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|   |    |   |    |  |

# **3A. HOW IS A PERSON SAVED?**

# 1B. Not by trying to keep the law.

| How many men and women, according to Romans 3:20, are justified  |
|--|
| (declared righteous) in God's sight by keeping the law? Are mer  |
| justified by the works of the law (see Galatians 2:16)? If men could be  |
| saved by keeping the law, then would it have been necessary for Christ to die on the   |
| cross (Galatians 2:21)? What are the three words in Romans 7:12 that   |
| describe the law? 1) 2) 3) Do you think it   |
| is possible for a sinful man to keep God's holy law (read Romans 7:7-14)?  |
| Is it possible for sinful men to keep the 10 commandments perfectly (see Exodus  |
| 20:1-17)? Read James 2:10. Imagine a person who perfectly obeys all of   |
| God's commandments except for one. Is he still a lawbreaker? Is he guilty  |
| of breaking the law? Consider some of the Ten Commandments:  |
| Have you always put God first in your life above all else?   |
| Have you ever taken God's Name in vain?  Have you ever stolen anything that did not belong to you?                               |
| Have you ever committed adultery of the heart (Matt. 5:28)?  |
| Have you ever coveted or desired what someone else had?  |
| Have you ever lied? Have you ever lied in court?  Have you ever disobeyed or dishonored your parents, even once?                 |
| If you have a chain with just one of the links broken, is it still a broken chain?   |
| Consider a person who has committed murder, but who has never  |
| committed adultery. Has that person broken God's law (James 2:11)?   |
| Galatians 3:10 tells us what a person must do if he hopes to be saved by keeping the   |
| law. He must continue in things which are written in the book of the   |
| to them. Do you think that a sinful person could ever do this? Who do  |
| you think was the only Person who ever kept the law perfectly?   |
| The purpose of God's holy law is to show men and women how sinful they really are  |
| "for by the is the knowledge of" (Romans 3:20). The law could  |
| never save, it could only show man his need for the Saviour. Think of a mirror. The  |
| purpose of a mirror is to show us that we have a dirty face, but we certainly would  |
| not use the mirror to wash our face. The mirror should drive us to the soap and  |
| water. So God gave the $\underline{\textbf{LAW}}$ that it might drive us to the $\underline{\textbf{LAMB}}$ , the Lord Jesus who |
| taketh away the sins of the world. The law could never give (Galatians   |
| 3:21), it could only condemn. As the sinner stands before God's holy and righteous   |
| law, all he can say is, "I'M GUILTY!" (Rom. 3:19). God did what the law could never  |
| do by the sending of His own (Romans 8:3)! Praise God for the LAMB!  |

| Page 19 | How | Is A | Person | Saved? |
|---------|-----|------|--------|--------|
|---------|-----|------|--------|--------|

| Name |
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# 2B. Not by good works.

| In Is              | aiah 64:6 we learn that because we are all unclean sinners, all of   |
|--------------------|--|
| our righteousnes   | sses are as in the sight of God. Read  |
| Ephesians 2:1-1    | O and find the two verses that teach us that a person is not saved   |
| by doing good w    | orks. What are these verses? In this same passage,   |
| what verse teach   | es us that once a person is saved his life should be filled with good  |
| works?             | In Titus 3:1-8, what verse teaches that a person is not saved by   |
| good works?        | In this same passage, what verse teaches that those who  |
| are saved ought    | to be performing good works? If salvation were by works,   |
| then men would     | be able to boast about the many things they have done to $\underline{\textbf{earn}}$   |
| their salvation. A | nd yet God's Word clearly teaches that men are not saved by doing  |
| good works, ar     | nd thus for the person who is truly saved, there can be no   |
|                    | (see Ephesians 2:9 and Romans 3:27 and Romans 4:1-5).  |
| Did the Pharisee   | in Luke 18:9-14 boast concerning his good works? In what   |
| verse do you find  | this boasting? Was the Pharisee saved (see verses 13-14)?  |
| Imagine            | yourself standing before the Lord in heaven and put a check ( $\!\!\!\! \int$ )  |
| before the sente   | nce that best describes what you would say to Him:   |
| 1                  | "Lord, the reason I'm here in heaven is because I have been faithful to you and I have tried my best to live a good life and to do those things that are pleasing in Your sight."                |
| 2                  | "Lord, the reason I am here in heaven is only because Christ loved<br>me and died on the cross for my sins. I'm able to stand here today<br>only because of Christ and what He has done for me." |
| Who is it that wo  | rks in the believer enabling him to do those good works that please  |
| the Lord? (see F   | Philippians 2:13 and Hebrews 13:20-21) Read Paul's   |
| prayer for the Col | ossian believers in Colossians 1:9-10. Did Paul want these believers   |
| to please the Lo   | rd by living lives that were filled with good works? How   |
| many good work     | s can the believer accomplish without the Lord's help (John 15:5)?   |
|                    | We know that the unsaved man does not have Christ (1 John 5:12).   |
| Do you think the   | unsaved man is able to do good works that are pleasing to the Lord   |
| (compare Roman     | s 8:8-9)? According to the words of Jesus in John 6:28-29,   |
| what is the first  | "work" a man must do in order to please the Lord?  |
|                    | In fact, without   |
| (Hebrews 11:6)     | t is to please God!  |

