

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

by Ron Mosby

"For by grace are ye saved through: and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God bath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:8-10).

If any man will seek the will of God with an open mind and an honest heart and without any prejudice he must always remember that, "The SUM of God's word is TRUTH" (Psalms 119:160 – ASV). In coming to God's word we everyone must, "Cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (II Corinthians 10:5).

We also must realize that: (1) The Bible is the final authority in all matters religious and is without contradiction and cannot be broken (John 16:13; 10:35; II Timothy 3:16,17); (2) According to His abundant mercy and grace, God has permitted man to have access Through Faith into this grace wherein we stand (Romans 5:2; John 1:12); (3) According to the SUM of God's word, FAITH and OBEDIENCE are both prerequisites to man's salvation (Matthew 7:21-23; Mark 16:15,16; Hebrews 5:8,9); and (4) Man must HEAR of God and LEARN of God before he can COME to God (John 6:44, 45). There is no exception to this throughout God's word.

The purpose of this inquiry is to set forth the SUM of God's word regarding the complete answer to the most important question that any man has every asked, and that is: "WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?" The commands to be obeyed in the New Testament relevant to man's eternal salvation are the works of God - not man! Hence, let us examine the following WORKS OF GOD to see how he would have each of us to work out our own salvation in exactly the same way and with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12,13). The first and most important thing man derives from God's word is

1. **FAITH** — (John 6:29) Upon hearing God's word (the gospel message) the man possessing an honest and good heart will believe it (Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17). His faith then coupled with godly sorrow for all his past sins will lead him to...

2. **REPENTANCE** — (II Corinthians 7:10) Repentance, brought about by Godly sorrow, is a change of mind which effects a changed life and which brings no regrets (Matthew 3:8; Acts 2:37,38; 17:30). Once this change is present in the mind of the penitent believer he is then prepared to make the good ...

3. **CONFESSION** — (Romans 10:9,10; Matthew 10:32,33). The confession, "that Jesus is the Christ" is prerequisite to one building upon the only true foundation, Christ Himself (I Corinthians 3:11). When the name of Christ is confessed with the mouth, true

penitent believers can then complete their obedience and be added by the Lord to His church (Matthew 16:16-18; Romans 10:9,10; Acts 8:37). Upon one's confession that Jesus is the Christ, preparation is made the same hour of the day (Acts 2:41;16:33) for his ...

4. **BAPTISM** — Jesus commanded His apostles to baptize all nations (every creature) (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15,16). This simple act of faith completes the penitent believer's initial obedience to the WORKS OF GOD which enables him THEN to be made free from sin and to become a servant of righteousness (Romans 6:17,18). Through FAITH and OBEDIENCE to this command of Christ, the baptized believer at this point enters into Christ (Romans 6:3,4; Galatians 3:27), into the one body (the church) (I Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 1:22,23), and receives the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). Baptism in the New Testament is for the ...

5. **REMISSION OF SINS** — (Acts 2:38). The remission of sins always follows repentance and baptism when the latter are both mentioned in the same context (Acts 2:38; 22:16). After baptism, the newly born Christian is raised to walk in

6. **NEWNESS OF LIFE** — (Romans 6:3,4). Having been buried with Christ in baptism and raised to walk in newness of life, the obedient child of God will continue to walk in the light as God is in the light (I John 1:7). As a newborn babe he will desire the sincere milk of the word that he might begin his growth in GRACE and KNOWLEDGE of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (I Peter 2:1,2; II Peter 3:18; 1:5-10; Titus 2:11-14; Colossians 3:1-4; Revelation 2:10).

Note the TRUTH on our subject when considering the SUM of God's Word (Psa. 119:160).