

Obedience To The Gospel Is Essential

Text : **Hebrews 4: 14 – 5: 10**, esp. (vs 5)

**A. No doctrine has been more debated than the most basic question of all :
“What must I do to be saved?”**

**S#1.
S#2.**

1. There are any number of things that differing religious bodies teach on it.
 - a. Believe, Repent, Confess, and be Baptized
 - b. Believe, Repent, and Confess
 - c. Believe, Repent, and Pray
 - d. Believe, and Pray
 - e. Believe
 - f. Call on the name of the Lord ; Accept the Lord and your personal savior
2. All quote scriptures that sustain their teaching.
3. Does the scripture contradict itself ? *Does one just choose one and go with it ?*

S#3.

B. Does man have a part in the salvation process or is it totally God’s working ?

1. Does God award faith to some people as is taught by some ?
2. Does God miraculously change the hearts of some so that they can believe ?
3. Does a person have to reach a certain level of righteousness in order to be saved ?
4. Can a person lead a life centered around his personal happiness and still be saved ?
5. Can a person who had faith at one time but now leads a sinful life still be saved ?

C. This study will consider the relationship of obedience to salvation.

S#4.

I. Salvation is a universal need.

S#5.

A. The reason sin is a universal problem is because everyone sins.

S#6.

1. No one can lead a perfect life and never sin.

Rom. 3: 10 – as it is written, “There is none righteous, not even one;

S#7.

23 – for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

2. At times everyone strays away from God by seeking to please himself.

S#8.

Isa. 53: 6 – **All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.**

3. Sin is easy to commit.

S#9.

- a. **John 3: 4** ... To break the law of God is sin.
- b. **Matt. 5: 27-28** ... To desire to break God’s law is sin.

- c. **Rom. 13: 1-2** ... To break man's law is sin.
 - d. **Rom. 14: 22-23** ... To break one's own law is sin.
 - e. **James 4: 17** ... To fail to do all you could do is sin.
4. It doesn't matter who you are or where you live, you are going to sin.

B. No one who is guilty of sin will go to Heaven ... NOT EVEN ONE.

S#10.

1. Sin separates people from our holy God.

Isa. 59: 1-2 Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short That it cannot save;
Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. ² But your iniquities
have made a separation between you and your God, And your
sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.

S#11.

2. This separation is referred to as "*spiritual death*."

S#12.

Rom. 6: 23 – For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is
eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

3. Though alive, those who live like everyone around them are spiritually dead.

S#13.

Eph. 1: 1-2 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ² in which you
formerly walked according to the course of this world,

C. Salvation is from the guilt of sin.

S#14.

1. Jesus came specifically to take away the sins of all who will come to Him.

S#15.

- a. **Matt. 1: 21** – She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus,
for He will save His people from their sins."

- b. **I Tim. 1: 15** – It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,
among whom I am foremost of all.

S#16.

2. The message about Jesus has always been that He takes away sin.

S#17.

- a. **John 1: 29** – The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold,
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

- b. **Acts 13: 38** – Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that
through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you,

S#18.

D. Salvation from sin is found only in Jesus.

S#19.

1. When asked, "You do not want to go away also, do you?"

S#20.

John 6: 68 – Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have words of eternal life."

2. Peter continued preaching that same message after the ascension.

S#21.

Acts 4: 12 – And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name
under heaven that has been given among men by which we
must be saved.

II. Jesus offers salvation to all, but that salvation is conditional.**S#22.****S#23.****A. Jesus gives forgiveness conditional on belief that He is the Christ the son of God.**

1. **John 8: 24** – Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins. **S#24.**
2. **Acts 10: 43** – Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.
3. **Eph. 2: 8-9** For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. **S#25.**

B. Jesus gives salvation conditional upon repentance.**S#26.**

1. Repentance was the thrust of the message preached in the time of Christ.
 - a. **Matt. 3:2** ... John the baptizer preached repentance.
 - b. **Matt. 4: 17** ... Jesus preached repentance.
 - c. **Mark 6: 12** ... The disciples preached repentance.
2. Jesus commanded that repentance be preached everywhere.
 - a. Repentance is FOR forgiveness of sins. **S#27.**
Luke 24: 46-47 and He said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
 - b. The Apostles Peter preached that repentance is necessary **before** forgiveness. **S#28.**
Acts 3: 19 – Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord
 - c. The Apostle Paul preached that everyone was required to repent. **S#29.**
Acts 17: 30 – Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,

C. Jesus gives salvation conditional upon publically confessing Him.**S#30.**

1. Jesus taught this as part of His message. (*No secret agents in His kingdom.*) **S#31.**
 - a. **Matt. 10: 32** – Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven.
 - b. **I Tim. 6: 12** ... Timothy made his confession in front of many witnesses.
2. The Apostle Paul also linked confession to salvation. **S#32.**
Rom. 10: 10 – for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

3. The Apostle John explained that confession was essential to salvation. **S#33.**

a. **I John 4: 15** – Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

b. **I John 2: 23** – Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also. **S#34.**

Note : Denial can be done by deeds without words.

