

Saved

Genesis 3

1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" 2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" 4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. NKJV

A warning to not do as Eve did in first John chapter two. Eve did all these;

Do Not Love the World

1Jn 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Talk about Satan's lying and how he called God a liar. He did not know what God had said to Adam and Eve he had to ask. Then he basically said; no, God won't do what he said he would do. Is not this the same lie people still believe today? God is too good to do this thing. They call God's punishment evil; therefore, he won't do what he said he would do.

Are we not calling God a liar when we do this?

Joh 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. NKJV

Heb 6:18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

God is not doing evil when he does what he said he will do. Every time God warned ahead of time what the consequences were. His justice requires punishment. If God was not good, he would not have prepared a sacrifice to take away our sins by taking the punishment. In other words, Christ took away our punishment if we obey him. This was the only way God could stay true to his nature of Justice, Mercy and his Love.

Did he not give the first punishment as he said he would do?

Gen 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." NKJV

Yes, Adam and Eve died two ways first the spiritual death, which was separation from God and the physical death. It is possible Adam and Eve would still be here, if they had

not sinned and causing death to enter into the world? The tree of life was in the garden. God never intended for man to experience death.

Gen 3:22 *And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:*

Almost every sin today by Satan is caused by making men doubt God and his word, as he did with Eve. Remember this, because you will see it in the world today in every phase of life as Satan deceives the world. Another point we must understand: Satan seceded in causing the entire world to turn from God all except eight souls. The majority usually don't think they are wrong because of what they choose to believe. God has proven them wrong.

Gen 6:5 *Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. NKLV*

Satan wants to repeat this. God has already set a punishment for this, (Death) and provided a way for us to escape this by his son.

*By obeying Satan instead of God, we make him our ruler.
Christ is king not Satan!*

Rom 6:16 *Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? KJV*

Joh 14:30 *I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. 31 But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here. NKJV --- Flee the influence of sin.*

Joh 16:7 *Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. NKJV*

The scripture says Satan is the ruler of this world. And we wonder why there is human suffering. God never wanted this. But Satan wants you to blame God. If you do this, you have joined the enemy who caused you pain.

We are all under sin and are saved only by Christ.

Rom 3:23 *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, NKJV*

Rom 5:12 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned —19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. NKJV Christ was the man of obedience in this scripture.*

The Gospel saves through Christ

Joh 1:41 *He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the*

Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ)". 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone). NKJV

1Co 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, NKJV

We must be sure to follow God's word and not men. If we don't, we will be in Satan's camp.

Mat 7:13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. 15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them. 21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' 24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. 26 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: 27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." NKJV

Do you not think this next scripture referring to obvious error in Churches or people? I think because they thought to themselves, they were doing ok.

Notice this example:

Rev 3:1 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, "These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you. 4 You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.

The majority of this Church thought they were doing ok. God said no you are not. God did praise, those who were not deceived, as the majority was. Man's judgments are flawed. Use God's judgments in his word. All of God's word must be used for doctrine not just a few verses but all. In other words, if any people or group teaches anything that contradicts any scripture then they are in error. Scripture does not contradict itself in teaching.

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Keep me back from presumptuous sins.

I must not use my judgments and presume that we or I know what God wanted. Trust God's word for guidance.

Note: the Hebrew word which is translated "presumptuous" in different scriptures it is translated as "pride". In other words, we can be proud of our opinions to cause us to sin.

David who it was said he was seeking after God's own heart was guilty of presumptuous sins. One example is when he transported the Arc of the Covenant by ox cart instead of using the Levites to carry it with poles. As a result, Uzzah touched the Arc to prevent it from falling. Uzzah should have known he should not touch the Arc. He died because of the transgression of touching the Arc. David did not realize his sin until later. He should have known the law and obeyed it, instead of presuming what he did would be ok. All Jewish kings had a personal copy of scripture.

Don't people today still do presumptuous sins? We know they do!

1Co 4:6 And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another. NKJV Use only what is written in God's word.

