

WHAT MUST ONE KNOW TO BE SAVED?

By Keith Greer

“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.” {John 6:44,45} According to the Scriptures one must **KNOW**:

Extremes exist; it's all or nothing. “But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness.” {2 Peter 1:5,6} When it comes to serving God, there is no middle ground. In order to obtain the promises and the reward, one must be totally committed. Jesus said man cannot serve God and mammon {Matthew 6:24}. Each person must choose for himself – God’s way or the highway!

Knowledge alone is not sufficient. “And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.” {Hebrews 5:9} Knowledge is a needful thing, but knowledge alone cannot save. Knowledge of God’s word must be accompanied by obedience to the things He requires of us. Jesus plainly told us that not everyone who has knowledge will be saved. {Matthew 7:21-27}

He needs to be saved. “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” {Luke 19:10} We must understand that we are lost without God. Everyone is guilty of sin. {Romans 3:23; 1 John 1:8}. We cannot find our own way; we are unable to find the way to salvation without God’s help. {Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12}

He must find the way of salvation. “Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” {John 14:6} “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” {Acts 4:12} The sinner must understand that salvation comes by way of the cross! Jesus is the only one who has the means of salvation for lost and dying sinners. He, and no one else, provides the answers!

There are five conversion steps. “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” {Romans 10:17} – **HEAR** “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.” {John 8:24} – **HAVE FAITH** “I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” {Luke 13:3} – **REPENT** “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.” {Acts 8:37} “ – **CONFESS** “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.” {Mark 16:16} – **BE BAPTIZED**. In a nutshell – the plan of salvation.

What he is doing. “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” {Galatians 3:26,27} God requires that the

sinner understand the reasons for his actions and what obedience to His instructions accomplishes for the sinner. Indeed, we must do the right things, but we must also UNDERSTAND why we are doing it.

Remaining faithful is part of the requirement. “Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.” {Revelation 2:10} One’s commitment and obligations to the Lord do not end at the waters of baptism. We must understand that this choice is a lifetime commitment. We must remain steadfast and unwavering in our service to God. {1 Corinthians 15:58}. There are things we must know, but we must also meet God’s terms. Dear reader, are you saved yet? ***