

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ **Florene Howze**—health problems
- ◆ **Milo Lasater**—obstruction in kidney, undergoing tests
- ◆ **Jim Ward**—cancer in remission

Others in Need

- ◆ **Thomas Bush**—11, cancer
- ◆ **Annette Cates**—recovering from collapsed lung, broken ribs
- ◆ **Tim Dixon**—cancer in remission!
- ◆ **Izzy Flores**—cancer
- ◆ **Keith Grimes**—leukemia
- ◆ **Dawn Holloway**—fibromyalgia
- ◆ **Maxine Knoll**—hospital; tests
- ◆ **Michael Parish**—home; physical therapy
- ◆ **Jason Rickmon**—home health after throat cancer surgery
- ◆ **Luis Sanchez**—brain surgery recovery
- ◆ **Jared Sullivan**—cancer for 3 yrs

Continued in next column...

- ◆ **Sidney White**—short of breath
- ◆ **Pray also for** those who have lost loved ones, first responders, police officers, government leaders, military, those traveling, alien sinners, those fallen away, the church at Baker and worldwide.

Events



- ◆ **June 3-7**
Gospel Meeting at Sasser 7:30PM M-TH
- ◆ **July 1-6**
Laborers and Leaders Camp for young men, hosted by Milestone
- ◆ **July 29-Aug. 1**
Gospel Meeting at Union Hill

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

To Our Visitors



We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Glenn Howze
Song Leading—Caleb Howze (Wed.)
 David Howze (Sun.)
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Mark Howze,
 Ethan Howze, Caleb Howze
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Ethan Howze
 Helper: Caleb Howze
Scripture Reading—Braden Hilburn

THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

May 27, 2018

Meeting Times

Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 5:30PM Pew Packers
- 6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4
 P.O. Box 285
 Baker, FL 32531 USA
 850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM

Jason Hilburn's Info:

850-826-8198
 jasonhilburn@yahoo.com
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But Read the Next Verse

Preston Cotham

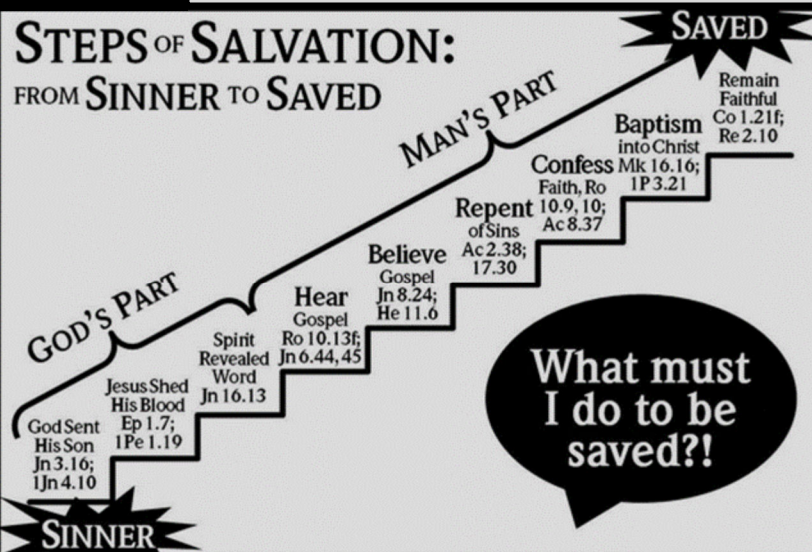
Someone has well said: "A text taken out of its context is a mere pretext." There is much truth in this statement. Certainly the context in which a passage is found should be taken into consideration in any effort to arrive at the correct meaning of the passage. Perhaps more Scripture has been misunderstood by a failure to observe what the writer was talking about than any other one thing. The reading of a few verses before and after a particular passage, will assist us greatly in understanding the truth which the writer intended to convey. If the reading of a verse of scripture raises a question in one's mind, the next verse will often answer the question, and be a commentary on the very thing one wishes to know. The Bible is its own best commentary.

Jesus once declared: "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day (Jno. 6:44). Is man helpless in coming to the Lord? Will God in some miraculous way call sinners, or draw them to Christ? When we read the next verse we see how the Father draws people to Christ "It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me." So the order is hearing, learning, coming. No wonder Jesus commissioned; "Go teach all nations" (Matt. 28:19). The Gospel is God's drawing power.