The Example of David's Prideful or Presumptuous Sins

Act 13:22 And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I HAVE FOUND DAVID THE SON OF JESSE, A MAN AFTER MY OWN HEART, WHO WILL DO ALL MY WILL.' NKJV

Deu 10:8 At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to Him and to bless in His name, to this day. NKJV

2Sa 6:3 So they set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart. --- 6 And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. 7 Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God. NKJV

Psa 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward. 12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. 13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over

me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer. NKJV

How God Views Proudful or Presumptuous Sin

2Ti 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

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The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward. 12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. 13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer. NKJV

How God Views Prideful or Presumptuous Sin

Pro 16:1 The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD. 2 All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the spirits. 3 Commit your works to the LORD, And your thoughts will be established. NKJV

Pro 21:2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, But the LORD weighs the hearts. 3 To do righteousness and justice Is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice. NKJV

Pro 26:16 The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes Than seven men who can answer sensibly. NKJV

Pro 28:11 The rich man is wise in his own eyes, But the poor who has understanding searches him out. NKJV

Exhortation to do it God's way

Jer 10:23 O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps. 24 O LORD, correct me, but with justice; Not in Your anger, lest You bring me to nothing. NKJV

Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. NKJV

1Ki 11:38 Then it shall be, if you heed all that I command you, walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as My servant David did, then I will be with you and build for you an enduring house, as I built for David, and will give Israel to you. NKJV

Rom 3:1 What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? 2 Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God. 3 For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? 4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND MAY OVERCOME WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED." 5 But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.) 6 Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world? --- 19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a

propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. 27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. NKJV

Note: This speaks of the old law which has been fulfilled in Christ to a better covenant in Christ. (The Law of Faith) In verse 27 we cannot boast in what we do because we are only unprofitable servants. See the scripture below:

Luk 17:9 Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. 10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do. NKJV

The law spoken of is the law delivered by Moses. Because there is a new, covenant which is in Christ in the New Testament. The old shall be changed or fulfilled to the new. We are under the law of faith given by Christ and the apostles. Faith requires action to obey all God has commanded us to do (these are the works of God). Christ law (The Law of Faith) not the Old Law.

Rom 3:26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. 27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. NKJV

Jer 31:31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." NKJV

Mat 5:17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. NKJV

Gal 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT CONTINUE IN ALL THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO DO THEM." 11 But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for "THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH." 12 Yet the law is not of faith, but "THE MAN WHO DOES THEM SHALL LIVE BY THEM." 13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. 15 Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. 16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "AND TO YOUR SEED," who is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. 18 For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise. 19 What

purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. 20 Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one. 21 Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. 22 But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. NKJV

Heb 8:5 who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "SEE THAT YOU MAKE ALL THINGS ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN SHOWN YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN." 6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. 8 Because finding fault with them, He says: "BEHOLD, THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD, WHEN I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH—9 NOT ACCORDING TO THE COVENANT THAT I MADE WITH THEIR FATHERS IN THE DAY WHEN I TOOK THEM BY THE HAND TO LEAD THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT; BECAUSE THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN MY COVENANT, AND I DISREGARDED THEM, SAYS THE LORD. 10 FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS IN THEIR MIND AND WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. 11 NONE OF THEM SHALL TEACH HIS NEIGHBOR, AND NONE HIS BROTHER, SAYING, 'KNOW THE LORD,' FOR ALL SHALL KNOW ME, FROM THE LEAST OF THEM TO THE GREATEST OF THEM. 12 FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR UNRIGHTEOUSNESS, AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE." 13 In that He says, "A NEW COVENANT," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. NKJV

Why No Pope or Priesthood made by man? God has made it not man.

Christ is our high Priest not a man

Heb 9:11 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

Heb 7:14 For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. 15 And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest 16 who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. 17 For He testifies: "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK." 18 For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, 19 for the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. 20 And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an oath 21 (for they have become priests without an oath, but He with an oath by Him who said to Him: "THE LORD HAS SWORN AND WILL NOT RELENT, 'YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK'"), 22 by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant. 23 Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing. 24 But He, because

He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. **25** Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. **26** For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; **27** who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. **28** For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. NKJV

Faithful Christians have become a Priesthood
Therefore, we should not setup priest. God does this not man.

1Pe 2:3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. **4** To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, **5** Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. **6** Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHIEF CORNERSTONE, ELECT, PRECIOUS, AND HE WHO BELIEVES ON HIM WILL BY NO MEANS BE PUT TO SHAME." **7** Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE," **8** and "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. **9** But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: NKJV

When did Christ Become Our High Priest?
And When the new Covalent Came into Effect?

Heb 9:12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. **13** For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, **14** how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? **15** And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. **16** For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. **17** For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives. NKJV

At Christ Death his New Covenant came into effect.