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The following two statements are false and would be spoken only by those people who do not understand God's truth:

1) "I know I'm a sinner and in order for me to be saved I must stop drinking and smoking and living in an immoral way and I must go to a good church and read my Bible every day."

| _  | 31, what is God's simple and clear command for the sinner?  Therefore, what is the first                 |
|--|--|
|  | saved person to do?  |
|  | become saved I'll be able to live any way that I please person is not saved by good works but by faith." |
| According to 2 Timothy                     | 2:19, what is God's command for the person who claims to   |
| be a believer?                             | If a person is truly   |
| saved and realizes wha                     | at Christ did for him on the cross, do you think he will desire  |
|  | or for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:15)?  |
| <b>True</b> <u>or</u> <b>False</b> Questio | ns:  |
| 1  | The first thing an unsaved person needs to do is to give up all his bad habits and sinful practices.     |
| 2  | A man is not saved by good works.  |
| 3  | Once a person is saved it doesn't really matter how he lives.  |
| 4  | As saved people we should be fruitful unto every good work.  |
| 5  | The believer is able to do good works because it is God who works in him.                                |
|  |  |

## **3B.** Not by our own effort.

We have learned that men are sinful, wicked, lost, dead and blind. Therefore it is impossible for man to save himself! In Ephesians 2:8 the Word of God clearly says that salvation is not of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, it is the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of God. Read Titus 3:5. Is a man saved by his own effort and good deeds? \_\_\_\_\_\_ God saves a person according to His M\_\_\_\_\_\_ and not according to anything that we have done. If our salvation depended upon our own human efforts, none of us would make it! SALVATION IS OF THE LORD!

| Name |  |
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#### 4B. Not by water baptism.

The following verses are written incorrectly. Please correct them by putting a line through the incorrect parts:

John 3:16--"That whosoever believeth in him and is baptized should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:36--"He that believeth on the Son and is baptized hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son and is not baptized shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 6:47--"He that believeth on me and is baptized, hath everlasting life." John 5:24--"He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, and is baptized, hath everlasting life." 1 John 5:12--"He that hath the Son and has been baptized hath life." Mark 16:16--"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not and is not baptized shall be damned." Acts 16:31--"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be baptized and thou shalt be saved."

Water baptism is necessary for salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9: Titus 3:5).

#### True or False:

1.

| 2.                 | Water baptism is necessary for obedience once a person is saved (Acts  |
|--------------------|--|
|                    | 10:48; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38).   |
| 3                  | _ In Mark 16:16 we learn that a person is damned because he was not  |
|                    | baptized.  |
| 4                  | $_{ m L}$ According to Acts 2:41 and Acts 8:36-37, those who were baptized in the                              |
|                    | early church were already believers and thus they were already saved!  |
|                    | In other words, they first believed and then they were baptized.   |
| 5                  | _ Baptism is something that a person does to be saved.   |
| 6                  | _ Baptism is something that a saved person does.   |
| 7                  | _ Water baptism cleanses us from all sin (Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 1:7).  |
| 8                  | In Mark 16:16 we learn that the UNBELIEVER is damned (condemned) whether or not he has been baptized in water. |
| 9                  | In Matthew 1:21 we learn that it is water baptism that saves a person from his sins.                           |
| 10                 | Titus 3:5 teaches us that a person is saved only by the mercy of God and not by anything that we ourselves DO. |
| Read Acts          | 16:31. Is a person saved the moment he believes or is he saved the   |
| moment he is       | baptized in water?   |
|                    | So far we have learned that a person is <b>not</b> saved by trying   |
| to keep the law or | by good works or by his own effort or by water baptism. Now we are ready                                       |

to learn how a person is saved: **BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH** (see page 22)!

