

What Must Happen for a Sinner to be Saved?

From God's Viewpoint

- 📖 Someone Must *Present the Gospel* clearly.
1 Corinthians 15:1-5
- 📖 God Must *Call* the Sinner to Salvation.
Romans 8:30
- 📖 The Holy Spirit Must *Convict* the Sinner of the Sin of Unbelief.
John 16:7-10
- 📖 God Must *Remove Satanic Blindness* by the Act of Illumination.
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
- 📖 God Must *Give Faith* to the Sinner
Ephesians 2:8-9
- 📖 God Must *Give New Life* to the Sinner (Regeneration).
Ephesians 2:5
- 📖 God Must *Declare the Sinner Righteous* (Justification).
Romans 3:25, 26

Comments

- ❖ With the exception of the presentation of the Gospel, *man has no part in each of the events mentioned above.*
- ❖ *The presenting of the gospel*, while rendered certain in the decree, *is expressed exclusively through human agency.* Every believer can be used of God to present the simple gospel of salvation.
- ❖ Calling, convicting, illuminating, giving faith, regenerating, and justifying *all happen instantaneously and simultaneously.*

The mature believer will understand that the presentation of the Cross of Christ is foolishness to the unbeliever. His very nature does not allow for acceptance of the message of salvation. It is this proclamation of foolishness which is the power of God resulting in salvation – 1 Corinthians 1:21-23.

The humbling fact is, apart from the presentation of the gospel, man cannot participate in any level in the salvation process.

From Man's Viewpoint

- 📖 The Sinner *Must Hear and Understand* the Gospel prior to salvation.
Romans 1:16, 1 Corinthians 15:1
 - ☺ The sinner must *understand* and *believe* the two elements of the gospel: 1) Christ died for our sins (substitutionary death) and 2) Christ rose from the dead (bodily resurrection).
- 📖 The Sinner *Must Believe the Gospel for the Purpose of Being Saved.*
1 Corinthians 15:2
 - ☺ Believing the facts is not enough. The sinner must believe that Christ's actions alone saves, not Christ's actions plus any work or feeling on the sinner's part, such as praying, asking, feeling sorry for sins, or receiving.
 - ☺ Therefore, *faith alone in the gospel of Christ only* is the means of salvation.

Comments

- ❖ Without a clear presentation of the Gospel, *a person cannot be saved.*
- ❖ It is not a person's faith that saves him, but God who saves him. Faith is the means by which salvation is *applied* through the gospel.
 - ☺ **It is God who saves men.**
Titus 3:4, 5
"But when the kindness and the love of *God our Savior* toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to *His* mercy *He saved us*, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit...."
 - ☺ **It is God who gives men new life.**
Ephesians 2:4, 5
"But *God*, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, *made us alive* together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)."
 - ☺ **It is God who justifies men.**
Romans 8:33
"Who shall bring a charge against God's elect?
It is God who justifies."