

WHAT MUST I BE TO BE SAVED?

I. We must be seekers.

- A. A seeker is one who is looking for something.
 - 1. On one occasion, a group of Greeks that had come to Jerusalem.
 - 2. Notice their request of Andrew ...(John 12:21).
 - 3. On another occasion, Andrew went to get Peter in order to meet Jesus and said...(John 1:41).
- B. You usually find things for which you are seeking.
- C. It is extremely rare for someone to stumble upon Christianity.
- D. We must be those who are seeking spiritual things and those who are seeking to go to heaven.
- E. If we truly seek, we will find (Matthew 7:8).
- F. We have to be seeking things of a spiritual nature (Colossians 3:1-2).
- G. We have to be seeking God (Hebrews 11:6).
- H. Those things of a spiritual nature must be sought above all else (Matthew 6:33).
- I. When we do that we can be saved.

II. We must be servants.

- A. The first thing we need to realize about this is that we are all servants (Romans 6:16-17).
 - 1. We either serve righteousness or sin.
 - 2. No person, no matter how high and mighty he or she may be, is not a servant.
- B. That being said, we must be willing to serve others (Matthew 23:11).
 - 1. A saved person puts others before him or herself.
 - 2. Ephesians 4:1-3.
- C. The apostles had a problem with this, some wanting to be great.
 - 1. Jesus said that was not how things worked in the kingdom.
 - 2. Matthew 20:20-28.
- D. We aren't going to be saved looking to be served.
- E. Our society is looking for handouts and to be served by others.
 - 1. That has never been God's intention.
 - 2. One cannot be saved looking to be served by others.
- F. Our Lord set the example for being a servant and we must follow that example (Philippians 2:7).

III. We must be sufferers.

- A. The New Testament speaks a great deal about suffering.
- B. Paul put it rather bluntly...(2 Timothy 3:12).
 - 1. If we live for Christ, we will suffer.
 - 2. We need to be prepared for it.
- C. Peter spoke about this as well (1 Peter 3:14-17).
 - 1. Notice what he wrote in chapter 4 (vs. 16-19).
 - 2. We are going to suffer.
 - a. We must suffer as a Christian.
 - b. The only way we will make it through the suffering to be right

with God is to commit ourselves to His care.

- D. What will help us through the suffering is to remember His promise to us (Romans 8:17).
 - 1. Heaven will be worth it.
 - 2. The suffering we endure can't be compared to the glory that awaits us.
 - 3. Paul said something similar to Timothy (1 Timothy 2:12).
- E. We also need to remember we have an example in suffering (1 Peter 2:21).
 - 1. Not only Jesus, but Paul suffered (2 Timothy 1:12).
 - 2. Moses suffered (Hebrews 11:24-25).
 - 3. The prophets suffered (James 5:10).
 - 4. Early Christians suffered (2 Thessalonians 1:5).
- F. If all of these could suffer and make it through faithfully, we can as well.

IV. We must be students.

- A. Those who would be saved must be those who grow (2 Peter 3:18).
- B. Only the word of God allows us to grow spiritually (1 Peter 2:2).
- C. Only by giving diligence to God's word can we be approved before God (2 Timothy 2:15).
- D. Paul commanded that the word of God dwell in us richly (Colossians 3:16).
 - 1. The only way we can do that is to study.
 - 2. We need to read and re-read.
 - 3. We need to look up words and meanings of words.
- E. On one occasion, Jesus told some Jews to search the scriptures.
 - 1. They needed to study God's word because they were wrong.
 - 2. If we are saved or want to be saved, we need to search the scriptures to make sure that what we are doing is right.
- F. The Old Testament was written for our learning (Romans 15:4).
 - 1. Learning takes study.
 - 2. We must put forth effort to learn the lessons from God's people under the Mosaic Law.
 - 3. We must put forth the effort to know what to do under the New Testament.
- G. The scriptures make one wise to salvation (2 Timothy 3:15).
 - 1. They will make us wise only if we study them.
 - 2. They will allow us to be saved only if we study them.

V. We must be searchers.

- A. We need to be those who search for souls.
- B. We aren't going to heaven alone.
 - 1. We need to be on the lookout for those who are seeking to be saved.
 - 2. We need to be on the lookout for those who are seeking something different than what they currently have.
- C. There are a multitude of lost people in this area.
 - 1. Not all of them want to be lost.

2. Some are not happy with what they currently have and want something different.
 3. We must be searching for them.
- D. Jesus told some of His disciples that they would become fishers of men.
1. Fishermen search out fish.
 2. That is exactly what we must be doing.
- E. Jesus came to seek and to save the lost (Luke 19:10).
- F. That is our mission as well.