| Page 22 | How | Tc A        | Derson  | Saved? |
|---------|-----|-------------|---------|--------|
| raue ZZ | пом | <b>T2 W</b> | PEISUII | Saveu: |

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| 31 | D. | Dy  | ura | CE | unr  | ouc | 1N         | faith. |

| Ephesians 2:8"For by                               | are ye                 | through               |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|
| " <b>Grace</b> is God's kindness a                 | and favor towards me   | even though I don't   |
| deserve it! According to Titus 3:4 we could say to | that grace is "the     | and                   |
| of God our   | toward" (th            | at undeserving sinful |
| creature, deserving nothing but God's wrath!       | See how "man" is des   | cribed in Titus 3:3). |
| "Amazing GRACE! How sweet the sound that sa        | aved A WRETCH LIKE M   | E!"                   |
| God is able to be gracious and merciful to         | lost sinners BECAUSE C | F WHAT CHRIST DID     |
| FOR US ON THE CROSS! Romans 3:24: "Bein            | ıg                     | (declared righteous)  |
| freely by his through the                          | that                   | is in                 |
| "  |                        |                       |
| Faith is simply taking God at His Word a           | nd acting upon what HE | HAS SAID! God said    |

**Faith** is simply taking God at His Word and acting upon what HE HAS SAID! God said it! I believe it! That settles it!

# Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus! Just to TAKE HIM AT HIS WORD! Just to REST UPON HIS PROMISE! Just to know, "THUS SAITH THE LORD"

|          | <b>Faith</b> is believing             | g that what God   | d says is true. | . Before we ca   | n believe an   | d live God's   |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Word, v  | we must hear it (                     | or read it). Thus | we learn in Ro  | omans 10:17 th   | nat            | comes          |
| by       | and _                                 |                   | by the          |                  |                | True faith     |
|          | est upon solid fa                     |                   |                 |                  |                |                |
| a man    | of faith (see Gen                     | esis 15:6; Roma   | ans 4:3-5 and   | Galatians 3:6-9  | 9). Abraham    | า was strong   |
| in faith | because he beli                       | eved that what    | ever God had    | promised wou     | ld surely co   | me to pass.    |
|          | Romans 4:19-21<br>of                  |                   | _               |                  |                |                |
|          | , giving                              | glory to God,     | and being full  | y persuaded th   | nat, what H    | e (God) had    |
|          | H                                     | He (God) was      | a               | also to          |                | Is God         |
| able to  | keep His promis                       | es? Is            | God able to     | DO what He sa    | ays?           | Will God       |
| always   | do exactly what                       | He says?          | Will everyth    | ning God says a  | lways come     | to pass (see   |
| Genesi   | s 1:3)? H                             | as a promise of   | God ever faile  | d?               | Are we able    | to say "YES"   |
| and "Al  | MEN" after readii                     | ng every one of   | God's promis    | es (see 2 Corir  | nthians 1:20   | )?             |
| -        | According to Titus                    | s 1:2, what is o  | ne thing that   | God cannot do    | ?              | We know        |
| from H   | lebrews 6:18 tha                      | at it is impossil | ole for God to  | do what?         |                | _ Therefore,   |
| whatev   | er God says mu                        | st be true and v  | ve should beli  | eve it, rest upo | on it, obey it | t and live it! |
| When v   | we do not believ                      | e the Word of (   | God, what ter   | rible sin are w  | e guilty of    | (see 1 John    |
| 5:10)?   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |                   |                 |                  | _ Faith is ı   | responding     |
| propei   | rly, rightly and                      | correctly to wi   | hat God has sa  | aid! The man of  | f faith respoi | nds properly   |
| to the   | Word of God!                          | When God gi       | ves a comm      | and, the man     | of faith r     | esponds by     |
|          |                                       | _ the comman      | d (Hebrews 1    | 1:8). When G     | od gives a p   | promise, the   |
| man of   | faith believes it                     | , is persuaded (  | of it, sees it, | looks for it, wa |                |                |

