

## IN ORDER TO BE SAVED

On the birthday of the church, after the gospel had been preached, this question was asked: **“Men and brethren, what shall we do?”** (Acts 2:37). Saul of Tarsus asked, **“What shall I do, Lord?”** (Acts 22:10), and the trembling jailer at Philippi inquired, **“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”** (Acts 16:30).

No more important question can engage the mind of a thinking person. Upon the correct answer to this question our very souls’ salvation depends. In this article we want to give some serious consideration to this all-important question and the Bible answer thereto.

First, what must we know to be saved? Many poor souls do not know enough to be saved, but we cannot be saved until we know the truth. Jesus said, **“Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”** (John 8:32). It takes a knowledge of the truth to save us from our sins. To be saved, we must know the Lord. We have this language in Hebrews 8:11: **“And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.”** This passage is a quotation from Jeremiah 31:34.

In the New Testament plan of salvation, one is taught a knowledge of the Lord before becoming a Christian. This precludes infant church membership. Infant church membership is unknown in the New Testament. To be saved, one must know the doctrine of Christ. Jesus said, **“If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself”** (John 7:17). One can be saved for time and eternity and be in total ignorance of the doctrines and commandments of men, but one cannot be saved and be ignorant of the doctrine of Christ.

### What Must We Believe?

We must believe that God is. **“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”** (Heb. 11:6). We must also believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house”** (Acts 16:31).

We must believe the gospel of Christ. **“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek”** (Rom. 1:16). In His farewell commission to the apostles,

Jesus said, **“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned”** (Mark 16:16). We must believe in our own ability to do all the things God commands us to do. **“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”** (Phil. 4:13).

### How Must We Feel?

There is much controversy in the religious world relative to the part feelings play in matters religious. One cannot be saved until he feels he is a sinner and in need of salvation. The prodigal son finally came to himself and felt he was in need of the blessings that only his father could bestow. He said, **“I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants”** (Luke 15:18-19). He certainly felt his sins and his unworthiness.

Thus ought the sinner to feel in coming to the heavenly Father. We should indeed feel sorrowful for our sins. **“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death”** (2 Cor. 7:10). We must feel determined to do what the Father commands us to do. But if we feel we are saved before obeying His commands we have the wrong feelings.

### What Must We Do?

There are four things the sinner must do to get rid of his past sins. He must believe, or have faith. **“And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name”** (John 20:30-31). Jesus did many things that are not written, but enough are written to cause any honest soul to believe that He is the Son of God.

After believing, we must repent of our sins. **“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent”** (Acts 17:30). **“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...”** (Acts 2:38).

We must confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. This is how He said it: **“Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny**

**before my Father which is in heaven”** (Matt. 10:32-33). Again, in Romans 10:9-10 we have this language: **“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”** Then to get into Christ, we must be baptized. In no other way can we receive the remission of our sins (Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-5).

### How Must We Live?

Getting saved and keeping saved are not the same thing. We may be saved from our past sins, thus becoming Christians, members of the body of Christ, but finally be lost in hell. We must keep saved. How must we do this? We must live godly lives. **“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world”** (Titus 2:11-12). My brother or sister, do these adverbs describe the way you are living? If God were telling it, would He say you are living soberly, righteously, and godly? I’m afraid there are many members of the church — even preachers — who are not so living. Note also that this living is to be done now, **“in this present world.”** That does not sound much like a “second chance,” does it?

No, my friends, the doctrine of a “second chance” is of the devil — devilish. The Christian must be busily engaged in the work of the Lord. Thus did Paul admonish the Corinthian brethren: **“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know your labor is not in vain in the Lord”** (1 Cor. 15:58). We may do many things in vain, but, thanks be to God, what we do in the Lord is not in vain. The Christian will do good unto all men, especially those of the household of faith (Gal. 6:10).

If you are not a Christian, become one by faith in Christ, repentance of your sins, confession of faith, and baptism into Christ for the remission of your sins.

**Fred E. Dennis** from *GospelPreceptor.com*

## **ANNIVERSARY**

David and Joy Parish, 06-14.

## **ILL**

**Sunday:** Anne Adams, Janice Carter (PM). **Wednesday:** Anne Adams. Allen Scott is in Room 311 Bed 2 at the Olathe Medical Center. He will have a procedure on Monday to add a wire to his pacemaker. Bob Adams had a medical battery replacement procedure on June 6. Ledgia Campbell had surgery at OU Medical Center on June 7 and is in Room 751. Ron Woods had tests at the Mayo Clinic in Florida last week. Elizabeth Ray was dismissed from the hospital. **Those battling cancer:** Kim Clark is in the Lee's Summit Hospital, Diane Cannon, and Ledgia Campbell. Please remember these in your prayers, as well as: Janice Carter, Allen Scott, and Ralph and Helen Franklin.

## **HOME BOUND**

Bob Adams is in Room D-4 of the Johnson County Nursing Center in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

## **OUT OF TOWN**

The Stillwell's were on vacation last week. Myron Nebergall was away on Wednesday PM.

## **SYMPATHY**

Our sympathy is extended to Julia Thrasher and her family in the passing of her father Graham Campbell of Marietta, OK in the early AM of Saturday, June 10. Funeral services will be held in Marietta, OK this week.

## **MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING**

Our monthly Men's Business Meeting will be held this Sunday, June 11 following our AM worship. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Sunday AM, 51; Sunday PM, 45; Wednesday PM, 41.

## **Those To Serve**

June 11, 2006

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Cole**

### **MORNING WORSHIP**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... George Thomas**  
**SONG LEADER..... Joel Nelson**  
**OPENING PRAYER ..... Myron Nebergall**  
**PRESIDE..... Jeff Nemechek**  
**ASSIST..... David Adams**  
**ASSIST..... John Cody Carter**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... Michael Simmons**

### **EVENING WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER ..... Charles Tullis**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... John Carter**  
**LORD'S SUPPER..... Jeff Nemechek**

**WEDNESDAY June 14th**

**SONG LEADER..... Michael Simmons**  
**INVITATION ..... Jeff Nemechek**

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday**

Bible Study ..... 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### **Wednesday**

Ladies Bible Study ..... 10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

**Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher**

**Phone: (913) 764-2325**

**E-mail: [olathecoc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olathecoc@sbcglobal.net)**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**515 WEST PARK**

**P.O. BOX 482**

**OLATHE, KANSAS 66051**

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