

You Pick It; I'll Preach It

"Questions Concerning Salvation"

(1 Thessalonians 5:21)

- Introduction:
1. This lesson will close out our "You Pick It; I'll Preach It" series.
 2. For the past seven weeks, I have been answering questions and preaching on topics that I've allowed others to pick.
 3. Tonight's lesson will deal with questions that generally center on the issue of salvation and how man is saved from his sins.

I. What If A Man Dies Before Baptism?

- A. That's a fair question and worthy of consideration.
- B. First, we must acknowledge that the answer to this question must not be rooted in emotion, but rather in the word of God (John 12:48).
- C. (Proverbs 14:12).
- D. Note that if dying before being baptized is "emotive" proof that baptism isn't necessary for salvation; then why wouldn't dying before coming to faith be "emotive" proof that faith isn't necessary for salvation?
- E. (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16).

II. What About The Thief On The Cross?

- A. Some suggest that since the thief was saved but wasn't baptized, then baptism must not be essential for salvation (Luke 23:43).
- B. First, how does one know the thief wasn't baptized by John (Mark 1:5)?
- C. Consider the nature of a will (Matthew 9:6; Hebrews 9:16-17).
- D. The thief on the cross wasn't baptized with the baptism of Jesus for the same reason Adam, Abraham, and Moses weren't – The command wasn't given to them.

III. Why Isn't Baptism Mentioned In Romans 10:9-10?

- A. Consider: Is the fact that baptism isn't mentioned in this passage proof that it is not necessary for salvation?
- B. What about other factors that aren't mentioned in this verse?
 1. Love for God.
 2. Repentance.
- C. The mention of some conditions does not exclude additional unmentioned conditions.

IV. Can One Simply Call On The Name Of The Lord And Be Saved?

- A. Absolutely!
- B. (Romans 10:13).
- C. But what does calling on the name of the Lord entail?
- D. (Matthew 7:21).
- E. Let the Bible be its own best interpreter (Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21).

- Conclusion:
1. If you find yourself in need of salvation tonight, don't delay. Today is the day of salvation (2 Corinthians 6:2).