Jesus to be the Son of God.



After they obviously believed Peter's message they still asked, "What shall we do?" Peter's answer was, "Repent and be baptized."

**This answer is appropriate  
only for those who have come  
all the way into the believing state.**

**Acts 2:36-38;**

**Jesus said in Luke 24:47;  
“With my authority, take this  
MESSAGE OF REPENTANCE  
to all the nations,  
beginning in Jerusalem:  
'There is forgiveness of sins  
for all who turn to me.**

**THE BELIEVER WHO REPENTS** moves into what might be called “**the turning state.**” Before he can be baptized, **the believer must repent**, that is, **turn from sin** and determine to **turn back** to **yield his entire life to God.**





**Repentance** takes place  
in the mind of the sinner,  
**while** forgiveness of sins  
takes place in the mind of God.

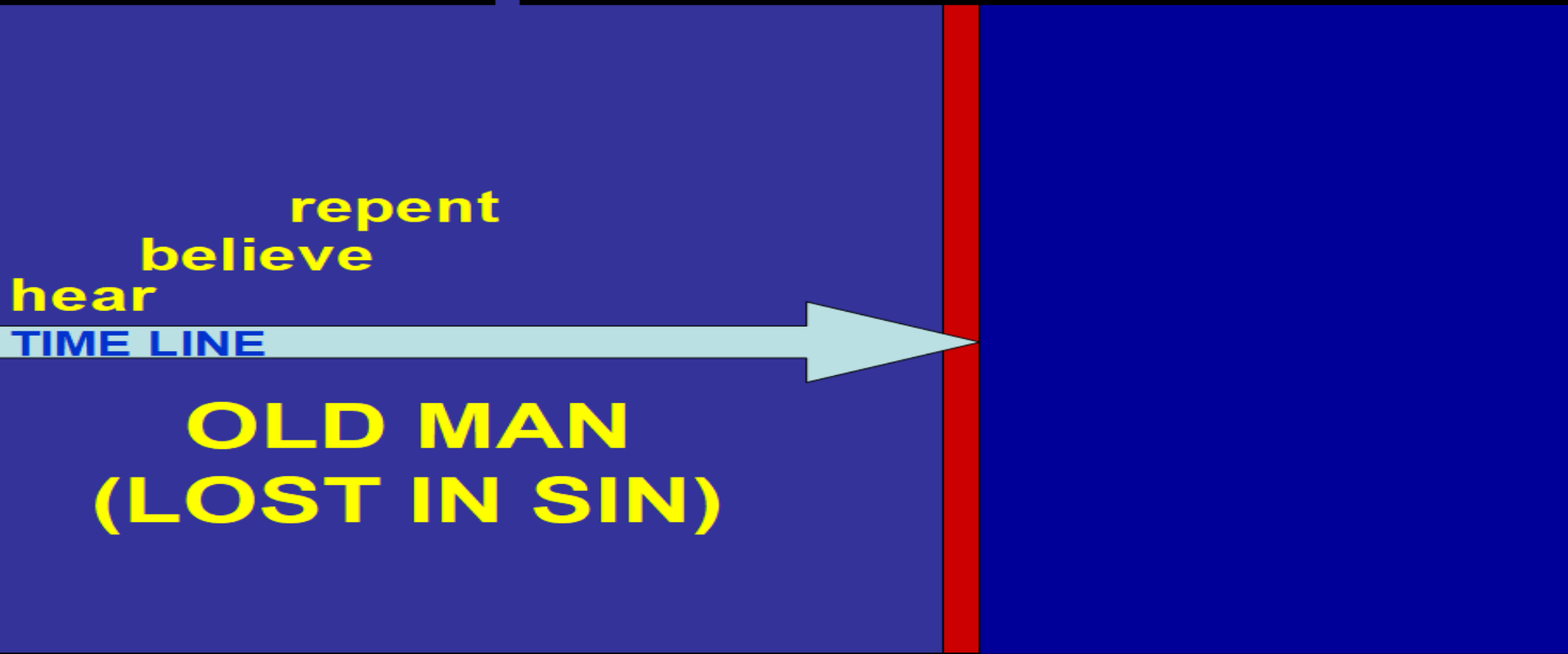
**IMPORTANT  
QUESTION**

**AT WHAT POINT ARE SINS  
FORGIVEN?**

hear  
believe  
repent

**TIME LINE**

**OLD MAN  
(LOST IN SIN)**



Therefore, while **REPENTANCE**  
**moves one nearer to salvation,**  
the **penitent believer**  
must still ask,  
**“What must I do to be saved?”**

**THE ETHIOPIAN TREASURER**  
for example, had **believed**  
**Philip's message** about Jesus.



Since he showed **his willingness to repent and yield himself to the Lord,** the **question he asked** was appropriate.

“So they proceeded on their way till they came to some water; and the eunuch exclaimed, **"See, here is water; what is there to prevent my being baptized?"**

And Philip answered,  
"If you believe with all your heart, you may."  
The Ethiopian treasurer replied,  
"I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God."  
Acts 8:26-39;

This is yet another answer to the same basic question, "What must I do to be saved?"

Notice that each Bible answer  
takes into account the spiritual progress  
of the person as he moves toward salvation.

**WHEN THE TREASURER  
CONFESSED his FAITH IN JESUS,  
he moved into what may be called  
the “telling state.”**



At this stage of spiritual progress,  
**the believer is eager** for others to know  
**of his faith in Jesus as God's Son.**

