

So how do we receive this guarantee? The answer is that we receive the risen Lord Jesus into our lives. We just ask Him to come, by the Holy Spirit, into our hearts. It is a spiritual transaction, as in us we have a spirit (the same as our heart), which is quite capable of accommodating the Spirit of God. That is what happened to Peter and John and the other early apostles. It happened to the apostle Paul too, and changed their lives. Such a blessing must do surely, when we have the Spirit of the Eternal God inside of us.

So we receive Jesus; we have to realise and admit that the wages of sin, our wrongdoing, is death, which is why we eventually die, but the gift of God is eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 6.23). That is how we fulfil the conditions of the guarantee. When Jesus comes He brings His life with Him; God gave Jesus to have life and He brings His life to all who will receive Him. The apostle John tells us *"If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life"*. (1 John 5 9-12)

So here is the good news, here is the guarantee; the testimony or record or statement or word of God is greater than that of humans. If we don't believe this we are calling God a liar, strong stuff. But if we believe, we have the witness/evidence/record in us. It is not on a piece of paper which we wave when the washing machine repair man turns up but the guarantee is actually placed in our hearts, where we can constantly be aware of it. Remember this is a spiritual transaction so we need a spiritual guarantee. This is the record or the word that God has given, the word is that He has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son. So God is saying "Eternal life is in my Son and when He comes to you He will give you my confirmation in your heart that you have eternal life". It starts the moment you receive the Lord Jesus and He changes your life. That is how you know. Of course if you have not received Jesus then you won't have the confirmation which leads to confidence, assurance and peace of mind.

It really is quite that simple. God puts the confirmation in our hearts and that is the assurance that millions of Christians have testified to over the past two millennia. Look at all the other religions, none of them gives this sort of guarantee. So when our bodies die, the eternal life is already in our souls and takes us into the presence of God. The Bible speaks of God putting his seal on us, as they sealed letters in the old days with a seal of wax and a stamp, and giving us His guarantee in our hearts. It also speaks about the Holy Spirit being the "guarantee of the purchased possession". As we have seen God puts His guarantee in our hearts and this is the guarantee for what has already been paid for, or purchased. The Bible tells us that Jesus paid the price for our salvation; He did everything required to give eternal life to us and redeem our spirits, souls and bodies. His Spirit coming to us is the guarantee that everything will be provided for us. So our bodies? We get new ones when Jesus comes; the old ones are worn out and corrupt and need replacing, but here is the promise; it is of new bodies. These new ones have no corruption in them. The Bible tells us that they will be like Jesus' body; brilliant, great result, problem solved.

How do I get this sort of guarantee? Receive the guarantor, receive the Lord Jesus and you will find the guarantee in your heart. The Bible tells us when we receive the Lord Jesus that we have been born again, giving us a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It is a hope that is alive and works in our lives, providing the guarantee and assurance of eternal life in this life and that which is to come. It is in and for every person who has received the Lord Jesus. Receive the Lord Jesus today; He who has the Son has life!



www.revivalUK.org.uk



revivalUK

Turning the Nation
back to Jesus Christ



The
Guarantee
We ALL
Need!

The Guarantee we all need

If you buy something these days you really want a guarantee with the item, a warranty as it can also be called. New vehicles always come with a guarantee and now, to persuade buyers to make a purchase, so can some second hand cars. Breakdown cover is popular, the AA, RAC, Green Flag or whoever provide a guarantee and therefore peace of mind as we travel. Washing machines, TVs, computers and even holidays come with some sort of guarantee. You want to be sure that you can always get home from abroad, or if your washing machine breaks down someone will come and repair it at no cost. Most guarantees are time limited; they have to be, as in this world everything will stop working at some point. Sometimes things are given a lifetime guarantee, whatever that means. If it is the lifetime of the purchaser then that is still time limited.