Mat 26:26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." **27** Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. **28** For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. **29** But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." NKJV

2Co 3:2 You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; **3** clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart. NKJV

Note: Stone Tablets – The Ten Commandments? Yes, because Christ expounded on them to their complete meaning. He is much more specific in the intent of God in their

meaning. (Read Mathew 5). The Sabbath day was in the first covenant but not carried over to the new covenant. Christ said the Sabbath was made for man not man for the Sabbath.

Mar 2:27 And he said unto them, *The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:*

2Co 3:4 And we have such trust through Christ toward God. **5** Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, **6** who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. **7** But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, **8** how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? **9** For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. **10** For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels. **11** For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious. **12** Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech—**13** unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away. **14** But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. **15** But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. **16** Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. **17** Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. **18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. NKJV

You cannot mix the old law with the new law.
Why; because we are under the law of Faith.

Mar 2:19 And Jesus said to them, *"Can the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.* **20** *But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days.* **21** *No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse.* **22** *And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins."* NKJV

Gal 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. **2** Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. **3** And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. **4** You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.**5** For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. **6** For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. **7** You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? **8** This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you. NKJV

Mar 16:15 And He said to them, *"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.* **16** *He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.* NKJV

Rom 10:3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. **4**

For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. 5 For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them. 6 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:) 7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) 8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; NKJV

Have you heard it said by people “Well the people who teach this don’t believe in the Old Testament?” If they really believed this, they would by necessity be required to keep all of Moses’ law. Most denominations don’t keep all the Sabbaths and special days. *The seventh day was not the only Sabbath.* We certainly believe in the importance of the Old Testament. If you wish to be justified by the old law you fallen from Grace.

Gal 5:3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. 4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

Yes, we do need the Old Testament because of these passages:

The Old Testament Shows, what pleases God.
From it we learn what pleased God and what does not.

Rom 15:3 For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "THE REPROACHES OF THOSE WHO REPROACHED YOU FELL ON ME." 4 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. KJV

It Shows: Why Christ had to die for our sins.

Blood Cleanses: Lev. 14:52 Lev. 16: Eze. 43:20 Joe. 3:21

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

It brings us unto Christ.

Gal 3:23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. KJV

It is for our learning.

Rom 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. KJV

It was for our example.

Heb 8:5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount. KJV

Jud 1:7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving

themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. KJV

1Co 10:5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. 7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. 8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. 9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

Most of the Old Testament is not law but examples we must obey God.

Gal 5:3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.

Because we are under the new covenant or testament, we cannot go to the old covenant for law to justify our practices. By studying the old law, we can see how Christ fulfilled the New Covenant or Testament at his death. We must be under Christ Law which is the law of faith. This is called in other scriptures as the law of liberty.

How to study the Bible

Hos 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. NKJV

Psa 4:4 Be angry, and do not sin. Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still. NKJV

Psa 119:15 I will meditate on Your precepts, And contemplate Your ways. NKJV

Meditation requires application of knowledge. We must think on the things we study and understand how to apply them in our life's.

Php 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. NKJV

1Ti 4:11 These things command and teach. 12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. NKJV

Col 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. NKJV

2Ti 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. NKJV

Gal 1:6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you

and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. NKJV

Scripture does not contradict Scripture. Scripture interprets itself by studying all of it. This is why studying all scripture is important. If your opinion contradicts any scripture then your opinion is wrong.

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. NKJV

Rom 3:4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND MAY OVERCOME WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED." NKJV

Use simple scripture to understand the complicated scripture. There is simplicity in Christ. Salvation is not complicated if you use all scripture.

2Co 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

1Co 1:19 For it is written: "I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND BRING TO NOTHING THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRUDENT." 20 Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. NKJV

1Co 3:18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "HE CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR OWN CRAFTINESS"; 20 and again, "THE LORD KNOWS THE THOUGHTS OF THE WISE, THAT THEY ARE FUTILE." NKJV

2Pe 3:15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures. NKJV

2Co 1:12 For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you. 13 For we are not writing any other things to you than what you read or understand. Now I trust you will understand, even to the end NKJV

Use bible examples to understand things.

1Co 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. NKJV

Use things necessary implied in scripture that don't contradict scripture.

Use all scripture to understand its content.

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. NKJV

The Parable of the Sower Gives a true picture of man's plight.

