

BE SAVED!

(Mk. 16:16)

The Great Commission tells us what to do to be saved: *"16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned,"* Mk. 16:16. In this passage it is *"the whole creation,"* that is addressed, Mk. 16:15. In Acts 2:38, the Jewish people, on the day of Pentecost, are told: *"38 Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of sins."* Those who had crucified the Lord were told to **"repent and be baptized;"** they already believed. As a result of the apostles' preaching, 3,000 souls did just that. Now, we note people were being told to **believe, repent** and be **baptized** to be saved; or to have the remission of sins. When the Ethiopian Eunuch said: *"36 Behold here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"* Acts 8:36; Philip proceeded to teach concerning **confession**: *"If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believeth that Jesus Christ is the Son of God,"* Acts 8:37, KJV. Now, we observe a person confessing and being baptized. Putting all of this together we have **Belief, Repentance, Confession and Baptism** – Since this is all in the New Testament that is required, we conclude this to be the total of what a person is to do, to be saved, from past sin! In **each case** of conversion the people were taught; thus, they **heard** the word. When it is all put to gather we have: **Preaching, Faith, Repentance, Confession and Baptism!** This is what is required of one to become a Christian.

It seems man is not satisfied with what is presented in the New Testament; so, there is great effort put forth to make the plan something different from what God has presented. Listed below are some of the ways man has changed, altered or made different what God has presented.

We are told all one needs to do is **pray the sinner's prayer**: - **Billy Graham** put it this way, "Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. In your Name. Amen." I have always asked: *"Where in the New Testament did you find this?"* There is no answer given to this question; because, one cannot find such in the New Testament.

I was told one time, *"In the middle of the night I got out of bed and went to the back room where an **angel appeared to me and I was saved.**"* I read, many times, of angels appearing to different people; but, not one time did I observe the angel was there for the purpose of saving that person. Always, the angel put the person in touch with one who would teach them truth. Again, this is **not** what people were taught from the New Testament; but rather, **Faith, Repentance, Confession and Baptism.**

Then, there are those who will say, **"A person is saved by faith only!"** Again we are confronted with the reality that **no where** in the New Testament is it taught one is saved by **"faith only."** I can find a passage that teaches one is **NOT** saved by **"faith only!"** *"24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only,"* Jas. 2:24, KJV. Again we find in the Bible where **Faith, Repentance, Confession and Baptism** is taught, **not "salvation by faith only."**

Jesus tells us in Matt. 15:8-9 that this is the doctrine of men: *"8 This people honoreth me with their lips; But their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain do they worship me, teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men."* These practices do not produce for them the remission of sins; nor, salvation – they just think it does.

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