Some companies run extended warranty schemes, at some cost to the purchaser, to give an assurance that what ever happens, if the vehicle, machine or whatever breaks down, someone will put it back together or provide a replacement free of charge. In modern society we seem to want more and more assurances about these things as we become more and more dependent on machines for our survival. Panic seems to break out if the electricity goes off, even for a short time. It is considered such an important thing that news bulletins will state that "So many homes are without power", and immediately, at least in developed countries, there is a race to get the electricity back on as soon as possible. Of course without electricity, usually, the heating and lighting won't work, all the computer controlled things won't work either and maybe more important than anything else people will miss their TV programmes. Even that can be guaranteed, in a way, these days with the clever boxes which can find and play for you programmes which you have missed. If this is not on the TV, then on your computer, but only when the power comes back on!

People also have great concerns, even fears, about their health. Everyone wants to be well, and if they are not then to have their health restored as soon as possible. Human beings, at least our bodies, are really machines, very clever

and complicated machines and they do go wrong. Some sicknesses are very minor and the body will resolve them itself. In fact human bodies, as we have said, are very clever and indeed have a built in repair and protection system. This is constantly at work to keep us healthy. Some diseases are more serious and the hope is that doctors, with all their clever medicines and treatments, can solve the problem and bring us back to full health again. Obviously even doctors have their limitations. The problem is aging; everyone and everything gets older. Yes there are all sorts of creams and even surgical methods to "hide the signs of aging" but they only cover it up, they don't stop it, and eventually some vital part will stop working. You can put a new engine in a car and now even put a new heart, or new lungs or a new kidney in a human body, but there are limits, and in the end everything stops working. For the human being, as for all forms of life, this means death.

It is all really very sad how corruptible and mortal we humans all are and that eventually the end of our lives has to come. We can see how corruptible things are; if you leave the meat out of the fridge too long, or the milk or the bread, they just go rotten. There is a principle of corruption though the whole of our world. Wouldn't it be good if there was a guarantee, a method, to overcome this whole problem? How great it would be if nothing ever wore out. Humans are wonderful beings and it is so sad when we lose a loved one and all their unique character is, seemingly, lost for ever.

There is however a guarantee, a guarantee of eternal life; "An eternal life time guarantee". To provide such a guarantee someone or something who/which is eternal must provide it, a mortal person cannot give any sort of everlasting guarantee. That, therefore, is where God comes in. The Bible, - ok you might not accept it as true, but please just give a moment to look at this and read on, - tells us that God is eternal. This means He always has been and always will be. So, if this is true, then there is a possibility that God can provide an eternal guarantee, the guarantee we all need, which should and

must bring peace to our hearts. If we have a current guarantee or breakdown cover when the car goes wrong there is the assurance we need when we set off on a journey. In the same way, as we journey through life we can live our lives without fear and with peace of mind if God provides a guarantee of eternal life at the end and we keep to the terms of the guarantee.

So how does it work? Firstly, please understand that you, that is every human being, are a living soul. You are more than just your body, it is your soul that needs eternal life. Your soul is really just you with all the aspects of your personality, emotions, intellect and character.

Possibly the most famous verse in the Bible is John chapter 3 verse 16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes on Him should not perish but have everlasting life". The word perish is used and means to be lost for ever; it is the opposite of eternal life. So the gift of God is to give eternal life in His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus was raised from the dead (there are many books which look at the truth of this very closely: see more details on the website www.revivaluk.org.uk but for a moment please just read on, perhaps look them up later); this means that Jesus has come back from the dead, and when He died rather than death overcoming Him, He overcame death. So as far as death is concerned "Jesus is the Boss". He states that God has given Him the authority to give eternal life to those God has given Him. "It is just so good to be in control". So, if we believe what is being said, there is a way Jesus can provide this eternal guarantee. Jesus says He has this authority and as He rose from the dead, (He was seen by lots of people after His resurrection and millions of Christians down the past 2000+ years have the same testimony that Jesus Christ is alive and risen from the dead) this authority provides the basis for this guarantee. Of course to be of any value this guarantee has to be provided before we die.