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#### FIVE FACTS THAT A SAVED PERSON MOST CERTAINLY BELIEVES

| 1. FACT NUMBER 1— Jesus Christ is the $o$               | nly Saviour (Acts 4:12).                     |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| According to John 14:6, how many way                    | s are there to the Father?                   |  |  |  |
| Therefore, how many ways of salvation are there?        | Y Who is the only door that we               |  |  |  |
| an go through to be saved (John 10:9)? What is the only |  |  |  |  |
| Name under heaven given among men whereby               |  |  |  |  |
|   | _  |  |  |  |
| 2. FACT NUMBER 2— Jesus Christ died and                 | rose again for our salvation (Romans         |  |  |  |
| 4:25 and 2 Corinthia                                    | ns 5:15).                                    |  |  |  |
| Romans 4:25: The Lord Jesus was                         | for offences, and                            |  |  |  |
| was for (on accou                                       | nt of) our justification! We have already    |  |  |  |
| studied the death of Christ (pages 12-17). Read         | 1 Thessalonians 4:14. A true Christian is    |  |  |  |
| one who believes that Jesus and                         | According to                                 |  |  |  |
| Romans 10:9, what must we believe in our heart          |  |  |  |  |
|   | (see also 1 Cor. 15:1-4).                    |  |  |  |
|   | •  |  |  |  |
| 3. FACT NUMBER 3— Jesus Christ is able t                | o save (Hebrews 7:25).                       |  |  |  |
| Hebrews 7:25: "Wherefore he is                          |  |  |  |  |
| the that come unto God by                               |  |  |  |  |
| his name; for he shall                                  |  |  |  |  |
| name "JESUS" means (circle the correct one):            |  |  |  |  |
| d. Lord. Read Matthew 19:25-26. Is it possible          |  |  |  |  |
| Read 1 Timothy 1:15-16. If Christ could save Par        |  |  |  |  |
|   | in (AND TIE DID!), is the able to save other |  |  |  |
| sinners also?   |  |  |  |  |
| 4. FACT NUMBER 4— Jesus Christ is willing               | g to save (John 6:37).                       |  |  |  |
| Will Jesus ever refuse a sinner who comes               | to Him for salvation (John 6:37)?            |  |  |  |
| What is God's will (desire) for all men? (see 1 Tim     | •  |  |  |  |
| •   |  |  |  |  |

# 5. FACT NUMBER 5— Jesus Christ will save all those who trust Him and Him alone as their Saviour and Lord (John 3:16).

In order to understand **FACT NUMBER 5**, we will study 15 salvation promises that are found in the New Testament. These are <u>conditional promises</u> which means that <u>IF</u> the sinner does something, <u>then</u> God promises to do something. In other words, before God will fulfill the promise, the sinner must fulfill the condition. As soon as the sinner does what he is supposed to do, then God will surely keep His promise. Don't forget that these are promises given to us by the God who cannot lie (Titus 1:2).

| Name |      |
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As we study these 15 salvation promises we want to be looking for two things: a) *First* we want to see what the sinner's responsibility is. This is exactly what the jailer wanted to know in Acts 16:30 when he cried out, "What must I do to be saved?" b) **Second,** we want to see what God promises to do for the sinner when the sinner responds in the right way. The first three verses will be done for you so that you will understand what to look for. Then look up the other verses that are listed and do the same for them.

| 1) | Matthew 11:28   |
|----|---|
|    | a) The sinner must <u>Come unto Christ</u>                          |
|    | b) God promises the sinner / Clast                                  |
| 2) | John 1:12   |
|    | a) The sinner must receive Christ and believe on His Name           |
|    | b) God promises the sinner that he will become a son (child) of God |
| 3) | John 3:16   |
|    | a) The sinner must <u>believe in Christ</u>                         |
|    | b) God promises the sinner that he will not perish but will         |
|    | have everlasting life   |
| 4) | John 3:18   |
|    | a) The sinner must  |
|    | b) God promises the sinner  |
| 5) | John 3:36   |
|    | a) The sinner must  |
|    | b) God promises the sinner  |
| 6) | John 5:24   |
|    | a) The sinner must  |
|    |   |
|    | b) God promises the sinner  |
|    |   |
|    |   |
| 7) | John 6:35   |
|    | a) The sinner must  |
|    | b) God promises the sinner  |
| 8) | John 6:37   |
|    | a) The sinner must  |
|    | b) God promises the sinner  |