**IMPORTANT  
QUESTION**

**AT WHAT POINT ARE SINS  
FORGIVEN?**

hear  
believe  
repent  
confess  
TIME LINE



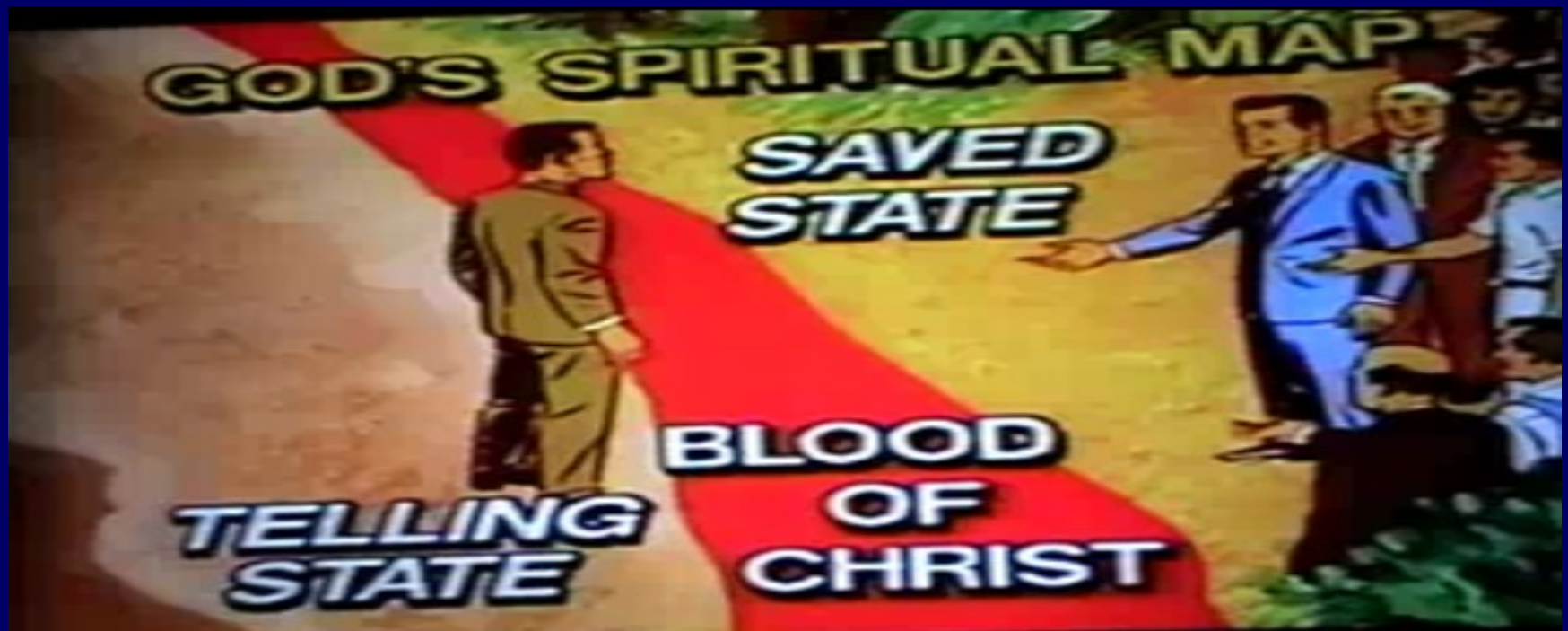
**OLD MAN  
(LOST IN SIN)**

**Romans 10:10; says, "for with the heart  
man believes unto righteousness;  
and with the mouth  
confession is made unto salvation.**



**THE BELIEVER WHO HAS CONFESSED  
Jesus as the Son of God  
still has not reached the “saved state.”**

**The blood of Jesus is the dividing line  
between members of CHRIST'S FAMILY  
and those who are still unsaved.**





**Only the blood of Jesus  
can wash away sins and bring  
a person into the saving grace of God.**



Therefore, the **same basic question**  
must again be asked,  
**“What must I do to be saved?”**

The **answer** to the **believer**  
who has **repented** and **confessed Christ**  
is found in Acts 22:16;  
**“Arise, and be Baptized,  
and wash away your sins.”**  
Acts 2:38; 8:36; 10:48; Matthew 7:21;

# SINCE JESUS PROMISED

"He that believes and is baptized shall be saved," the traveller now enters the "saved state" which leads to eternal life.

