

“Sirs, What Must I Do To Be Saved?!”
(Slide 1)

Reading: Acts 2:29-38

In the church of Christ, many of our Brethren have presented lessons on the very question asked above. Generally stated; *“What must I do to be saved?!”*

A question that can be answered with the Holy Scripture because God *“desires”* us to be saved!! Peter says:

2 Peter 3:9 (Slide 2)

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

But one day *His* patience will run out. One day, those who have not repented, who have not asked the question or have ignored the question altogether, *“what must I do to be saved”* will perish and perish for eternity.

There will be no do overs. No second chances and that day will come the day we die or if we are still alive, when Jesus returns. So heed the admonition from the Holy Scriptures.

“Sirs, What Must I Do To Be Saved?!”

1. We must hear and hear the “Word of God!”

Romans 10:8b-17 (Slide 3)

“THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, 9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; (Slide 4) 10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in

righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; (Slide 5) for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; 13 for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? (Slide 6) How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? 15 How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!"

(Slide 7) 16 However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Hearing the "Word" should cause "faith" concerning His message. And this faith is a faith of "action." In our reading the people who crucified Jesus, when they heard Peter's message, acted on their belief, their faith. The jailer acted on his faith.

2. Their action caused repentance.

Repentance is a necessary step for salvation!

Acts 2:38 (Slide 8)

Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Paul speaking to King Agrippa tells him what he has been doing since his conversion, because of his faith:

Acts 26:19-20 (Slide 9)

19 “So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then (Slide (Slide 10) throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

3. We must confess publicly that Jesus is the Christ, The Son of the Living God.

That confession can be spoken before the entire church or to a faithful servant of Christ one on one.

Jesus says in:

Matthew 10:32 (Slide 11)

“Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven.

We read in Romans that the Apostle states that confession is necessary.

Now so many religions today would tell you that you’ve arrived. You believe, you’ve repented, you’ve confessed that Jesus is The Christ. Just simply ask Jesus into your heart or say the sinner's prayer.

That’s not the totality of an active faith! In fact, these statements cannot be found in “God’s Word!”

If that were all that was necessary why would Jesus, speaking of baptism, that is *buried-immersed* totally in water, say:

John 3:3 (Slide 12)

Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Why would Jesus, after His resurrection, instruct His Apostles in:

Matthew 28:18b-20a (Slide 13)

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you;

4. We are to be Baptized

Mark 16:16 (Slide 14)

He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

An active faith will cause one to be *"Baptized!!"* One who is not will be condemned. Without baptism we are without the forgiveness of sin.

Acts 22:16 (Slide 15)

Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.

5. We must then live faithfully.

Matthew 7:21 (Slide 16)

"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."

2 Peter 2:20-22 (Slide 17)

20 For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. (Slide 18) 21 For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. 22 It has happened to them according to the true proverb, (Slide 19) "A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

(Slide 20) The benefits of being in Christ is to have: your salvation assured, sins washed away, an intimate relationship with God, with Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit. In addition, one will have a tremendous support system in Christ's church.

Hebrews 3:13 (Slide 21)

But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

We live in a world that offers no hope, a dead hope or in many ways, a false hope. There simply is no hope without Christ. This is the Gospel call. The saving hope through the life giving blood of Christ Jesus!! Today is the day!!

Invitation

Today, if you haven't accepted the Gospel call; why wait?!! Hear the invitation, repent, confess your belief in Jesus as Christ, and submit yourself to that watery grave of baptism that will indeed bring you to Life. The Lord Himself will add you to His church.

If you have been baptized but haven't lived according to your commitment, may we pray for you and with you as you travel this journey in Christ on earth.

Until the Lord comes: make your wish known before He returns.

Reading:

Acts 2:29-38

29 "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE, 31 he looked ahead and spoke

of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY. 32 This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. 34 For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says:

***'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD,
"SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,***

35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET."

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified."

37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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