

MY QUESTIONS ON WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED AS FOUND IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

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Here Are Some Of My Questions I Used To Ask Ministers About The Bible Teachings That I Would Get A Different Answer From Almost Every Christian Denomination And Often Different Answers With In The Same Denomination From Different Ministers.

How Do I Know Who Is Right?

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## WHO HAS THE RIGHT TO INTREPRET THE DOCTRINE TAUGHT IN THE BIBLE?

2 Peter 1

20. Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

Amos 3

7. 7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

So where are the prophets in our day and age that will help us to understand the doctrine taught in the Bible?

## CUSTOM IN ANCIENT CHURCH TO RESOLVE QUESTIONS:

Acts 15

1. And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.
2. When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

Where can we find the Apostles and Elders in the church today when we have questions over doctrine.

## CLEAR TEACHINGS IN THE BIBLE ABOUT THE NEED TO REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED TO BE SAVED

Acts 1

21. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

What does “call on the name of the Lord mean?”

What does it mean to be saved?

Acts 2

37. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do.
  
38. Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
  
39. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even **as many as the Lord our God shall call.**
  
40. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, save yourselves from this untoward generation.
  
41. Then they that gladly received his word **were baptized:** and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

What does that mean “the Lord our God shall call”? Is that the same use of the word “call” as in Acts 1:21 above? So to me, this says that those who “Call on the name of the Lord” means to repent and be baptized. What does it mean in verse 40 to “save yourselves”. Here Luke is saying that those who want to be “saved” need to repent and be baptized. That will then qualify you to be one of the ones that the “Lord our God shall call”. That is how you are saved. Even Jesus who was perfect and had no sin was baptized.

Why have the Christian churches stopped teaching baptism for the remission of sins. That is right in the original Nicene Creed. Who authorized that to be taken out of the Christian Church teachings?

**IF WE BELIEVE IN THE TEAHINGS OF THE BIBLE WHY DON'T WE HAVE ALL THINGS IN COMMON IN THE CURRENT CHRISTIAN CHURCHES?**

Acts 2

44. And all that believed were together, and had all things in common;
  
45. And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men as every man had need.
  
- 46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart.

47. Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Again this implies that those who wanted to join the church were taught to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins and when they did that they were added to the church so they could be saved. If we follow the teachings of Christ's original church, why don't we baptize for the remission of sins and have all things in common? Who authorized that to be changed?

Acts 4

32. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things in common.

33. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

34. Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

35. And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

Story of Anninias holding back some of his goods which cost him and his wife their lives (see Acts 5) shows that it was a very serious teaching in the church. Who authorized the Christian churches to take that teaching out of the church.

PETER AND THE OTHER APOSTLES CONSTANTLY TAUGHT REPENTANCE

Acts 3

19. Repent ye therefore, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

Acts 5

30. the God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree

31. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

How could the need for Repentance for the remission of your sins be more clearly taught than that? Why don't Christian churches teach repentance for the remission of sins any more, instead of teaching that all you have to do is confess Jesus while still in your sins and you will be saved anyway? That is a total contradiction to the teachings of the Bible and what it means to be saved.

Acts 8

12. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

#### MORE REPENTANCE TEACHING BY THE APOSTLES

Acts 8

21. Thou has neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

22. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

PETER IS TOLD TO EAT UNCLEAN MEAT THEN SHOWN HE SOULD TAKE THE GOSPEL TO ALL THE WORLD NOT JUST THE JEWS. AND HE TAUGHT THEM REPENTANCE

Acts 11

18. When they heard these things, they held their peace and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

Here again repentance is tied to being saved.

Acts 17

30. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

If all we need to do to be saved is confess Jesus, then why is the Bible saying that God is commanding us to repent?

#### MORE TEACHING OF BAPTISM

Acts 8

36. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Phillip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, and he baptized him.

The eunuch confessed Jesus. He said "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God". So why was he not born again and saved. Why did Philip have to also baptize him? In today's church all you have to do is say what the eunuch said and you are born again and saved. Who changed this ordinance of baptism for the remission of sins that is so clearly taught in the Bible? Where did this born again being saved by confessing Jesus come from? I do not see the Apostles in Acts teaching it.

Acts 10

47. Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

48. And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

Notice he did not ask them to be baptized. He commanded them to be baptized.

Acts 16

14.

And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul

15. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

Being baptized after you are converted is a consistent teaching in the New Testament.

Acts 16 (speaking of the Jailer who had held Paul and Silas in the city of Thyatira)

29. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

30. And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31. And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

32. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord and to all that were in his house.

33. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

Paul said to be saved he had to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Why was that not enough then. Why was he not born again and saved as we do today. Why did Paul also baptize him. Why don't we baptize people in the church today when they are converted?

#### Acts 18

8. And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

If they believed on the Lord why was that not enough for them to be born again and be saved? Why were they also baptized. Was that baptism for the remission of sins as taught so openly in the New Testament?

#### Acts 19

1. And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,
2. He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.
3. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptize? And they said, Unto John's baptism.
4. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.
5. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
6. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

This clearly shows that even people who had already been baptized by John the Baptist (why was he baptizing people if all you had to do was believe to be saved?) were REBAPTIZED in the name of Jesus Christ. Then Paul laid his hands on them and gave them the gift of the Holy Ghost. Where are we doing this in the Christian churches today? Who baptizes members and then lay hands on them to give them the gift of the Holy Ghost. I have been to many church denominations and I have never seen these two ordinances performed together anywhere except in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

When John Baptized People He Then Sent Them To Christ To Receive The Holy Ghost. Apparently John The Baptist Did Not Have The Authority To Give The Holy Ghost. Only The Apostles Had That Power. (I need to find that scripture in Mathew)

#### Acts 11

16. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

## PAUL TELLS OF HIS CONVERSION TO THE PEOPLE IN CAESAREA

Acts 22

12 And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there,

13. Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.

14. And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

15. For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.

16. And now why tarriest thou? **Arise and be baptized, and wash away thy sins,** calling on the name of the Lord.

This clearly teaches that Paul was baptized for the remission of his sins when he was converted.

## PAUL TEACHES KING AGRIPPA REPENTANCE AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Acts 26

18. To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me

19: Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

20: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

BESIDES BAPTIZING PEOPLE, THE APOSTLES ALSO GAVE THEM THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST. THE KEY WORDS HERE ARE THEY GAVE. IT DID NOT JUST COME. THEY GAVE IT TO THEM

Acts 8

14. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God they sent unto them Peter and John:

15. Who when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost;

16. For as yet he was fallen none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

17. Then, laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost

Where is this ordinance of laying on of hands to receive the Holy Ghost in the Church today. Why would they have to lay hands on their heads as a separate ordinance from baptism to receive the Holy Ghost in their day, but today it just comes with out baptism or any laying on of hands???? That seems very un-Bible like to me.

If All We Have To Do To Be Saved Is To Confess Jesus Why Were They Doing All These Other Things In The Early Church? Where Is Peter And The Apostles Teaching That All You Have To Do Is Confess Jesus An D You Are Saved?

If We Have The Same Priesthood Power In Christ's Church Today, Why Are We Not Following Peter And John's Example Of Healing? Where Does This Power To Heal Fit Into Being Born Again When You Confess Jesus And Are Saved?

Acts 3

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Find: Greater things than I have done shall ye do.

When Peter Called Men To Callings He Laid His Hands On Them . Where Do We Do That In The Church Now?

Acts 7

6. Whom the set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

#### SAUL HEALED BY THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Acts 9

12. And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

17. And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that speared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it has been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

## PETER HEALS AENEAS

Acts 9

33. And there he found a certain man named Aeneas which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.

34. And Peter said unto him, AENEAS, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

## PETER RAISES THE DEAD

Acts 9

40. But Peter put the all forth and kneeled down and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

Acts 13

2. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them they sent them away.

Notice Paul did not perform any miracles until after he had hands laid on his head to ordain him.

Now Paul Starts To Do Miracles. First He Curses A Wicked Man Who Was Fighting Against God

Acts 13

11. And now behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

Acts 14

9. The same heard Paul speak: who steadfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

10. Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

Acts 20

9. .... He sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead

10. And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him.

Paul raised this boy from the dead showing that the Apostles had the same power of the priesthood that Christ had. They had it because Christ ordained the 12 and gave it to them and then they ordained others and gave that power to them. And thus they fulfilled the prophecy of Christ where he said, “even greater things than I have done shall ye do”

(NEED TO FIND THE SOURCE FOR THAT VERSE)

Acts 28

7: In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius; who received us, and lodged us three days courteously.

8: And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.

9: So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:

Here again it says that he laid his hands on him and healed him. Where do the current Christian churches teach healing by the laying on of hands? Who has that authority in the current Christian churches?

**SOME TRIED TO USE THIS PRIESTHOOD POWER THE APOSTLES HAD WITHOUT HAVING BEEN ORDAINED**

Acts 19

13. Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus who Paul preacheth.

14. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so

15. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know and Paul I know; but ho are ye?

16. And the man in whom the evil sprit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

So how can someone just start preaching the gospel in our day and age without being properly ordained by someone having authority to give this priesthood power that the Apostles had. Where can we get this ordination in this day and time. Or are we like the 7 sons of Sceva, assuming Christ’s name but have no authority to speak in his name?

(FIND: Other laying on of hands and ordination examples in the new testament and add them here)

## OTHERS WERE ORDAINED

Acts 21

8. And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.

If nothing is left out of the Bible and it is perfect, then please explain to me what this council of 7 is. Where does it explain who the 7 evangelists are or what they do or what their calling in the church was. Do we have a council of the 7 evangelists in the church today?

Acts 21

18. And the day following Paul went in with us unto James; and all the elders were present.

What is the calling of an Elder in the church today. What do they do? What did they do in the early church. They are constantly mentioned as being with the Apostles. Where does the Bible explain what an Elder's calling in the church is so we could have them in the Church today?

## PAUL WAS ORDAINED AN APOSTLE

Acts 13

2. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them they sent them away.

Acts 14

23. And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commanded them to the Lord on whom they believed.

Acts 16

4. And as they went through the cities, they delivered them to decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

Where are the Elders in the churches today? Who decided to not ordain Apostles and Elders any more? Why are we not ordaining the leaders in the church today?

How does this ordaining to offices in the church relate to our modern day Christian practice of being born again and not needing to repent or be baptized. Where are the men in the church who heal by the laying on of hands? Where are the Apostles and Elders in the current modern Christian churches? Where are they? What do they do? Who decided we did not need them any more?

## PETER ALSO TAUGHT THAT WE WOULD BE SAVED BY GRACE

Acts 15

11. But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they,

Peter is telling them the Gentiles don't need to be circumcised and in this case is not saying you need to repent and be baptized to be saved. So does this mean he is changing what was being taught or is this just a summary of what he was teaching. Is that not true that we are saved by the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. But does that also mean then that we don't need to repent or be baptized for the remission of sins as so clearly taught in so many other places by Peter and the other Apostles. Was this an all inclusive statement or a statement of the place of Grace. Even if we repented and were baptized, except for the GRACE OF GOD, we could not be saved. So this is not an inconsistent teaching just because he does not explain the whole concept of it and how it relates to being saved.

FIND: Saved by grace after all that we can do scripture (what does after all we can do mean. Does that include repentance and baptism?)

## CAN AN APOSTLE MAKE A MISTAKE?

Peter clearly taught them that they were no longer to circumcise members of the church as a means to be saved (See Acts 15: 1-5 where it started to be taught). Then he went to Jerusalem to seek the word of God from Peter who declared it was wrong (see Acts 15:7-12). Paul was there when Peter taught them that.

Now in Acts 16

1. Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:
2. Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.
3. Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek

If Peter just taught them that it was the will of God that they no longer circumcise people then why did Paul a short time later do it any way?

## TEACHINGS THAT ARE NOT EXPLAINED IN THE BIBLE

### Acts 15

24: Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment:

25: It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

26: Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

27: We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth.

28: For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

29: That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.

## AND HERE KEEPING COMMANDMENTS IS TAUGHT AGAIN

### Acts 21

25. As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written and concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from things offered to idols and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication

This is the second time this *keep themselves from things offered to idols and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication* has been taught here in acts. What does it mean? Is it something that we should refrain from in our day too? Where does the Bible explain what it was they were strangling and fornicating with that should be refrained from? Is that an indication that there may be other teachings by the Apostles that were lost? What else was going on in the lives of the members of the church that they taught them they should not do? Did they teach them about abortion, or drugs, or gangs, or corporate corruption.... Where are the teachings for our times. There has been prophets on the earth all through time that taught the people things that applied only to their times. We have all the teachings in Deuteronomy but we do not live those laws that were given by Moses, a prophet, to the people because they were teachings for their times. Where are the teachings for our times?

## NOT SAVED BY WORKS BUT WE ARE TOLD TO BECOME PERFECCT. HOW DO WE DO THAT?

### Acts 20

35. I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

IF YOU ARE SAVED BUT HAVE NOT CHARITY WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU  
IN THE NEXT LIFE?

(This is not in the book of Acts but it certainly applies to the subject of being saved)

1 Cor 13

1: Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2: And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3: And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

4: Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5: Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6: Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7: Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8: Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

So if I confess Jesus and I am born again and I am saved, then I go on living a life of sin and I do not have Charity am I still saved? That is a total contradiction to the teachings of the Bible.

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