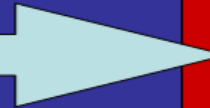
**IMPORTANT  
QUESTION**

**AT WHAT POINT ARE SINS  
FORGIVEN?**

**Washed in the BLOOD**

hear  
believe  
repent  
confess  
be baptized

**TIME LINE**



**SINS FORGIVEN  
RECEIVE  
INDWELLING  
HOLY SPIRIT**

**SAVED**

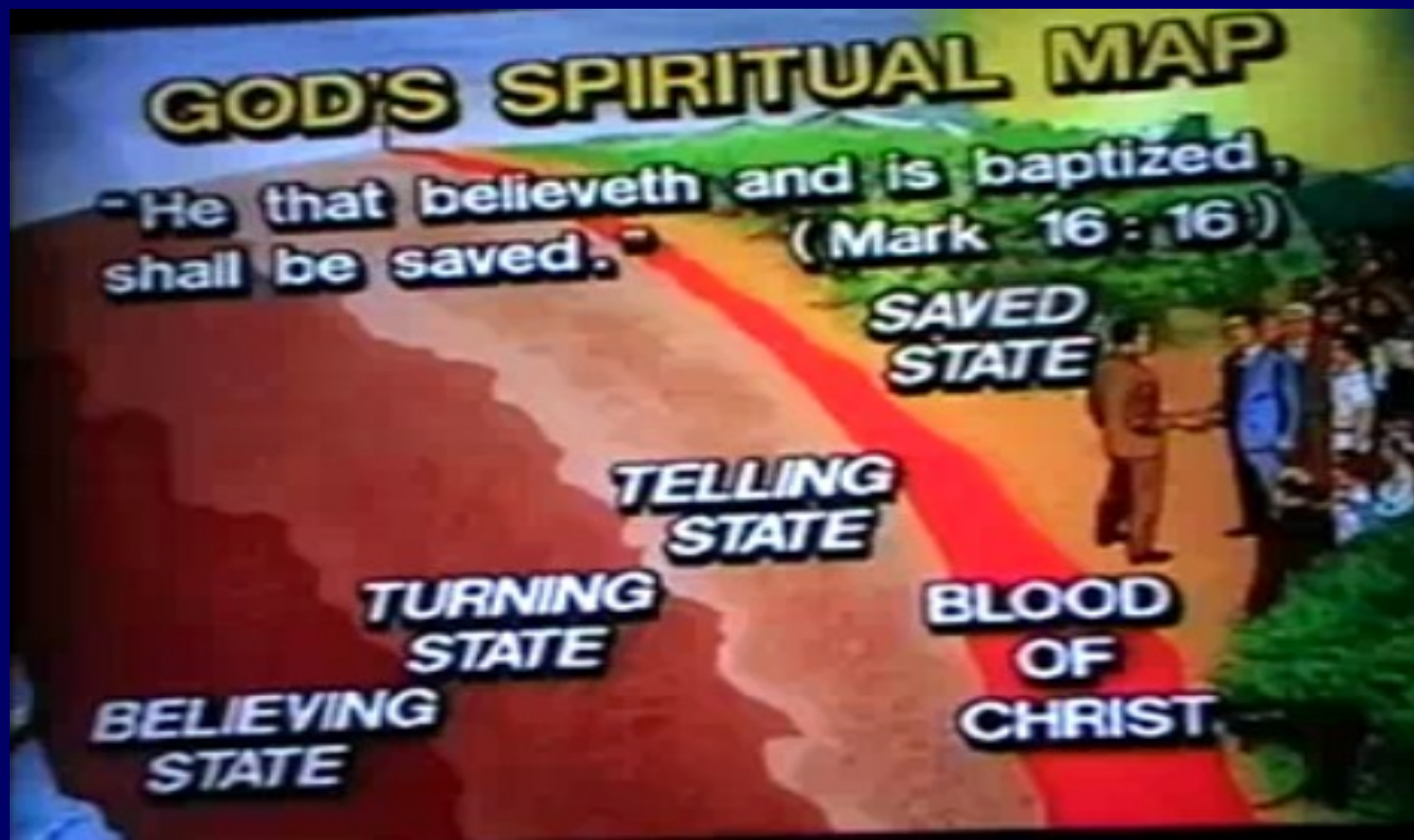
**OLD MAN  
(LOST IN SIN)**

**NEW MAN  
(REBORN  
IN CHRIST)**

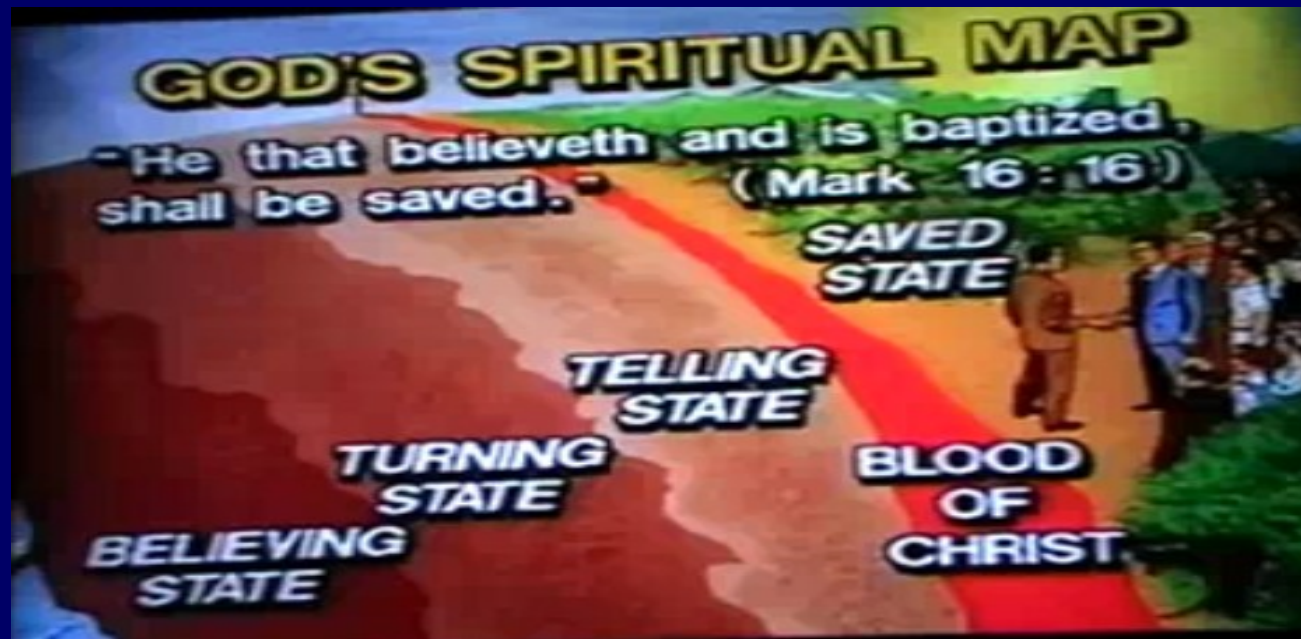
**Saved by God's Grace  
Through the Blood of Jesus**

