

What must I do to be saved?

(The need to remember the vital thing).

Text: (Acts 2:36-38).

- 1- In (II Peter 1:13, 3:1) Simon Peter reminds us that reminders are important.
- 2- Have you ever had that feeling of thinking that we remembered something well yet on recollection you were a bit less sharp than what you thought.
 - a- Example of test preparation at preaching school.
 - b- Sermon or class for Sunday?
- 3- These kinds of memory lapses usually are not that significant and at times are rather amusing.
 - a- When it comes to those matters that are eternal, however, I would think it vital that we put ourselves in regular remembrance of those things that matter the most.
 - b- Paul, writing to Timothy often wrote what I call, remember remind sections. (2 Tim 1:3-6, 2:13-15) as well as those passages in II Peter).

Transition: This morning let's do some reminding in regards to the subject of being saved.

- I- First we must be reminded that we all stand before God as beggars.
 - A- The ecclesiastical writer in (Ecc 3:11) focuses on the fact that God is the supreme ruler over all things and that our labour and striving means nothing, that without God all life is meaningless. In other words there is an empty void without God.
 - 1- Listen to Jesus in (Matthew 5:3) "Blessed are the poor in spirit..." The poor that Jesus speaks to here are those who know and understand that they stand before God as beggars and thus stand before him in humility of spirit...
 - 2- Not in pride, for those who make up the Kingdom must be those who come to receive, knowing that they have nothing to offer." I have come before you God in my spiritual bankruptcy.
 - B- Realise that we are sinners, separated from God. *"For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God. " "Your sin separates between you and God. "* We know these passages, don't we?
 - 1- Thus the reason you and I must have forgiveness and acceptance and God gives us that through the Christ. (Matthew 11:28) *"Come unto me..."*
 - 2- That's what the Jews on day of Pentecost came to understand. (Acts 2:36-38).
- II- Then we must trust that Jesus is the answer to all my spiritual needs- especially as saviour from my sins.
 - A- In (II Cor 1:20) Paul writes that all Gods work to save me is realised in Him.
 - 1- It is God who establishes us in Christ and continues to do so.
 - 2- It is God who anointed us and sealed us with the guarantee of the Holy Spirit.
 - B- Actually, Jesus is the only way that I can go to the Father for it was He who said by the authority of His father that, "I am the way the truth and the life no one can go to the father except through me. " (Jo 14:6)
 - 1- It was Jesus who took my place when I should have been on the cross, He took the load of sin I bore and died that I might live. What a sacrifice made for me and you. (Read 1st Pet 2:24-25)

III- **Adopt a new attitude of heart. (Repent)**

- A- This is the idea of a change of heart, repentance. The reason for this is that God always looks at the heart. In (1st Sam 16:6-7) is an O.T example. Selection of David as King. (Note Vs 7). In Act 13:22, Paul in His sermon repeated in the synagogue, this: *I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart*, David, writes Paul, was different to Saul. **David had penitent heart.**
- B- If my heart is not willing to change I am not ready to be saved.
- 1- (Luke 13:3, Acts 17:30) There must be a change of attitude, literally a “replacement for my own thinking, a change of direction.

IV- **We must verbally agree with Jesus assessment of His identity.**

- A- That He is the Christ the son of the living God. (Matt 16:13ff). This is the same confession, the belief and confession of the Lords identity, that Martha accepted and made in (John 11:17, 27). Note these verses.
- B- The idea of secrecy when it comes to Jesus and discipleship is unacceptable. Those Pharisees who secretly believed in Him in (John 12:42) but did not confess him were on a loser here. They feared being put out of the synagogue if they confessed in the Christ. Remember, No repentance means to perish.
- 1- When we come to Jesus we must go public in confession. (Matt 10: 32-33.)
- 2- This verse here is for the one standing in Christ and standing for His faith.
- 3- (1 s t Tim 6:12-13) *“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,”* (Remember /remind)

V- **Experience the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.**

- A- (Romans 6:3-4). In their conversion to Christ Paul reminded the Roman brethren that they, as well as we, must join with His (Jesus) death burial and resurrection in baptism.
- 1- Why? Because **verse 17** of the same chapter teaches us that baptism is that form of teaching that is the heart of the gospel. (Form= Model or pattern).
- 2- (1 Co 15:1-4) It is through this by which we are saved.
- B- Then I am to be faithful until I shed this fleshly tabernacle.
- 1- I must keep the faith. I must, in my new life, walk the walk of faith. Be constant in that walk. (1st John 1:7)
- 2- By doing so I will receive the crown of life after death. (Rev 2:10b) just as Paul was confident of such in (2nd Tim 4:6-8).

Conclusion;

- 1- In this lesson of remembering of vital concerns, how’s your journey thus far?
- 2- If you are here this morning having heard this message of Jesus and never responded to His call of salvation you know what your position is. But you can change that by the clear, open invitation of Jesus as millions have through the centuries. Will you not come today as we stand and encourage you?