

What Are The Benefits?

Introduction. Psalm 103:2 says, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." Ever since Adam and Eve sinned in the garden of Eden, God established a plan for mankind's redemption. That plan came through Israel and then was offered to all men (Genesis 12:3; Galatians 4:28). Isaiah said that God's salvation was near to come (Isaiah 56:1). Now is the acceptable time of salvation (Isaiah 49:8; 2 Corinthians 6:2). In order to be saved, one must hear the word (Romans 10:17; Ephesians 1:13). If that word becomes implanted (James 1:21), then one will obey. If one decides to obey the gospel, then what are the benefits of obedience?

I. ***The Benefits Of Faith***

- A. It pleases God (Hebrews 11:6).
- B. It allows us to be sons of God (John 1:12).
- C. It justifies us (Romans 3:23-25, 28; James 2:24).
- D. It is necessary for one's salvation (John 8:24).

II. ***The Benefits Of Repentance***

- A. It reveals the goodness of God (Romans 2:4).
- B. It blots out our sins (Acts 3:19).
- C. It is part of the remission of our sins (Acts 2:38).
- D. It is necessary for one's salvation (Luke 13:1-5; 2 Corinthians 7:10).

III. ***The Benefits Of Confession***

- A. It gives evidence of what one believes (Acts 8:35-37).
- B. It shows that we are of God (1 John 4:2, 15).
- C. It permits one to be confessed by Jesus before His Father (Matthew 10:32-33).
- D. It is necessary for one's salvation (Romans 10:9-10).

IV. ***The Benefits Of Baptism***

- A. It washes away our sins (Acts 22:16).
- B. It puts one into Christ (Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:26-27).
- C. It puts one into the body of Christ, the church (Acts 2:41, 47; 1 Corinthians 12:13).
- D. It is necessary for one's salvation (Mark 16:15-16; 1 Peter 3:21).

Conclusion. Will we render to God what is due Him (2 Chronicles 32:25)? Psalm 116:12 says, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?" Once one has received the benefits of obedience to the Lord, they must remain faithful to Him (Matthew 19:29; Matthew 25:34-40, 46; 2 Timothy 4:6-8; Revelation 2:10). It is imperative that we

not turn back to the world (Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-31, 39; 2 Peter 2:20-22).
In Mark 12:34, Jesus replied to a scribe by telling him that he was not far
from the kingdom of God. How far are you from the kingdom of God?