This is **THE ASSEMBLY, GOD'S KINGDOM**, for  
**God adds all saved people to HIS FAMILY.**

Without the **GRACE** and **LOVE OF GOD**  
and **SACRIFICE OF JESUS BLOOD**,  
there could be no **"SAVED STATE."**



Having followed **God's spiritual map**  
through **BELIEF, REPENTANCE,**  
**CONFESSION OF FAITH** and **BAPTISM**  
Enabling access to the **BLOOD OF JESUS**  
the man can **know** he is in the "**saved state**",



**NOT through HIS OWN MERITS**  
**but by THE GRACE OF GOD.**

**For baptism to be valid,  
one must believe before baptism that  
Jesus' blood can save him and believe  
after baptism that the blood has saved him.**

**Hebrews 9:12-14; Acts 8:36-37; Romans 6:3-4, 17-18;**

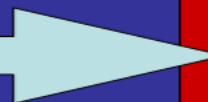
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**SINS FORGIVEN  
RECEIVE  
INDWELLING  
HOLY SPIRIT**

**SAVED**

**OLD MAN  
(LOST IN SIN)**

**NEW MAN  
(REBORN  
IN CHRIST)**

**Saved by God's Grace  
Through the Blood of Jesus**



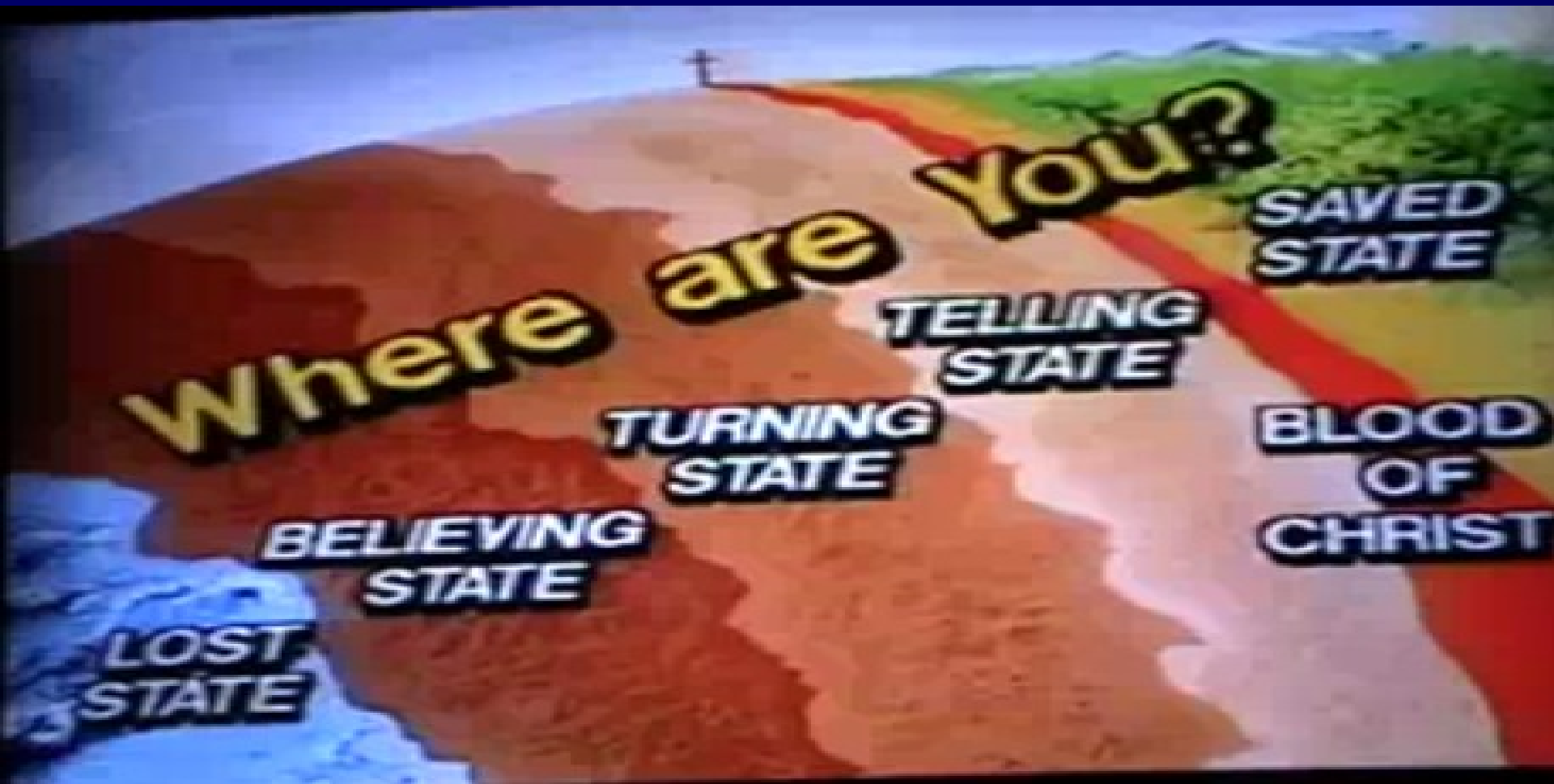
The **saved person** is now ready,  
with the **help from fellow Christians**  
and **his Heavenly Father**,  
to begin **living the Christian life**.

The **hope of eternal life**  
now becomes  
an **anchor for the soul**.

Acts 2:47; 2 Titus 3:5; ' Hebrews 6:19-20;

No one can reach the "**saved state**"  
through his own **MERIT** or **WORKS** of law.

**WHERE ARE YOU SPIRITUALLY?** In what state are you living? You have learned from God's Word that if you believe in Jesus as God's Son, you are in the “believing state.”