| Page          | 25     | How Is A Person Saved? Name  |
|---------------|--------|--|
| 9)            | Johr   | n 6:47   |
|               | a)     | The sinner must  |
|               | b)     | God promises the sinner  |
| 10)           | John   | 10:9   |
|               | a)     | The sinner must  |
|               | b)     | God promises the sinner  |
| 11)           | John   | 11:25  |
|               | a)     | The sinner must  |
|               | b)     | God promises the sinner  |
| 12)           | Acts   | 10:43  |
|               | a)     | The sinner must  |
|               | b)     | God promises the sinner  |
| 13)           | Acts   | 16:31  |
|               | a)     | The sinner must  |
|               | b)     | God promises the sinner  |
| 14)           | Rom    | ans 10:9   |
|               | a)     | The sinner must  |
|               | b)     | God promises the sinner  |
| 15)           | Rom    | ans 10:13  |
|               | a)     | The sinner must  |
|               | b)     | God promises the sinner  |
| 4A.           | Hov    | v Easy Is Salvation?   |
|               | 1B.    | Being saved is as easy as receiving a gift (John 1:12).                                |
|               | In E   | phesians 2:8 we learn that salvation is the If   |
| some          | one w  | vere to give you a gift, would you have to pay for it? Therefore, do we                |
| need          | to pay | y for our salvation? Who did pay for our salvation (read 1 Corinthians 6:20            |
| and 1         | Peter  | 1:18-19)? What is the gift of God according to   |
| Roma          | ns 6:  | 23?  |
| [ <u>Note</u> | : the  | word "through" should be translated "in" as in 1 John 5:11]. Salvation is as easy      |
| as rec        | eiving | g a gift! We can't work for it! We can't pay for it (compare Acts 8:18-20)! We can't   |
| earn i        | t by c | our own efforts! All we can do is receive it! God's free gift of eternal life is to be |
| found         | only   | <u>in</u> H S (1 John 5:11).   |

| Name |  |  |  |
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| According t          | to 1 John 5:11-12, in order                               | to have God's gift of ete   | rnal life, you must also  |
|----------------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| have God's           | Thus, to be saved   | I the sinner must receive   | a Person! According to    |
| John 3:16, what      | is God's love-gift to the w                               | orld?   | (Note: the                |
| words "only begot    | tten" mean <b>"one of a kind</b>                          | <b>I, unique</b> "Jesus is God  | 's unique Son). In John   |
| 1:12 we learn tha    | at to become sons or child                                | ren of God we must R_   | the                       |
| Lord Jesus Christ    | as our personal Saviour!                                  | Although we could never   | pay God back for the      |
| precious gift of His | s Son, what is one thing tha                              | at we can say to God in a   | ppreciation for what He   |
| has done (see 2 C    | Corinthians 9:15)?  |   |                           |
|                      | Thank you Lord fo<br>Thank you Lord<br>Thy great salvatio | for saving my soul. or making me whole. If for GIVING to me on so rich and FREE!" |                           |
|                      | g saved is as easy as                                     | _   |                           |
|                      | John 6:35. Who is the b                                   |   | •                         |
|                      | faith will never  |   |                           |
|                      | Do yo   |   |                           |
|                      | er?   |   |                           |
| _                    | e verses, what does it mea                                | n to eat Christ's flesh and   | d drink His blood (circle |
| the correct answe    | •   |   |                           |
| 1)                   | It means that we should                                   |   |                           |
| 2)                   | It means that when we t                                   |   | , 5                       |
| 3)                   | It means that we should b                                 | pelieve that the sinless Ch   | nrist gave His body and   |
|                      | shed His precious blood to                                | for our sins when He died   | d on the cross.           |
| Read John 4:9-14.    | . The water that we drink da                              | aily can satisfy our physic   | al needs for a time, but  |
| who is the only P    | erson who can give us livi                                | ing water that will satisfy   | y our deepest spiritual   |
| needs?               | As simply   | as a person can take a gl   | ass of water and drink,   |
| that's how simple    | it is to trust Christ and Hir                             | n alone as our Saviour!   |                           |
|                      |   |   |                           |
| 3B. Bein             | g saved is as easy as                                     | s going through a d   | loor (John 10:9).         |
| To b                 | pe saved, a person mu                                     | st enter through wha  | t door (John 10:9)?       |
|                      | Trusting Chris  | st is no more difficult thar  | n going through a door!   |
| And yet, as we re    | ad Matthew 7:13-14 we d                                   | iscover that only a <b>F</b>  | pass through that         |
| door! Remember,      | , there is no other door an                               | d no other way (John 14   | :6; Acts 4:12).           |

