

## FALSE PLAN # 3— “SAY THE SINNER’S PRAYER AND YOU WILL BE SAVED” (John 9:31).

This verse very clearly states that “God does not hear \_\_\_\_\_.” He only hears the prayers of those who worship Him and do his will.

**Luke 23:42,43** — When the thief asked Jesus for mercy, Jesus saved him,

by saying “Today you will be with me in \_\_\_\_\_.” However, nowadays we cannot be saved like the thief on the cross, because the thief lived under the Old Testament dispensation, whereas we today live under the New Testament dispensation which came into effect after Jesus breathed his last (Heb. 8:13; 12:24; Col.2:14). Today we live under a different law and testament than the thief, and are therefore required to keep the terms of the New Testament of Jesus Christ in order to be saved (Hebrews 12:24).

**Acts 22:16**— How do we “call on the name of the Lord” in order to be saved? Saul called on the name of the Lord”, not by saying a prayer but by

his action of arising and being \_\_\_\_\_. Saul had seen Jesus in a vision and had been praying (Acts 9:11), yet according to Acts 22:16, did Saul still have sins that needed to be washed away? \_\_\_\_

**Acts 2:21,38**— According to Acts 2:38, how did the people on the day of Pentecost call on the name of the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

### SCRIPTURAL BAPTISM

Sadly, most baptisms performed today are not performed according to the Biblical teaching. Some sprinkle babies, rather than immersing men and women as the Bible teaches (Acts 8:12). Most protestant denominations baptize NOT for the forgiveness of sins but as a witness that you were already saved without baptism the moment you accepted Jesus by saying “the sinners prayer.” Others baptize you to join their particular denomination. Some do not baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as Jesus commanded in Matthew 28:19, but in the name of Jesus only. If you were baptized in the name of Jesus only, by sprinkling, or for the wrong purpose, then you are not saved and therefore need to be baptized scripturally.

**Summary:** Is there any gift greater than that of salvation? With salvation also comes the peace of God, the assurance of heaven, freedom from fear, and a life full of meaning and purpose. Have you allowed Jesus to save you by believing in Him, repenting of your sins, confessing His deity and receiving Scriptural baptism? \_\_\_\_ In our next lesson, we will learn about the church, the spiritual kingdom which Jesus established shortly after his resurrection.

## OPEN BIBLE STUDIES

By Paul Melton

### PLAN OF SALVATION

#### Lesson 4



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Please locate in your Bible the following references and read each verse carefully before answering each question.

**Romans 5:6-9** — According to verse 9, what will those who are justified by the blood of Christ be saved from?

Rather than condemn us to hell (which we justly deserved), God saved us from His wrath by sending His only begotten Son to bear the punishment for our sins on the cross (1 Peter 2:24). This amazing act of love of the innocent dying for the guilty completely absolved us of all sin (justified us). Yet in order to receive the benefits of His atoning death in our lives, Jesus requires that we meet certain conditions. Only by fulfilling these requirements can we receive the gift of salvation freely provided by Jesus Christ.

**Acts 16:30** - The jailor asked, “What must I \_\_\_\_\_ to be saved?” Is there something the sinner must DO in order to be saved? \_\_\_\_

### GOD’S PLAN OF SALVATION

**STEP # 1—FAITH (John 8:24).** — To prevent dying in our sins, we

must \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus is the Son of God. By his working of miracles, his fulfillment of specific Old Testament prophecies and his resurrection from the grave, Jesus proved that he was more than just a prophet. Faith in Jesus is produced in our hearts by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). True faith is to be believe and obey all that Jesus taught.

**STEP # 2— REPENTENCE (Acts 3:19; 17:30)**— God will \_\_\_\_\_

out your sins if you \_\_\_\_\_ and are converted. Repentance is a decision to discontinue walking in sin and to begin keeping the commandments of Jesus found in the New Testament. An example of

repentance would be discontinuing your sexual relationship with the person with whom you are cohabitating, until such a time as you can get married (Hebrews 13:4). Repentance is a decision to leave off using bad language, seeing dirty movies, drinking, smoking, etc and to begin Bible study, prayer, faithful church attendance, and other Christian responsibilities.