Tit. 1: 16 – They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.

D. Jesus gives forgiveness conditional on obedience to His will. **S#35.**

1. **Heb. 5: 9** – And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, **S#36.**

2. Jesus said that ONLY those who obey His will are going to be saved. **S#37.**

Matt. 7: 21 – Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

3. The Apostle Paul was told he must DO things in order to be saved. **S#38.**

a. Paul (Saul) saw Jesus and talked with Him so he certainly believed in Jesus.

b. **Acts 22: 10** – And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Get up and go on into Damascus, and there you will be told of all that has been appointed for you to do.’

c. After Saul’s conversation with Jesus and receiving these instructions He was told.

Acts 22: 16 – Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name. **S#39.** (*Still had sin.*)

S#40.

III. Salvation by grace through faith alone does not negate the need for obedience.

A. Belief must become faith before it can save anyone. **S#41.**

1. The devils believe, they know and are convinced that Jesus is God. **S#42.**

a. **James 2: 19** – You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

b. **Mark 1: 24** – ... an unclean spirit; and he cried out, ²⁴ saying, “What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!” **S#43.**

2. Obviously the knowledge of God (belief) is not faith.

S#44.

B. Belief has become faith only when it becomes the force that directs one’s life.

1. Those in **Matt. 7** believe and enjoy the practice, but have not surrendered to Him.

2. Belief grows out of knowledge; it is a response. S#45.

Rom. 10: 17 – So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

3. Faith grows out of belief. S#46.

James 2: 17-18 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.
18 But someone may well say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

- *4. Having faith is to surrender one’s life to the control of Christ.

C. Faith is a form of obedience. S#47.

1. **Heb 11** is a list of people who turned control of their lives over to God.
2. Jesus told people that faith was the way to do the “works of God.” S#48.

John 6: 28-29 Therefore they said to Him, “What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?” **29** Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.”

3. The desired result of preaching the gospel is to produce a faith that obeys. S#49.

Rom. 16: 26 – by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith;

D. Being in Christ or a follower of Christ requires obedience. S#50.

1. **I John 3: 23-24** This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. S#51.
24 The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

2. **John 10: 27-28** My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; S#52.
28 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish;

E. Love is a form of obedience. S#53.

1. The very most important thing in one’s relationship with God is to love Him. S#54.

Matt. 22: 37 – And He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ”

2. Love for Christ is demonstrated by obedience to His instructions. S#55.

John 14: 15 – If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

3. Love is equated with obedience. S#56.

- a. **I John 5: 3** – For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

- b. Those without love would consider obedience burdensome.

IV. Salvation is only for those who obey the gospel of Christ.**S#57.****A. All people will be judged by God on the basis of their obedience.****S#58.**

1. **II Cor. 5: 10** – For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. **S#59.**
2. God's judgment will be comprehensive; **why** did we do or say the things we did?
I Cor. 4: 5 – ... wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God. **S#60.**
3. No man can stand such scrutiny, but there is salvation for those who obey Christ.
Heb. 5: 9 – And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation **S#61.**

B. Salvation depends upon one obeying the gospel of Christ.**S#62.**

- II Thes. 1: 7b-8** ... when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, **8** dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9** These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction.. **S#63.**

C. What is the Gospel ?**S#64.**

- I Cor. 15: 1-4** Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, **2** by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. **3** For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, **S#65.**
- S#66.**

D. How does one obey a death, burial and resurrection ?**S#67.**

1. **Rom. 6: 17-18** But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, **18** and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. **S#68.**
2. The form of teaching about the death, the burial and the resurrection is baptism. **S#69.**
Rom. 6: 3-4 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? **4** Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. **S#70.**

E. When this obedience is motivated by faith it puts one in Christ. (Gal 3:26-27)**#71**

Lesson Text :

Hebrews 4: 14 – 5:10 (esp. 5:9)

14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **15** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin. **16** Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

5: 1 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins; **2** he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also is beset with weakness; **3** and because of it he is obligated to offer *sacrifices* for sins, as for the people, so also for himself. **4** And no one takes the honor to himself, but *receives it* when he is called by God, even as Aaron was.

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, “*You are My Son, today I have begotten You*” **6** just as He says also in another *passage*, “*You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.*” **7** In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety. **8** Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. **9** And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, **10** being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

*** 9** And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,