

WHAT MUST I DO

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INTRODUCTION

TEXT: “*WHAT MUST I DO*” (vs. 10, 12, 14) Asked 3 times.

THE SETTING:

A. JOHN THE BAPTIST

1. Who he was. v. 2.
2. Fulfillment of Old Testament Prophecy. “*The voice of one crying in the wilderness. Make ye ready the way of the Lord, Make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, And every mountain and hill shall be brought low: And the crooked shall become straight, And the rough ways smooth: And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.*” (Luke 3:4-6).

B. WHAT HE PREACHED.

1. Need to change their life and to be baptized.
 - a. Origin of Baptism.
 - b. Why was this preached by John.
2. The Response: “Multitudes that went out to be baptized of him. v. 7.

C. JOHN’S CHALLENGE:

1. “*Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance...*”
 2. “*And the multitudes asked him, saying, what then **must we do?*** v. 10.
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THOSE WHO ASKED

A. THREE DIFFERENT ONE CAME TO JOHN IN THIS TEXT.

1. The Multitudes.
2. The Publicans.
3. The Soldiers.

B. ALL ASKED THE SAME QUESTION.

1. “What Must we do” (vs. 10, 12, 14).
2. John answers each one.

C. JOHN’S ANSWER:

1. To The Multitudes;
 - a. “*And he answered and said unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath food, let him do likewise.*” (V. 11).
 - b. Deals with manner of life.
2. TO THE PUBLICANS.
 - a. “*Extort no more than that which is appointed you.*” (v. 13).
 - b. The role of the tax collector and how it could be abused.
3. TO THE SOLDIERS.
 - a. “*And he said unto them, Extort from no man by violence, neither accuse any one wrongfully; and be content with your wages.*” v. 14.
 - b. To opportunity for abuse that soldiers had because of power.

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- D. All asked the same question....Seeking the same thing....yet all received different answers....HOW COULD THIS BE??
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AN HONEST INQUIRY

- A. We can only assume that all those who asked were honest seekers of truth.
1. They realized that they had a need.
 2. Asked with a desire to comply.
- B. The Answer Was Suited To Their Need.
1. To the multitudes ...General instruction was given.
 2. To Publicans and Soldiers... The answer was more specific.... Directed to their particular needs.
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OTHERS

- A. RICH YOUNG RULER:
1. "WHAT Lack I Yet" (Matt. 19;20).
 2. Jesus' answer "*Jesus said unto him, If thou wouldest be perfect, go, sell that which thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.*" (v. 21).
 3. What he needed was to remove that which stood between him and God.
- B. NICODEMUS: John 3.
1. Who was Nicodemus: Pharisee, a ruler of the Jews.
 2. What did he want... Information about Jesus.
 3. Jesus told him... "*Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*" (John 3:3).
- C. SAUL: Acts 22:10.
1. Who was Saul?
 2. Where he was going and why. (To Damascus to bind and deliver into prison any Christians he found).
 3. Told to arise, go into Damascus and there it would be told him what to do.
- D. Many Other Examples Could Be Given.
1. This shows that each was told, depending upon his need.
 2. Where he was in life, what he was doing...the answer was always to that need which they had or that which they lacked.
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MOST IMPORTANT

- A. THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION EVER ASKED!
1. "*What Must I Do To Be Saved?*" (Acts 16:30).
 2. Who was he.... The Philippian Jailor.
 3. Where was he, spiritually; lost knowing nothing of the Good New of Christ the Savior.

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4. The answer: *“Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved,”* v.31.

B. THE DAY OF PENTECOST: Acts 2.

1. Who were they - Jews who had been responsible for death of Jesus.
2. Where were they spiritually. They had heard; The sermon by Peter; and they Believed as evident from their question.
3. The Answer: *“And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”* (Acts 2:38).

C. SAUL. Acts 22.

1. Already seen who he was.
2. Answer; *“And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name.”* (Acts 22:16).

D. THE ANSWERS:

1. One told to Believe (Acts 16:31).
2. Others told to Repent and Be Baptized. (Acts 2:38)
3. Still another - only to be Baptized (Acts 22:16).
4. ***WHY THE DIFFERENT ANSWERS?

CONCLUSION

A. THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION - “WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED” DEPENDS ON WHERE ONE IS IN HIS SPIRITUAL LIFE OR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

1. There were those who were told to HEAR; Rom. 10:17.
 - a. The obvious reason.
 - b. One has to hear.
2. BELIEVE: (Heb. 11:6).
 - a. Having heard and Believed the gospel
 - b. One must Believe.
3. REPENT: (Luke 13:3).
 - a. Having heard, and Believed the gospel,
 - b. One must change his way of living.
4. CONFESS: (Rom. 10:10).
 - a. Having Heard, Believed, and Changed our life
 - b. One must confess to the world his faith in Christ.

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5. BAPTISM: (Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:1-6;)
 - a. Having Heard, Believed, Repented and Confessed our faith
 - b. One is Baptized into Christ, (Gal. 3:26,27) Raised to walk in a new life (Rom. 6) Born Again (John 3:1-4).

B. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENT ANSWERS GIVEN?

1. Is some thing more or different expected of each one?
2. Or ARE all told to do the same thing???

C. IF ONE ALREADY HAS:

1. Heard - Then the answer to question would not be - you must hear. This he has already done.
2. Believe - you would not tell one who has heard and believed to "believe".
3. Repent - you can not or would not tell one who has repented, that is changed their way of life, to change or repent.
4. Confess - Again if one has or is confessing his faith in Christ, there would be no need to tell him to do so.
5. Baptism - if he has Heard, Believed, Repented and Confessed, then this is what he lacks.

D. IN TRUTH – THEY WERE ALL TOLD TO DO THE SAME THING!!

1. We can see that in John's answer in Luke 3.
2. We can also see it in the answer to life's greatest question... "What Must I Do To Be Saved". What lack I yet?

E. ONE OTHER POINT:

1. SIMON of Samaria. (Acts 8).
2. He had: H.B.R.C.B.
3. Now he sinned, his question... "What Must I Do"
4. The answer: "*Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray the Lord, if perhaps the thought of thy heart shall be forgiven thee.*" (Acts 8:22).
 - a. As a child of God (who had obeyed) now sinned.
 - b. He was told what he must do.

F. WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION??

1. "What Must I Do To Be Saved" What Lack I yet....
 2. Where are you in your Relationship with God.
 3. You need to do whatever you lack.
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