### 4B. Being saved is as easy as opening a door (Rev. 3:20).

|  | rd Jesus stands at the door, what is He doing? s to come in? According to this verse   |
|--|--|
|  | ) 2)   |
|  | does these two things, what does Christ promise  |
| to do?   | [Note: the word  |
|  | l it speaks of the believer's close fellowship with  |
| the Lord Jesus.] The Lord Jesus is always read   | y and willing and able to save all those who call  |
| upon Him for salvation (Romans 10:13).   |  |
| 5B. Being saved is as easy as  | looking (John 3:14-15).  |
| Read Numbers 21:4-9. According   | to verses 4-5, were the children of Israel trusting  |
| the LORD and being thankful to Him or v  | vere they complaining over their problems?   |
| In v   | verse 6, how did the LORD judge the people for   |
| their lack of faith?   | In verse 8, what did   |
|  | After this was made it was   |
| to be lifted up upon a What di   | d the people have to do in order to be cured of  |
| their snake bites?   | In verse 9 we learn that   |
| whoever beheld the serpent of bronze   |  |
| Read John 3:14-15. All those who   | beheld the bronze serpent lived! All those who   |
| look upon the Son of man lifted up on the cros   | s shall also live! When a man truly gazes upon   |
| Calvary's cross with the eyes of faith, he v   | vill not but will have   |
|  | Isaiah 45:21-22. The living God says,  |
| " unto, and be ye  | " ( <u>Note</u> : the word "look" in verse   |
| 22 comes from a verb which means "to turn, to  | face someone" and thus the LORD is saying in   |
| Isaiah 45:22, "Face Me, turn your face towards   | Me").  |
| Life is offered unto you, Hallelujah!<br>Eternal life thy soul shall have,<br>If you'll only look to Him, Hallelujah!<br>Look to Jesus who alone can save! | Look and live, O sinner live!<br>Look to Jesus now and live!<br>Tis recorded in His Word, Hallelujah!<br>It is only that you "look and live."<br>— William Ogden |
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Clarification: While God's plan of salvation is in itself simple and clear, a number of "difficulties" arise on man's side which are impossible for him to overcome of himself. Sadly, in many cases sinful man does not want help, but is content to wallow in his sins. The stubborn and wicked refusal of men to believe on Christ and receive God's free gift flows from their condition of total depravity—which was true of all of us (compare John 5:40). Hence, there is the necessity for God to do a work in our hearts which only He can do by His Spirit. There are many reasons why it is very difficult for sin-enslaved men to be saved, including the following: 1) It is very difficult for a person to humble himself and acknowledge his utter sinfulness and spiritual bankruptcy (Luke 18:9-14). 2) Proud man believes that he must do something to earn his salvation, and it is very difficult for him to understand that it is all of grace based on what Christ has done (Eph. 2:8-9; Tit. 3:5). 3) Christ taught that it was extremely difficult, yea, impossible, for a rich man to be saved, due to the fact that no one can be saved while trusting anything or anyone other than Christ (Matthew 19:23-26). But what is impossible with men is possible with God (Matt. 19:26). 4) Being saved is difficult because it requires nothing short of a miracle of God. The dead must be given life (Eph. 2:1-7), the blind must be given sight (1 Cor. 2:14; 2 Cor. 4:3-4), and those who are incurably sick must be healed (Jer. 17:9; 1 Pet. 2:24). 5) Being saved is difficult because depraved men love their sins and do not want to change their ways (John 3:18-20). But all of these difficulties can be overcome because the gospel is "the power of God unto salvation to all who believe" (Rom. 1:16). God is able to do a mighty work in the hearts of sin-blinded and depraved men. Has God opened your eyes to the truth of the gospel (see Matt. 16:13-17; Acts 16:14)?