Luk 19:10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." NKJV

Luk 8:11 "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. 13 But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. 14 Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. 15 But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience. NKJV

Joh 3:15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. NKJV

This is not the only statement of truth in the Bible (John 3: 16-19) and should be considered with all truths spoken in the Bible. If you teach only "belief" or any other doctrine leaving out scripture teaching more to be done, then you are taking away from all the other truths of the Bible. This will make you a false teacher. This is also true if you dwell on any doctrine and don't teach all God's doctrine.

The idea of belief only is flawed by the way they define it. They say all you need to do is believe Christ died for your sins. They forget Christ and the Apostles and John taught to believe many things also.

Example:

Mar 1:14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

2Co 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. NKJV

Joh 10:7 Then Jesus said to them again, "**Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.** NKJV

Joh 12:44 Then Jesus cried out and said, "**He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. 45 And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. 46 I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. 47 And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. 48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. 49 For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. 50 And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.**" NKJV

1Co 1:1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, **2** To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours: **3** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **4** I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, **5** that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, **6** even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, **7** so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, **8** who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **10** Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. NKJV

The Churches today are divided. Why - Because there are over 30,000 Denominations all teaching differing doctrines. This should not be so.

Act 2:21 AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS THAT WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED. NKJV

Calling on the name of the lord means doing all he said to do.

Luk 6:46 "**But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?** NKJV

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. NKJV

2Ti 1:9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, NKJV

Note: This is not our works but God's work or purpose we are to do. In other words what God has commanded us to do.

Rom 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. 2 For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. 5 For Moses writes about

the righteousness which is of the law, "THE MAN WHO DOES THOSE THINGS SHALL LIVE BY THEM." **6** But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "DO NOT SAY IN YOUR HEART, 'WHO WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN?' " (that is, to bring Christ down from above) **7** or, " 'WHO WILL DESCEND INTO THE ABYSS?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). **8** But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): **9** that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **11** For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME." **12** For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. **13** For "WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED." **14** How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? **15** And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE, WHO BRING GLAD TIDINGS OF GOOD THINGS!" **16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" **17** So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. **18** But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: "THEIR SOUND HAS GONE OUT TO ALL THE EARTH, AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD." NKJV

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. **7** By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. NKJV

Let Christians not be divided in doctrine.

1Co 1:10 Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. **11** For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. **12** Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." **13** Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? **14** I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **15** lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. **16** Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. **17** For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. **18** For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19** For it is written: "I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND BRING TO NOTHING THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRUDENT." **20** Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? **21** For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. **22** For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; **23** but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, **24** but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. **26** For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. **27** But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; **28** and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, **29** that no flesh should glory in His

presence. **30** But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—**31** that, as it is written, "HE WHO GLORIES, LET HIM GLORY IN THE LORD." **NKJV**

Paul did not want anyone to claim, he baptized in his name and not Christ. Paul was not saying baptism wasn't important he only said God sent him to preach what was needed for salvation. If Paul had thought baptism wasn't important, he would have not have baptized anyone. Remember Jesus Baptized more than John the Baptist but he himself baptized only the disciples. He commanded his Apostils to do the Baptisms.

Joh 4:1 Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John **2** (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples), **NKJV**

1Cor 3:3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? **4** For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not carnal? **5** Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? **6** I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. **7** So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. **8** Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. **9** For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. **10** According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. **11** For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. **NKJV**

1Co 10:31 Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. **32** Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, **33** just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved. **NKJV**

1Co 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, **2** by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. **3** For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, **5** and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. **6** After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. **NKJV**

2Co 2:14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. **15** For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. **16** To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. And who is sufficient for these things? **17** For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ. **NKJV**

Eph 2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, **2** in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, **3** among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. **4** But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **5** even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), **6** and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, **7** that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness

toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. NKJV

1Ti 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, **2** for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. **3** For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, 7 for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. 8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; NKJV

2Ti 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, **2** To Timothy, a beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. **3** I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, **4** greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, **5** when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. **6** Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. **7** For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. **8** Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, 9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, 10 but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, --- 15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. NKJV

Tit 3:1 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, **2** to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. **3** For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. **4** But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men. NKJV

1Ti 4:13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. 15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you. NKJV

Do the works of God not men's work. What God has commanded is God's work we are to do.

Joh 6:27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him." 28 Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works

of God?" **29** Jesus answered and said to them, **"This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."** NKJV

Note: This includes everyone sent in scripture not just Christ. Why? Read the following scripture:

Joh 14:26 **But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.**

If you Believe, you will keep his commandments.

