

WHAT MUST ONE DO TO BE SAVED?

Ac.2:36-38

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Our question for discussion is :What Must One Do To Be Saved?
2. By this question we mean what must one do to be saved from past sins?
3. We are not, in this lesson, dealing with future or eternal salvation, but with salvation from past sins. However, unless one is first saved from past sin, there can never be any hope of future eternal salvation.
4. To properly and scripturally answer our question there are several other questions that must be asked and scripturally answered, such as the following:

II. DISCUSSION

A. WHY DOES ONE NEED TO BE SAVED?

1. Obviously, because that one is lost spiritually? He is a sinner!

B. WHO IS SAID TO BE LOST IN SIN AND WHY IS HE LOST?

1. According to 1Jno.3:4 all who have transgressed the law of God have committed sin.
2. According to Rom.3:23 “all have sinned,” thus all responsible people have transgressed the law of God. Cf. Rom.3:9-23
3. According to Gal.3:22 all violators of God’s law are “concluded under sin”; that is, they are “shut up under,” or “bound under the sweeping sentence” or condemnation of sin.
4. Therefore, all such sinners are separated from God and his spiritual blessings; they are without hope, and subject to eternal condemnation if they die in that state, Isa.59:1,2; 2Jno9; Mt.7:13,14,21-23; Lk.13:3; 1Th.4:13; 2Th.1:6-10.

C. WHO IS THE ONLY SAVIOR AND THE ONLY PERSON WHO POSSESSES THE AUTHORITY TO TELL THE SINNER WHAT TO DO TO BE SAVED?

1. Jesus is the Savior, the one and only Savior, Mt.1:21; Lk.19:10; Jno.3:14-18,36; 8:24; 20:30,31; Ac.4:10-12. Cf. Heb.2:9.
2. He is God’s official spokesmen for this age; the only one to tell us what God wants us to know, Mt.3:16,17; Mt.17:5; Heb.1:1-3; (Deut.18:18,19; Ac.3:22,23).
3. Furthermore, all authority in heaven and in earth has been given to Jesus by the Father, Mt.28:18; 1Cor.15:25-27a; Eph.1:19-23; Col.1:18; 3:17; 1Pet.3:22.
4. He is the author of eternal salvation to all who obey him, Heb.5:8,9; Lk.6:46.

5. He is the divinely appointed Judge of all men who at his 2nd Coming shall be judged by his word, Jno.5:22,27-29; Ac.17:31; Rom.2:16; 2Cor.5:10; 2Tim.4:1; Jno.12:48-50.

D. WHAT HAS JESUS, THE SAVIOR, THE RULING KING, WHO HAS ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND EARTH, AND THE FUTURE JUDGE OF ALL MEN, SAID ONE MUST DO TO BE SAVED AND HOW HAS HE REVEALED IT TO US?

1. He tells us by means of his chosen Spirit-guided apostles whom he commissioned to be his official spokesmen, his Ambassadors to bind and to loose his will on earth while he is in heaven at God's right hand, Mt.16:13-19; 18:18; Jno.17:8,18,20,21; 2Cor.5:17-20; Eph.3:1-5; Gal.1:6-12. Cf. Jno.14:26; 15:26,27; 16:7,8,13-15; Lk.24:49; Ac.1:1-8; 2:1-4; 2Cor.12:12.
2. The Great Commission under which the apostles of Christ operated revealing the basic conditions of salvation from past sins is recorded in Mt.28:18-20; Mk.16:15,16; Lk.24:44-49; Jno.20:19-23.
3. The Book of Acts records the history of the Apostles' preaching under this Commission as they carried out their mission under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Ac.2:1-47; 8:5-15; 9:5,6 (22:16);10:1-6,47,48; 16:11-15; 16:25-34; 18:8; Cf. 1Pet.3:21.
4. Cf. 1Cor.14:37.

III. CONCLUSION

1. Since we are to do all things by the authority of Jesus, Col.3:17; and to the glory of God, 1Cor.10:31;
2. And since we are commanded not to add to, take from, or substitute for, what is authorized, Deut.4:2; 1Cor.4:6; 1Pet.4:11; Rev.22:18,19.
3. Dare we suggest there is some other way to be saved than the Lord's specified way?!! Cf. Prov.14:12.
4. So you can see what we are teaching is not "church of Christ" doctrine; it's the "doctrine of Christ".
5. It is not simply something we decided is necessary for one to do to be saved; it is what the Lord himself said is necessary! How can you afford to deny it? Refuse it? Fail to obey it and be willing to face the consequences?