

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

What Must I *Know* To Be Saved?

January 7, 2018

Issue 343

“What must I do to be saved?” is a question that was asked 2,000 years ago, and it is still being asked today. The question was answered directly by Peter in Acts 2:38: “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” We read other commands related to salvation throughout the New Testament (Matt. 10:32-33; Luke 13:3; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10,17; Heb. 13:3; et.al.).

It is clear that a sinner must *do* many things to be saved, but what must he/she *know*? Of all the matters related to faith, which ones must a sinner know before

being baptized into Christ? As with all Bible questions, we must go to the Bible for the answer.

Peter’s sermon in Acts 2 focuses on Jesus being the Christ—the Messiah. The 3,000 who were baptized at Pentecost knew that before they were baptized. After Philip taught the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8, the eunuch wanted to be baptized. Philip said that if he believed with all his heart, he could be baptized. The eunuch confessed and was baptized. Hebrews 11:6 states: “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”

Combining these passages and others, we see that the sinner needs to believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He needs to understand that he is lost without Christ. The sinner also needs to know how to respond to Jesus in confession, repentance, and baptism.

It is possible for someone to know all these things from one sermon or conversation with a friend. The sinner needs to know very little. But after baptism, the convert must also know that the learning does not stop. All other matters of faith must be practiced.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Our sympathy is extended to Patty Walker, on the loss of her aunt, Regina Head.
- Canetha Walker has been sick.
- Alex Walker had his tonsils removed Wednesday.
- Beverly Nicholson had her last radiation treatment. She will now take oral chemo.
- Faye Head and Marlies and Molly McKnight have also been ill.
- Mark Hayes had another kidney procedure Friday.

Morning Sermon: “Holy Spirit” Building Fund Contribution Today; Meal After Service Tonight

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School
Read: John Hayes
Pray: Baker

Morning Worship
Wait on the Table: Reed
Serve: J. Demonbreum, Smith, J. Walker
Pray: Billingsley

Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Hebrews 13:5
“Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.’”

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

Winston Churchill

“A ship is safe in harbor, but that is not what ships are for.”

John Shedd

What To Do With A Sermon

You might have noticed that the word “sermon” does not appear in the New Testament. Preaching in mentioned, as well as teaching. Preaching and teaching was done in religious facilities, jails, riversides, and houses. The responses to those lessons varied. The three possible responses were all seen after Paul’s sermon on Mars Hill. The Bible states that some sneered, others wanted to learn more later, and another group joined Paul and believed (Acts 17:32-34).

But how should a Christian respond to a sermon? On a given Sunday, how should a believer treat a sermon? Here are a few suggestions:

(1). *Respect it.* Understand that your

preacher likely has spent hours throughout the previous week planning, researching, and writing each sermon. He has wrestled with the text and considered the needs of the congregation. His work should be respected.

(2). *Listen to it.* You might think this goes without saying, but many people simply do not listen to sermons. They stare at babies, think about lunch, or do 100 other things rather than listen to what is being presented. Take notes. Sit in a different part of the room. Do whatever it takes to remove distractions.

(3). *Live with it.* Sermons only have value if they are applied to daily living. While it is true that not every

sermon is truly applicable (a sermon about elders, for instance), each sermon can still be absorbed and used in the future.

(4). *Share it.* There are people you meet every day who did not hear the sermon you heard on Sunday. Sharing what you heard with them could do immeasurable good.

Ultimately, preaching is not about the preacher. It is way for God’s word to be elevated and glorified in the hearts of those who hear it. We should never minimize or dismiss the power of faithful preaching.

James Hayes