Act 26:19 **"Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.** NKJV

Psa 78:7 **That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments;** NKJV

Ecc 12:13 **Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.** NKJV

1Jn 2:3 **Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.** NKJV

1Jn 5:1 **Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 6 This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.** NKJV

Jas 1:12 **Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. 16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. 18 Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. 19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. 26 If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is**

useless. **27** Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. **NKJV**

Jas 2:14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? **15** If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, **16** and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? **17** Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. **18** But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. **19** You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! **20** But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? **21** Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? **22** Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? **23** And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS ACCOUNTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS." And he was called the friend of God. **24** You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. **25** Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? **26** For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Jas 5:19 Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, **20** let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins. **NKJV**

1Pe 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; **16** having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. **17** For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. **18** For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, **19** by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, **20** who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. **21** There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, **22** who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. **NKJV**

1Pe 4:15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. **16** Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. **17** For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? **18** Now "IF THE RIGHTEOUS ONE IS SCARCELY SAVED, WHERE WILL THE UNGODLY AND THE SINNER APPEAR?" **19** Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator. **NKJV**

The steps to salvation.

Most people don't realize how important obedience is, in salvation. By ignoring things spoken in scripture and only using only a few scriptures you are putting your soul in danger. Some say that because they require a physical action therefore, they are a work. The truth is what God has commanded is a work of God not of man because God devised it not man. Why because God tells you to do it.

Joh 6:28 Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" **29** Jesus answered and said to them, "**This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.**" NKJV

God justified Abraham by the work he did. What works? The work God commanded him. How could he boast of works God told him to do?

Rom 4:2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. **3** For what does the Scripture say? "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS ACCOUNTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS." NKJV

If obey him we cannot boast. We are only doing what God said for us to do. We are only unprofitable servants.

Luk 17:9 Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not. **10** So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.'" NKJV

This scripture shows how obedience is necessary for our salvation. We must continue this for our lifetime.

Heb 5:8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. **9** And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, NKJV

Now do you still think obedience is not necessary for salvation?

Follow everything in the Bible that says it saves us. Anything which says for the remission or forgiveness of sins

Hear

Joh 9:31 Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. NKJV

Mar 4:9 And He said to them, "**He who has ears to hear, let him hear!**" **10** But when He was alone, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parable. **11** And He said to them, "**To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables,** **12** so that 'SEEING THEY MAY SEE AND NOT PERCEIVE, AND HEARING THEY MAY HEAR AND NOT UNDERSTAND; LEST THEY SHOULD TURN, AND THEIR SINS BE FORGIVEN THEM.'" **13** And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? **14** The sower sows the word. **15** And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts. **16** These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; **17** and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble. **18** Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, **19** and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. **20** But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred." NKJV

Mat 13:14 *And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'HEARING YOU WILL HEAR AND SHALL NOT UNDERSTAND, AND SEEING YOU WILL SEE AND NOT PERCEIVE; 15 FOR THE HEARTS OF THIS PEOPLE HAVE GROWN DULL. THEIR EARS ARE HARD OF HEARING, AND THEIR EYES THEY HAVE CLOSED, LEST THEY SHOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES AND HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, LEST THEY SHOULD UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEARTS AND TURN, SO THAT I SHOULD HEAL THEM.'* **16** *But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; 17 for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.* NKJV

Luk 8:20 *And it was told Him by some, who said, "Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see You." 21 But He answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it."* NKJV

Joh 9:31 *Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.* NKJV

Rom 10:16 *But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* NKJV

Heb 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.* NKJV

Believe

Believe What?

Believe God, the gospel (God's Word – The Bible), and Christ.

If you truly Believe then you will do all that is commanded.

If you don't then you are as the Devils who believe and tremble.

Mar 1:15 *and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."* NKJV

Joh 1:12 *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.* NKJV

God has given you the right to become the sons of God. This right is accomplished through complete obedience.

Joh 3:13 *No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.* NKJV

You should not perish, but you can if you refuse to follow all he said to do. God does not force you to be his child.

Joh 3:35 The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. **36** He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him. NKJV

Joh 6:28 Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" **29** Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." NKJV

Joh 6:69 Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." NKJV

Joh 8:24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." NKJV

Joh 9:35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" **36** He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" **37** And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." NKJV

Joh 13:20 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." NKJV

Joh 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. NKJV

Act 8:37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." NKJV

Act 15:7 And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: "Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. NKJV

Act 19:4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." NKJV

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. NKJV

1Jn 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 6 This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. 9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. 10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. 11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the

Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. NKJV

Believe with Faith

Our belief must be more than acceptance that God is. The devils do this. They believe and tremble. It must be a belief that leads to faith in trusting in God and doing his commandments.