When the Philippian jailor asked what to do to be saved, he

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...ye were the servants of sin..."
 (Romans 6:17).



What must I do to be saved?!

"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

was told to "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31). Was the jailor saved by faith only? Was it just a mental trusting in the Lord? The next two verses reveal that he heard the gospel, believed it, manifested his repentance, and was baptized the same hour of the night.

Being an unbeliever, he had to have faith in Jesus Christ, the Saviour of man. So Paul and Silas spake unto him the word of the Lord, as that is how faith comes (Rom. 10:17). So then his faith led him to obey the Lord. He would not have known that he ought to be baptized had he not heard the gospel of Christ, which commands baptism for the remission of sins. As McGarvey has well observed: "Those therefore who catch at these words of Paul, and draw the conclusion that salvation is by faith alone, leave the jail too soon." (Com. on Acts, Page 103).

When Paul declared that he was "not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation . . ." (Rom. 1:16), man was led to wonder, and still does, how God's power unto salvation could be just a message believed and obeyed. But the next verse makes known that God's plan for making men righteous, which is by faith, is revealed to produce faith. The very fact that God will justify the believer is stated in order to induce people to believe and obey.

Paul once stood on Mars Hill in the city of Athens and told these Athenians: "God now commandeth all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30). If you wish to know why repentance is so necessary, read the next verse: "Because he hath appointed a day in the which he will judge the world in righteousness." Then man is commanded to repent in order to prepare for the judgment. Jesus once said: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3, 5). One must repent!

Jesus once promised: "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 10:32). This is a confession of the divinity of Christ, that he is the Son of God. Does the question arise in your mind, "What will be the result if I refuse to confess Him?" Then read the next verse: "But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." Thus, a refusal to confess Christ is tantamount to the denial of him.

The apostle Paul once wrote the Galatians: "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:26). Would you like to know HOW and WHEN they became children of God? Then read the next verse which says: "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." This is an inspired answer to the question. But there is SO MUCH discussion in the world concerning baptism, so let us reason further concerning it.

Paul once wrote the Romans reminding them: "Know ye not that so many of us as

were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?" (Rom. 6:3). It must be of supreme importance to be baptized into the death of Christ, for that is where he shed his blood. (Jno. 19:34). But how were they baptized into Christ? By sprinkling or pouring? Read the next verse: "Therefore we are BURIED with him by baptism into death." By no stretch of the human imagination can sprinkling or pouring be made to symbolize the death, the burial, and the resurrection of Christ. But these three facts are beautifully portrayed in scriptural baptism—immersion. "BURIED with him in baptism, wherein also ye WERE RAISED with him" (Col. 2:12).

According to Luke, the historian, the Apostle Peter on Pentecost day exhorted his hearers saying: "And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying; Save yourselves from this untoward generation" (Acts 2:40). How can a person save himself? His deeds of self-righteousness cannot save, for they are as filthy rags. Isa. 64:6. Since God saves us by His grace, 2 Tim. 1:9, how can it be said that we save ourselves? Read the next verse: "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized . . ." (Acts 2:41). They believed and obeyed the Word as spoken by Peter as he was guided by the Holy Spirit. While God provides salvation by His grace, man must appropriate it through faith. "We have access by faith into this grace" (Rom. 5:1,2).

The Apostle Peter admonished Christians to add to their faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity. 2 Pet. 1:5-7. Then he added: "For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." But what about the person that doesn't add these graces to his life; that doesn't grow and develop after obeying the gospel? Study the next verse and also the next one, and you will see that he is blind and hath forgotten his cleansing and is not making sure his calling and election, but will fall.

During the personal ministry of Christ, he made this prediction: "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold" (Matt. 24:12). Would you like to know how many would be saved at last under those trying circumstances? Then read the next verse. "But he that shall endure unto the end the same shall be saved." (Matt. 24:13). Today, only those who are faithful unto the Lord, "faithful even unto death," will receive the "crown of life" (Rev. 2:10). Let us all strive to obey the Lord, and remain faithful and true in His service, so that someday heaven may be our home. In your study of God's Word, always remember to "read the next verse."

[Adapted, original by Preston Cotham, *The Vindicator*, 4-15-58].