

The Reflector

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY

CHURCH OF CHRIST

MEETING AT

1460 NORTH MAIN

VIDOR, TEXAS

Volume 41

June 2005

Number 6

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

This is the most important question that could ever be asked! The answer is clearly given in the scriptures.

John 3:16 – *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

2nd Corinthians 7:10 – *“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”*

Romans 10:10 – *“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

Mark 16:16 – *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”*

Revelations 2:10 – *“...Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”*

There you have it, straight from the scriptures! And now what you need to do is to obey these instructions and you will be saved! At least that is what the Bible says about how to be saved.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S BIBLE QUESTIONS:

Nebuchadnezzar was the king of Babylon who had a golden image built that was to be worshipped. This golden image was 90 feet tall and 9 feet wide. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were the three Jews who refused to bow down to this image and therefore were cast into a fiery furnace. God however delivered them from this fire unharmed. (Daniel 3)

Moses and Elijah were the two men who appeared with Jesus when he was transfigured before Peter, James, and John. These men spoke about the impending death of Jesus. (Luke 9:28-36)

QUESTIONS FOR THIS MONTH:

What is the name of the Old Testament king who went into the temple to burn incense? (What happened to this king and why?)

What is the name of the Christian sent to Rome from Philippi to check on Paul's condition? (What nearly happened to this man on this occasion?)

HOW MANY CHURCHES DID JESUS BUILD?

The answer is only one. Listen to what Jesus Himself said in Matthew 16:18: ***"And I say unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."*** Jesus promised to build only one church and that is how many He built. We read in Acts 2:47 that the ***"...Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."*** We read in Ephesians 1:22 that Jesus was ***"...given to be head over all things to the church, which is His body."*** But Ephesians 4:4 says that there is ***"one body."*** If Jesus built only one church, then where did all of the other churches that exist today come from? If they were not built by Jesus Christ, then they must have come from and been built by men. If they were built by men, then they are not the same as the church built by Jesus Christ back in the first century. Surely no one thinks that churches built by men are as good as the church built by Christ! Whose church are you a member of today? Salvation is found in that church built by Jesus according to Ephesians 5:22-23 and Acts 2:47.

'BOAST NOT THYSELF OF TOMORROW!'

In Proverbs 27:1 we read the following statement: ***"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."*** And yet in spite of this warning, we still as human beings have a tendency to want to put things off until tomorrow. There are two events that can take place that can keep us from ever seeing tomorrow, the second coming of Christ or death. Each of these events can come without any immediate warning. Just read the story of the **"Rich Man Whose Barns Overflowed"** in Luke 12:16-21 to see how death can come so unexpectedly. And remember that the Bible teaches us that the return of Christ will come ***"like a thief in the night."*** (2nd Peter 3:10) If either of these events were to happen to you today, would you be ready to stand before Christ in judgment? (2nd Corinthians 5:10/Hebrews 9:27) Read the following poem and please take it to heart.

*"Tomorrow," he promise his conscience,
"Tomorrow I'll do as I should;
Tomorrow I'll think as I ought to;
Tomorrow I mean to be good;
Tomorrow I'll conquer the habits
That hold me from Heaven away!"
But ever his conscience repeated
One word-and one only-"Today."*

*Tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow-
Thus day after day it went on;
Tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow-
Till Youth like a vision was gone;
Till age and his passions had written
The message of fate on his brow,
And forth from the shadows came Death
With the pitiless syllable-"Now."*

Since we have no guarantee of tomorrow, let us make sure that today our lives are in harmony with the will of God! If you have not yet obeyed the gospel, then don't put it off any longer. If you as a Christian need to be restored to fellowship with God, then do this as soon as possible. What a pity it would be to wake up on the other side of eternity unprepared to meet the Lord in judgment. (Matthew 25:1-13)