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. NKJV

Gal 3:24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. NKJV

Rom 10:16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. NKJV

Jas 2:19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? NKJV The works spoken of here are God's works. These works are what God has commanded us to do. Mar 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." NKJV

Mar 9:23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" NKJV

Mar 16:16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. NKJV

Luk 8:12 Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. NKJV
In other words believe his word so you can be saved.

Joh 3:17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. NKJV

Joh 3:35 The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. 36 He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." NKJV

Joh 6:28 Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" 29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." NKJV

Joh 8:23 And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. 24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." NKJV

Joh 9:35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" 36 He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" 37 And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He

who is talking with you." NKJV

Joh 11:25 Jesus said to her, **"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"** 27 She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." NKJV

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, NKJV

Act 16:30 And he brought them out and said, **"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"** 31 So they said, **"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."** --- 32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. NKJV
They believed and obeyed the word and became saved.

Act 19:4 Then Paul said, **"John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."** NKJV

1Th 2:13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, **but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.** NKJV

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. NKJV

Heb 11:6 **But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.** NKJV

Jas 2:19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. **Even the demons believe—and tremble!** NKJV They knew who is God and are scared for their coming punishment.

1Jn 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. 20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. 22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. 23 **And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.** 24 Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. NKJV

1Jn 5:13 **These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.** NKJV

Repent of Sins

Repenting is not just a acknowledgement that you sinned but is the action to turn away from your sins.

Mat 3:2 and saying, **"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"** NKJV

Mar 1:15 and saying, **"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."** NKJV

Mar 6:12 So they went out and preached that people should repent. NKJV

Luk 13:2 And Jesus answered and said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? **3** I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. NKJV

Act 3:19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, **20** and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, **21** whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. NKJV

Act 17:30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, **31** because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead." NKJV

Confess

Confession is not just speaking of your belief in Christ and his commandments but telling others of your knowledge of Christ as God. Be willing to do this as long as you live. The first confession before men should be your belief that Jesus is the son of God and you recognize he died on the cross to redeem you of your sins.

Joh 8:24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."

Mat 27:54 So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this was the Son of God!" KJV

Mat 10:32 "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. **33** But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. NKJV

Luk 12:8 "Also I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God. **9** But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God. **10** "And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven. NKJV

Rom 10:8 But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): **9** that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **11** For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME." NKJV

Rom 14:10 But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. **11** For it is written: "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL CONFESS TO GOD." **12** So then each of us shall give account of himself to God. NKJV

Obey God in Baptism

Why people don't understand the necessity to obey all God's commands for salvation, is beyond me. It is as if they are telling God they know better than God. If God spoke of it in his word it is necessary. Even Christ showed an example to follow him in all things he did. John's baptism was the baptism of repentance. Christ told John to baptize him to fulfill all righteousness. Follow Christ example.

Christ baptism was to supplant John's baptism.

It is true Jesus baptized no one. His disciples did the Baptizing. But Jesus commanded the Apostles to baptize. Obey him!

Mat 3:13 *Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" 15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. NKJV*

Act 19:3 *And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." 4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. NKJV*

Also, if you were not baptized for the remission of sins you were not baptized for the right reason! Salvation is the remission of sins. You can't have the remission of sins without Salvation. **Act 2:38** Just accept what it says don't try to explain it away by complicated means! In this passage we see Peter receiving the power on high opening the kingdom of God. The Comforter the Holy Spirit telling these men through Peter what they need to do for salvation from God.

Act 2:36 *"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. NKJV*

How can anyone say these steps were not for salvation? The Holy Spirit delivered it through Peter. It says it was for the remission of sins. Is not remission of sins Salvation?

Luk 1:76 *And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; 77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, Note: John was that child.*

You better be careful you can be speaking against the "Work of The Holy Spirit". Don't blaspheme (blaspheme is to speak against the Holy Spirit or his work). I suggest you study all passages on "the remission of sins". I have found all passages with "remission of sins" referring to salvation in the New Testament.

