23 Things That Save

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INTRODUCTION

- It deals with the ultimate question of life, which is what must I do to be saved? This question is asked and answered over and over again in the Bible.
- Satan has taken things that should be very clear and simple as given to us by the Holy Spirit in the Word of God and clouded the issue.
- In part because of people's misunderstanding of a figure of speech.

1 A Part That Refers to the Whole

John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:21; James 2:24

- A figure of speech in which a term or part of something is referred to the whole of something.
- 1 Peter 3 and verse 21, which says, baptism now saves you. Well, again, baptism stands for the whole.
- People take these verses that are supposed to be the part that refers to the whole, and they want to add in their minds the word only. And that is a huge mistake.
- There's only one time the phrase faith alone or faith only is found in the Bible. And it's in James 2 and verse 24.

2 Different Answers Based on Where They Are

Acts 16:31

- Every time you ask the question, how far is it to Birmingham? You get a different answer. And the answer to the question depends on where the person is when they ask the question.
- They get different answers based upon where they are on the road to salvation.
- He's told, believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. Not believe only. But that's where you need to start if you don't know Jesus.
- Wasn't saved on the road to Damascus, folks. He was saved after he obeyed the final step that Ananias then told him that he needed to follow.

3 14 Things That Have Some Part in Salvation

Ephesians 2:8–9; Romans 5:10; Acts 4:12

- There are actually 14 things that the New Testament teaches that have some part in the salvation from sin.
- The power of God is in the gospel, not in a checklist.
- For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves. It's the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast.
- Romans 5 and verse 10 says, we are reconciled and saved by his life.
- Acts 4 and verse 12 tells us that there is no other name under heaven by which anyone shall be saved.

4 Nine Ways We Must Respond, Not Five

Romans 10:9–10; John 3:5; Matthew 10:22

- There are actually nine ways we must respond, not five.
- You have to be willing to hear with an open mind. You have to be a seeker to find truth.
- Are you willing to make that Lord that you believe in the Lord and master of your life in all things?
- So you preach the man and the plan.
- Unless one is born of the water in the Spirit, you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven. So it's not just belief.
- You can't just go through the ritual of baptism and then after that just go about live any way you want.

5 Where Is the Sinner's Prayer Found in the Bible?

Revelation 3:20; John 16:13

- Where is the sinner's prayer asking God to come into your heart found in the Bible?
- That was written to Christians who needed to repent, not to alien sinners who wanted to come or needed to come to Jesus for the first time.
- It is not found in the Bible, it was not used by Jesus or the apostles. It is absence from any historical manuscript, and was first proposed in 1678 in Pilgrim's Progress.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Which one of these 23 things do you want to leave out?**

MY NOTES