Reasons For Being A Christian

Intro: There are many reasons why someone should be a Christian. In this lesson I want us to look at some reasons for being a Christian from three aspects.

I. One’s Past
   A. Is one of sin
      1. Rom. 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
      2. Gal. 3:22 “But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”
   B. Dead in sins
      1. Rom. 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
      2. Eph. 2:1-3 “And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.”
   C. Under the power of sin and Satan
      1. John 8:34 “Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeeth sin is the servant of sin.”
      2. Rom. 6:6, 12-13, 16, 20 “Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.... 12Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.... 16Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?... 20For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.”
      3. 2 Pet. 2:19 “While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.”

II. One’s Present
   A. We only have the promise of the present time
      1. Heb. 9:27 “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”
      2. Jam. 4:13-15 “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 14Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. 15For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.”
      3. 1 Pet. 1:24 “For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:”
   B. Our life should be enriched with:
      1. True life
         a. John 1:4 “In him was life; and the life was the light of men.”
         b. John 8 12 “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”
c. John 10:10 “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”
d. 1 Tim. 4:8 “For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.”

2. Joy
   a. When we become a Christian
      (1) Acts 8:39 “And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.”
      (2) Acts 16:34 “And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.”
   b. In being a Christian
      (1) Phi. 3:1 “Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.”
      (2) Phi. 4:4 “Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.”
      (3) 1 The. 5:16 “Rejoice evermore.”

3. Peace of heart
   a. Peace with God
      (1) Rom. 5:1 “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”
      (2) Col. 1:20 “And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.”
   b. Peace with self
      (1) John 14:27 “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”
      (2) Phi. 4:7 “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”
   c. Peace with others
      (1) Mat. 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”
      (2) Rom. 12:18 “If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.”
      (3) Eph. 2:14-17 “For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.”

4. God’s promises
   a. 2 Pet. 1:4 “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”
   b. Not to leave or forsake us; Heb. 13:5-6 “Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. 6So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”
   c. To hear our prayers; 1 John 5:14-15 “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15And if we know that he heareth us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”
   d. To make a way of escape when temptations come; 1 Cor. 10:13 “There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to
be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

c. Provide us with necessities of life (Mat. 6:24-34)

d. Be with us in the hour of death; Psa. 23:4 “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.”

III. One’s Future

A. There is one of two destinies

1. Mat. 7:13-14 “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

2. Mat. 25:31-46

B. Heaven

1. 2 Cor. 5:1-4, 8 “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: 3If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. ‘For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.... 4We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

2. Phi. 3:20-21 “For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”

3. 1 Pet. 1:4 “To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,”

C. Hell

1. Mat. 13:40-42 “As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

2. Mark 9:43-44 “And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: “Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”

3. Rev. 14:11 “And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”

4. 2 Thc. 1:9 “Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”

Conclusion: Your soul is too important not to become a Christian. Mark 8:36-37 “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? 37Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” Do what is necessary to gain true life by becoming a Christian.