Mat 3:11 *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **12** His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." **13** Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. **14** And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" **15** But Jesus answered and said to him, "**Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.**" Then he allowed Him. NKJV*

Luk 3:16 *John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:*

The Apostils were Baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Act 1:2 *Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: **3** To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: **4** And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but **wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. **5** For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.** KJV*

The Baptism of fire: At the Judgment day

Luk 3:17 *Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable. KJV*

Christ did this for an example to show us what should do for salvation in obedience to God as he did. Christ baptism was only in effect after his death. Read Roman 6

Rom 6:3 *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? **4** Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

Examples of Salvation

Pentecost:

Act 2:36 *"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." **37** Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" **38** Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." **40** And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." **41** Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. NKJV*

Act 8:12 *But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. **13** Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done. NKJV*

Ethiopian, Eunuch:

Act 8:2 *So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority*

under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, **28** was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. **29** Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." **30** So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" **31** And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. **32** The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "HE WAS LED AS A SHEEP TO THE SLAUGHTER; AND AS A LAMB BEFORE ITS SHEARER IS SILENT, SO HE OPENED NOT HIS MOUTH." **33** IN HIS HUMILIATION HIS JUSTICE WAS TAKEN AWAY, AND WHO WILL DECLARE HIS GENERATION? FOR HIS LIFE IS TAKEN FROM THE EARTH." **34** So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" **35** Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. **36** Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" **37** Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." **38** So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. **39** Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. NKJV

This scripture shows by example the baptism was emersion, because they went down into the water. The word Baptize means to immerse or bury. No one sprinkles dirt on a dead person and calls it a burial.

Saul's conversion:

Act 9:1 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest **2** and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. **3** As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. **4** Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" **5** And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads." **6** So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." **7** And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. **8** Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. **9** And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. **10** Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." **11** So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying." **12** And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight." **13** Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. **14** And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name." **15** But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel." **16** For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." **17** And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." **18** Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized. NKJV

Act 22:4 I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women, **5** as also the high priest bears me witness, and all the council of the elders,

from whom I also received letters to the brethren, and went to Damascus to bring in chains even those who were there to Jerusalem to be punished. **6** "Now it happened, as I journeyed and came near Damascus at about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. **7** And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, **'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'** **8** So I answered, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said to me, **'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.'** **9** "And those who were with me indeed saw the light and were afraid, but they did not hear the voice of Him who spoke to me. **10** So I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, **'Arise and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all things which are appointed for you to do.'** **11** And since I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of those who were with me, I came into Damascus. **12** "Then a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good testimony with all the Jews who dwelt there, **13** came to me; and he stood and said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight.' And at that same hour I looked up at him. **14** Then he said, 'The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth. **15** For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. **16** And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.' **NKJV**

Cornelius Conversion:

Act 10:43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins." **44** While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. **45** And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. **46** For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, **47** "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" **48** And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days. **NKJV**

Lydia's Conversion:

Act 16:13 And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. **14** Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. **15** And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." So she persuaded us. **NKJV**

Prison Keeper and his household's conversion:

Act 16:16 Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. **17** This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." **18** And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. **19** But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. **20** And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; **21** and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe." **22** Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. **23** And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. **24** Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. **25** But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and

the prisoners were listening to them. **26** Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. **27** And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. **28** But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here." **29** Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. **30** And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" **31** So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." **32** Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. **33** And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. **34** Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household. **NKJV**

Corinthian Conversions:

Act 18:7 And he departed from there and entered the house of a certain man named Justus, one who worshiped God, whose house was next door to the synagogue. **8** Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized. **NKJV**

Act 19:1 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples **2** he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." **3** And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." **4** Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." **5** When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **NKJV**

Born Again

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.** **6** **That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.** **7** **Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.** **8** **The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.** **NKJV**

Could it be he is speaking of baptism?
Where else is water and blood spoken of?

Mat 27:22 Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified. **23** And the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified. **24** When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, **he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.** **25** Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children. **NKJV**

Joh 19:32 Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. **33** But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: **34** But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. **NKJV**

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. **4** For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world:

and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? 6 This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. 9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. NKJV

The water and the blood is clearly seen in Christ sacrifice.

Why should we assume it is referring to baptism?

Read the next scripture and see how we are baptized into his death.

***Rom 6:1** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. 10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. 15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! 16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. 19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. 20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. NKJV*

We are baptized into his death. Then we should walk in newness of life. We are raised with him. Does this mean if we are not baptized then we can't be raised with him? The scripture certainly implies this.

***Gal 3:23** But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. NKJV*

Obedience Is Necessary

1Sa 15:20 And Saul said to Samuel, "But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. **21** But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal." **22** So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. **23** For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king." NKJV

Luk 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks. **46** "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" NKJV If you can't call him Lord you are not saved. Obedience is necessary for salvation.

