

The essentiality of giving a complete and accurate answer to such an important question

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
Acts 16:30

**Hear
Believe
Repent
Confess
Be baptized**

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Acts 16:30

Traditional answer

No mechanized steps

Includes more than required

Fails to include essentials

19th century answer

Faith
Repentance
Baptism
Remission of sins
Gift of Holy Spirit

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Walter Scott 1796-1861
"Five finger exercise"
Used to teach children
Morphed into H-B-R-C-B
Beware of traditions

Other first principles that need to be stressed as we seek to bring people into a relationship with Jesus.

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Acts 16:30**

But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

2 Pet. 1:20-21

The Bible is God's word

For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Gal. 1:11-12

There is a God

Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? John 14:8-9

I am a sinner

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 3:23

If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

1 John 1:10

God, because He's God, has the right to expect obedience and man, because he's man, must obey

Romans 9:6-19

God has the right to act as He pleases because He is God

Romans 9:20-24

Man must listen and obey because he is man (Hab. 2:20)

The nature of God and man

Jeremiah 42:1-43:2

Pray that the Lord your God will tell us where we should go and what we should do 42:3

I will tell you everything the Lord says 42:4

The value of truth

Whether it is favorable or unfavorable, we will obey the Lord our God 42:6

*The Lord has told you, Do not go to Egypt
42:19*

You are lying! The Lord our God has not sent you to say... 43:2

Need to deny self

Matt 16:24

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me." (1 Pet. 3:15)

Need to count the cost

Luke 14:26

If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. (Matt. 10:34-39)

God's evaluation is all that matters

Rom 14:11-12

For it is written, "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD." So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

Desire for human approval is dangerous

Matt. 23:1-12

Gal 2:11-ff

Concern for my soul

Luke 13:22-24

And He was passing through from one city and village to another, teaching, and proceeding on His way to Jerusalem. And someone said to Him, "Lord, are there just a few who are being saved?" And He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able."

Ps. 119:59

I thought on my ways and turned my feet to Your testimonies.

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