

# Acts 16:30

Intro: Paul and Silas had been beaten and put in prison. While there they prayed and sang praises to God. At midnight there was a great earthquake. All the doors of the prison were opened and the prisoner's bands were loosed. The jailor supposing the prisoners had escaped drew his sword to kill himself. But Paul yells out that they were all there. The jailor called for a light, comes in, and asked them this all important question, "What must I do to be saved?"

## I. NECESSITY (MUST).

### A. Some teach that it does not make any difference.

1. In doctrine
2. In practice
3. John 8:32 <sup>32</sup>"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

### B. But we do not have a choice if we are to be saved.

1. Pro. 14:12 <sup>12</sup>"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death."
2. Heb. 5:8-9 <sup>8</sup>"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; <sup>9</sup>And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;"
3. Rom. 6:17-18 <sup>17</sup>"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. <sup>18</sup>Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."

## II. INDIVIDUAL (I).

### A. Others cannot do it for us.

1. Phi. 2:12 <sup>12</sup>"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."
2. Spouse, parents, children, friends, etc. cannot save us.
3. Salvation is individual.

### B. The Holy Spirit will not do it for us.

1. Some teach that we must wait for the Holy Spirit to come upon us before we can be saved.
2. But the Holy Spirit has done his part in giving us the word.
  - a. Eph. 6:17 <sup>17</sup>"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:"
  - b. Heb. 4:12 <sup>12</sup>"For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
  - c. 1 Pet. 1:22-23 <sup>22</sup>"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently: <sup>23</sup>Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."
3. Now it is our responsibility.

### III. ACTION (DO).

#### A. We will be judged by them.

1. 2 Cor. 5:10-11 <sup>10</sup>For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. <sup>11</sup>Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.”
2. Rev. 20:12 <sup>12</sup>And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”

#### B. What action must we do to be saved.

1. Upon hearing the word we must believe.
  - a. In God; Heb. 11:6 <sup>6</sup>But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”
  - b. In Christ; John 14:1 <sup>1</sup>Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.”
2. We must repent.
  - a. Luke 24:46-47 <sup>46</sup>And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day. <sup>47</sup>And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”
  - b. Luke 13:3, 5 <sup>3</sup>I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.... <sup>5</sup>I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”
3. We must confess.
  - a. Mat. 10:32-33 <sup>32</sup>Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. <sup>33</sup>But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.”
  - b. Rom. 10:10 <sup>10</sup>For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”
4. Be baptized for the remission of sins.
  - a. Mark 16:15-16 <sup>15</sup>And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup>He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
  - b. Acts 2:38 <sup>38</sup>Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
  - c. 1 Pet. 3:21 <sup>21</sup>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:”

### IV. GREATEST NEED: SALVATION (TO BE SAVED).

#### A. To escape the torments of an eternal hell.

1. Mark 9:43-48 <sup>43</sup>And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: <sup>44</sup>Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. <sup>45</sup>And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: <sup>46</sup>Where their worm dieth not, and

the fire is not quenched. <sup>47</sup>And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: <sup>48</sup>Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”

2. 2 The. 1:6-9 “<sup>6</sup>Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; <sup>7</sup>And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, <sup>8</sup>In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>9</sup>Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”

**B. To enter into the joys of heaven.**

1. Mat. 25:21 “<sup>21</sup>His lord said unto him, Well done, *thou* good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”
2. 1 Pet. 1:3-4 “<sup>3</sup>Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,”

Conclusion: Do those same things today and be saved.