Luk 8:21 But He answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it." NKJV

The Apostils and Cornelius & Company received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Some say the baptism spoken of was the baptism of the spirit. Well this can't be so, because men were commanded to baptize. Only God can baptize with the spirit. Men do not command the Holy Spirit only God. The Only baptism of the spirit seen in scriptures is seen when the apostles, at Pentecost, and later when Cornelius received it. Others later received the gift of the Holy Spirit but not the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Joh 1:33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' NKJV

Act 1:5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." NKJV

Act 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. **16** Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' **17** If therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?" NKJV

Be careful you don't try to explain away the truths of God by human reasoning as the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

Mat 22:15 Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. **16** And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. **17** Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? **18** But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? **19** Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. **20** And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? **21** They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. **22** When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way. **23** The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection, and asked him, **24**

Saying, Master, Moses said, If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. 25 Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having no issue, left his wife unto his brother: 26 Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. 27 And last of all the woman died also. 28 Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her. Mat 22:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, **Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.** NKJV

The argument what if someone died before he could be Baptized is a flawed argument because this could happen to him before obeyed anything. This is a “what if argument”. See the argument the Sadducees tried a “what if argument”. They were leaving out God’s hand in accomplishing his purpose. I will use the same principal Jesus used.

I gave this example to show that human reasoning would try to explain away Baptism the same way. This is a “what if reasoning” just as the Pharisees did to Jesus. Do you think God approves this kind of reasoning? He doesn’t. **Only his word is acceptable in any reasoning.** People say what if a person did all but he died before he was baptized. They don’t understand this type of argument can be said he died before he was about to believe or repent or confess. Doesn’t this type of reasoning leave out the power of God to accomplish his task of salvation? I refer you back to this scripture:

Mat 22:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. NKJV

Endure to the end. God will be with you.

Be diligent to seek God because we can turn back to sin. This will be worse than before so continually seek God.

2Pe 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire. NKJV

Rev 3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. NKJV

Mat 10:22 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved. NKJV

Mar 13:13 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved. NKJV

Mat 18:11 For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. NKJV

Mat 24:11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. NKJV

Continuing to the end implies one can sin to be lost or fall from grace.

Gal 5:2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. **3** For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. **4** Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. NKJV

Security for the believer is taught in scripture. No man can take you from God. But each individual can take himself from God. He does not force you to be his child. But if you continue in Christ, he will help you stay in his grace. He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins.

Joh 10:25 Jesus answered them, *I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.* **26** *But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.* **27** *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:* **28** *And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.* **29** *My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.* **30** *I and my Father are one.* NKJV

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. NKJV

If you don't do as he tells you to do without repentance you can't call him Lord, Lord.

Luk 6:46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" NKJV

If you can't call him lord, how can you be his child?

You can't live in sin and serve sin and God.

Mat 6:24 *No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.* NKJV

Luk 16:13 *No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.* NKJV

Are there people telling you all you need to do is to pray the sinner's prayer and God will save you? Well nowhere in scripture is give an example of God saving in this manner. Would you not rather use scripture examples to be confident, that you are doing what God requires?

Consider the following scriptures:

Joh 9:31 Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. NKJV

Luk 6:46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" NKJV

Are there some telling you that your baptism is to become a member of their church. They say baptism is not part of salvation. Well look at all scriptures on baptism, you will not find one that says it makes you a member of any church. But there is a scripture that

says baptism does now save us. And there is a scripture that says God adds to the church those that are being saved.

1Pe 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. **21** The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: **KJV**

Act 2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. **NKJV**

Consider this scripture with 1Peter3:21

Act 22:16 And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.' **NKJV**

How else can we have a good conscience but obey the command given to hear the gospel, believe in faith, repent of sins, confess Christ, and to be baptized (In other words; the cleansing of the body is not what saves us but the obedience to God that saves us.) With the word “saved” in the context of the sentence, how can anyone clam that baptism is not part of God’s plan to save us.

1Pe 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. **21** The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: **KJV**

What is it saving us from our sins, but obedience?

Noah and his family were saved from the sins of the world, by obedience.

Will you be saved today?

Questions or request for Bible studies: Contact Mt Olive Church of Christ Mt Olive AL. 205-631-9182 Or contact me, Michael R. Rouse. 205-607- 4139

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