**STEP # 3— CONFESSION (Romans 10:9,10)** — We must

confess with our mouth the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ in order to be saved.

**Matthew 16:16**— Peter confessed: “You are the \_\_\_\_\_ the Son of the living God.” Jesus blessed Peter for this confession. Will He bless you if you make the same confession of faith? \_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 8:35-38** - Take a moment and write down (in the blank below) the confession that the eunuch made before he was baptized.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Should you make this same confession before you are baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 10:32**— Can we confess Jesus when we are alone in the privacy of our own rooms? \_\_\_\_\_ This verse says we must confess Jesus before \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP # 4—WATER BAPTISM (MARK 16:16)** — Anyone who

believes AND is \_\_\_\_\_ shall be \_\_\_\_\_. Are we saved before we are baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 2:37-38**— What two things did Peter tell them to do in order to receive the forgiveness (remission) of sins?

Can a person have the forgiveness of his sins if he believes only and does NOT repent and is not baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 6:3-6** — We were \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus through baptism. Baptism is a burial. If you bury something, you don't just sprinkle a little dirt on it; you cover it completely with dirt. If you bury a person in baptism, must he/she be submerged in water, completely covered with water? \_\_\_\_\_

According to verse 6, our old man of sin goes into the water and is crucified with Christ in baptism, but when we rise from baptism, verse 4 says we rise

to walk in \_\_\_\_\_ of life. Is the sinner transformed into a new creature during the act of baptism? \_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 3:27** We have been baptized \_\_\_\_\_ Christ. At the moment of baptism, do we put on Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Peter 3:21** This verse says that “\_\_\_\_\_ also now saves us.” Is baptism merely the removal of impurities from the physical body? \_\_\_\_\_ Or is baptism the way we appeal to God for a new conscience? \_\_\_\_\_

**FALSE PLANS OF SALVATION**

**FALSE PLAN # 1 — “HAVE FAITH ONLY (WITHOUT WORKS OF OBEDIENCE) AND YOU WILL BE SAVED” (James 2:17-26)** —

Many claim that at the moment you assent in your mind to the fact that Jesus is the Son of God, you are saved. However, demons often shouted out their faith in Jesus at the Son of God during His earthly ministry (Mk.3:11), yet were the demons saved? \_\_\_\_\_

**James 2:24** says that a man is \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_, and

not by \_\_\_\_\_ only. The word “justified” according to Strong’s Greek Dictionary means “to render just or innocent.” Are we saved by faith only? \_\_\_\_\_ Are we saved (justified) by works of obedience? \_\_\_\_\_

**John 3:16**— Notice the phrase “**should** not perish.” Does this passage guarantee that if you believe you WILL not perish? \_\_\_\_\_. Does this passage teach that if you believe in Jesus you CAN perish, but that you SHOULD not? \_\_\_\_\_ Simply stated, if you believe in Jesus, you can and will perish if you only believe and then do not obey. However, if you believe in Jesus and then show your faith by obedience, then you WILL not perish, but have everlasting life.

**FALSE PLAN # 2 — “SAVE YOURSELF BY WORKS OF HUMAN MERIT” (Isaiah 64:6)** — Does this verse teach that all the works of our own righteousness are like filthy rags before God? \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 2:8,9**— Can a man save himself without the grace of God and without the sacrifice of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

Salvation is a gift of God, not of works lest any man should \_\_\_\_\_. According to this verse, if we boastfully claim to have done **works of merit** by which we think we have earned our salvation apart from the redemptive work of Christ, will we be saved? \_\_\_\_\_ In contrast, does this verse teach that we can be saved without **works of obedience** to Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 5:9**— Jesus became the author of eternal \_\_\_\_\_ to all who \_\_\_\_\_ Him. Are we saved by works of humble obedience? \_\_\_\_\_