

WORTHLESS PHYSICIANS

By Keith Greer

"But you are forgers of lies; You are all worthless physicians." {Job 13:4} Job was in deep grief from the great trials of suffering he was going through. Friends came to comfort him; they sat speechless for days; then they spoke. **Why did they bring Job no comfort?** What made them "worthless physicians"?

Some of the reasons we will look at are used by many in the realm of religion today! Millions in the world are "**spiritually ill**" and need the "**great physician**." Yet, they are settling for others who are "worthless physicians." Let me explain how this is so.

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED? What greater need do men have than the salvation of their souls? Yet, they are turning to those "worthless physicians." All one needs is FAITH. Others tell them they can "Pray through" for salvation. "Accept Christ as your personal Savior." Some believe that baptism is "optional." The greatest question men could ask the most needed answer men need to hear and sadly so many are giving false answers to this vital question! Why not listen to the "great physician's" answer!

"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? 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." {Acts 2:37, 38} The first time in the Gospel Age the question was presented to the apostles and the answer came ringing very clear—repent and be baptized in His name for the remission of sins!

Saul, a great persecutor of the church was on his way to Damascus to bind and take Christians back with him to prison or even death. Why? He thought he was doing the will of God. "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." {Acts 9:6} Saul, the one causing havoc in the church and seeking to destroy it, received God's answer. What did he do? "Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized." {Acts 9:18}

Paul and Silas were in prison singing and praying. There was an earthquake and the jailer thought all the prisoners had escaped and was about to take his life. Paul stopped him and told him they were all still there. What happened next? "And he brought them out and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? ... Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, ... then they spoke the word of the Lord to him ... and immediately he and all his family were baptized." {Acts 16:30-33} The truth was taught and the jailers, along with his family were obedient to the gospel message to the saving of his house.

In all of these examples, we find no answers as those given by these "**other physicians**." Why? The answer is quite simple; their remedy will not work on the soul laden with sins! God's "cure" for

the sin sick soul is the gospel of Christ! "...and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls." {James 1:21}

Why do men seek out these "**worthless physicians**?" Mainly, because they want remedies that are quite "painless." Requiring little or no effort needed on their part to gain the desired benefit. Remember, the supply and demand system holds true in matters of religion also. "But according to their own desires,... and they will turn away from the truth, and be turned to fables." {2 Timothy 4:3,4}

Job's friends could have been a great source of comfort and strength, but they failed him miserably. Men who will not preach the gospel also fail miserably. Men are lost in sin and living outside of Christ and their greatest possession is at risk to be lost for all of eternity! Men need the truth – not the theories of men. Job's advice to his friends would also apply to them. "**Oh, that you be silent...**" ***