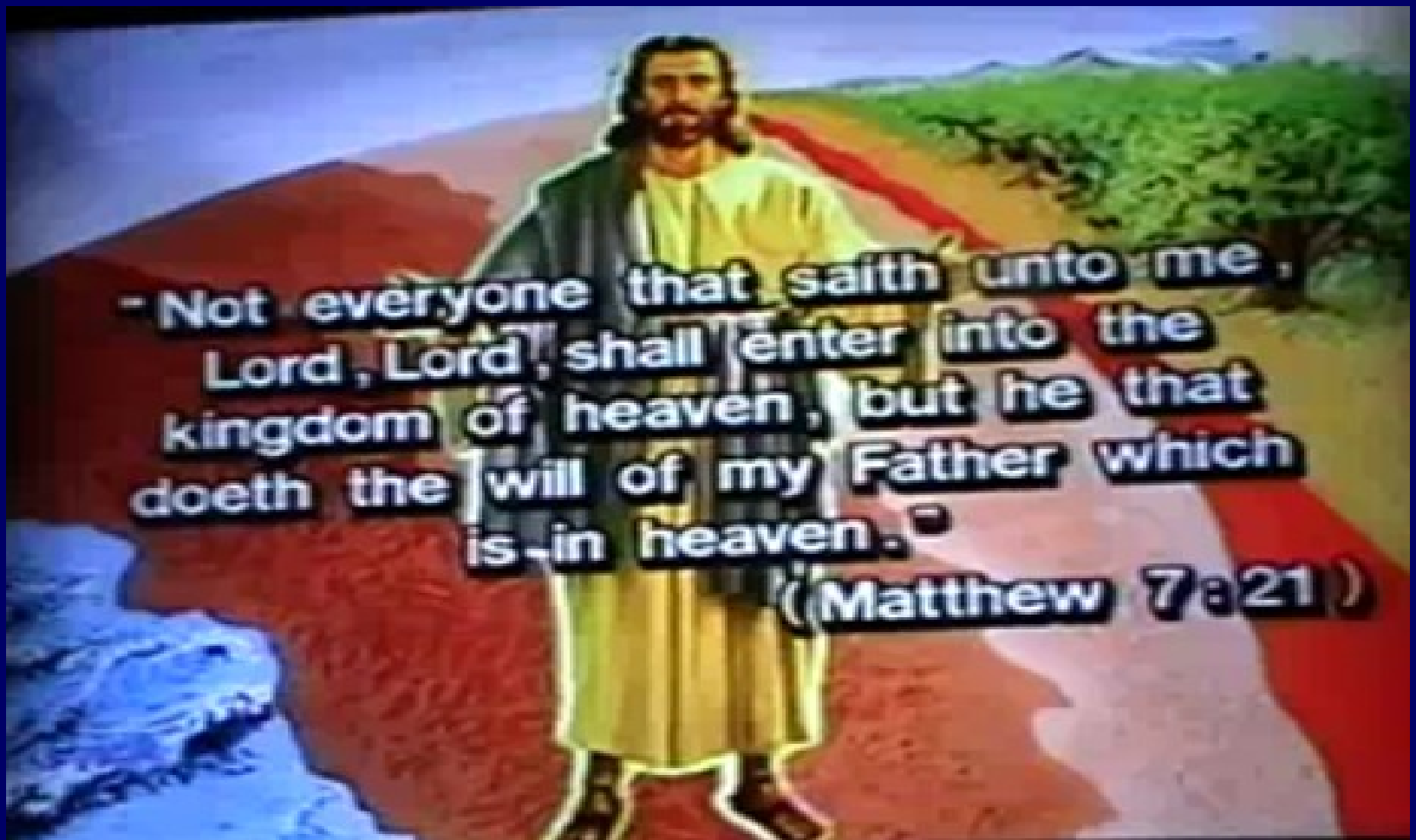


**If your faith** has led you to turn from sin  
and **turn back towards God,**  
you are in the **“turning state.”**

If you are eager now  
**to confess your faith in Christ,**  
only one thing  
stands between you and salvation,  
**You need cleansing by the BLOOD of Christ.**

**Where you are at this moment**  
could well determine  
**where you will be throughout eternity.**

**JESUS SAID** “Not every one that says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but **he that does the will of my Father** which is in heaven.” (Matthew 7:21;)



**It is God's will that you be saved.  
He sent His Son to make it possible.**

**He gave His inspired word to show the way.  
He holds out His promise to encourage you.**

**JESUS is waiting for YOU  
to SURRENDER YOUR LIFE  
completely TO HIM.**

**The choice,  
the final decision, must be yours.**

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## **Part 4-c**

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**Next in the series:-**

**Part 5:- God's People through history.**