

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Jennifer Derrick—bad vertigo lately
- ♦ Wilfred Derrick—health problems
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems

### Others in Need

- ♦ Travis Barrow—health problems
- ♦ Patsy Benson—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Shannon Burn—another surgery
- ♦ California fire victims
- ♦ Danny Davis—back pain
- ♦ Louise Douglas—health problems
- ♦ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ♦ Daniel Foxworth's father—health
- ♦ Ray Godwin—health problems
- ♦ Howard & Elizabeth Grace—health
- ♦ Dawn Holloway—health problems
- ♦ Tony Jones—recent stroke and fall
- ♦ Kari Miles—expecting
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Thomas Patterson—health issues
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Larry Shappley—hospice care

Continued in next column...

♦ Melanie Skinner—cancer

♦ Randal Ward's grandson CJ—sick

♦ Pray for Christians overseas, such as those facing persecution in Pakistan and certain parts of India.

♦ Pray for peace, pray for the bereaved, the persecuted, sick/suffering, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, the lost, enemies.

## 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).

## Events



**January 12**

*Men's Meeting*

**January 22**

*Fourth Wednesday Singing*

***Our Faith and Fellowship event has been postponed until February***

## Privileged to Serve



**Announcements:** Mark Howze

**Song Leading:** Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Ethan Howze

**Serving the Lord's Supper**

Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Johnny Moss, Ezra Howze, Caleb Howze

**Lord's Supper PM**

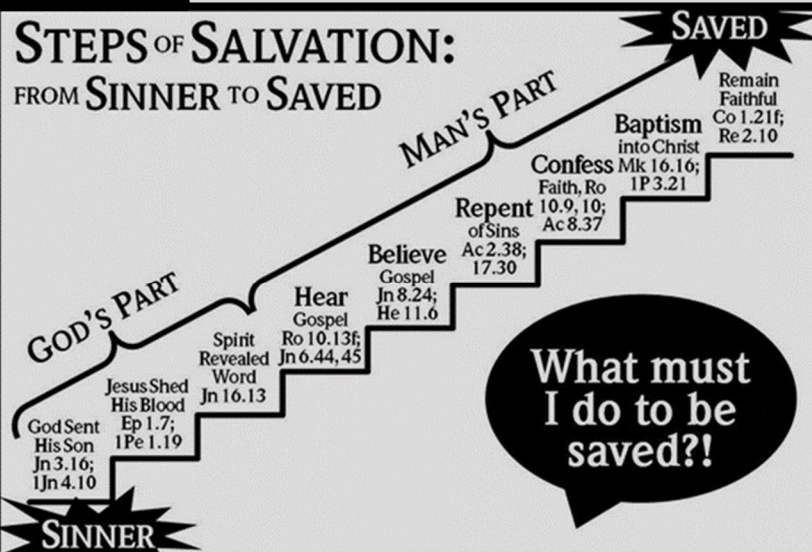
Head: Mark Howze  
Helper: Caleb Howze

**Bible Reading:** Braden Hilburn

**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** weekly 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).

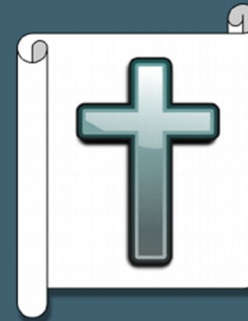
## STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...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).



# THE BAKER BULLETIN

*The weekly bulletin of*

**The church of Christ in Baker, FL**

**January 12, 2025**

## Meeting Times

### Sundays:

10AM Bible Class

11AM Worship

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

WAAZ1047.com livestream

### Jason Hilburn's Info:

850-826-8198

hilburnjasonp@gmail.com

TheBibleDomain.com

JasonsBibleBlog.com

## A Few Words from Jason

We are sad to see Caleb and Katie Simpler leaving us but wish them well on their move to Oregon. We will pray for them to have safe travels, and may God bless them in their new home.

The Men's Leadership Breakfast went well, with good participation, good food, good studies, and good discussions.

## ChatGPT Confirms What We Teach!

(Part 2) by Jason Patrick Hilburn

### 3. Baptism Now Saves You

- **1 Peter 3:21:** "And this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

- This verse explicitly states that baptism saves, emphasizing its spiritual significance rather than a mere outward act.

### 4. Calling on the Name of the Lord in Baptism

- **Acts 22:16:** "And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name."

- This verse shows baptism as the moment when sins are washed away.

### Biblical Conclusion

The Bible consistently presents baptism as a vital step in the process of salvation. It is during baptism that sins are forgiven, and one is united with Christ. While faith, repentance, and confession are essential prerequisites, the act of baptism is described as the point at which salvation is received.

## Is a Person Saved Before Baptism?

Based on the Scriptures above, baptism is not depicted as merely symbolic or an outward expression of faith. Instead, it is presented as the moment when a believer's sins are forgiven and they are united with Christ. Therefore, according to the Bible, salvation occurs *at* baptism, not before it.

### JASON said:

Why do so many people believe in salvation by faith alone or by simply praying a prayer when we know that is not the Truth?

### ChatGPT said:

The belief in salvation by faith alone or through simply praying a prayer stems from various factors, including interpretations of Scripture, theological traditions, and historical developments. Let's explore why many hold these beliefs, even though they may not align with the full teaching of the Bible.

#### 1. Misinterpretation of Key Scriptures

Certain verses are often taken in isolation and interpreted to mean that faith alone is sufficient for salvation:

- **Ephesians 2:8-9:** *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."*
- This verse emphasizes salvation as a gift of grace through faith but doesn't address obedience, repentance, or baptism.
- **John 3:16:** *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*
- While this verse highlights the importance of belief, it doesn't negate the need for repentance or baptism, which are mentioned elsewhere in Scripture.

By focusing on these passages without considering the broader biblical context, some have concluded that faith alone is sufficient.

#### 2. Influence of the Protestant Reformation

The Protestant Reformation in the 16th century emphasized *sola fide* (faith alone) as a reaction to perceived abuses in the Roman Catholic Church, such as the sale of indulgences. Reformers like Martin Luther emphasized passages like Ephesians 2:8-9 and Romans 3:28 to stress faith apart from works of the law:

- **Romans 3:28:** *"For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law."*

Luther's focus was on distinguishing faith from legalistic or ritualistic practices, but this often led to a rejection of the necessity of baptism or other acts of obedience.

#### 3. The "Sinner's Prayer" Tradition

The practice of praying a "sinner's prayer" to receive salvation gained popularity in the 19th and 20th centuries, especially through evangelists like Billy Graham. While the intention was to simplify the gospel message and call people to make a personal decision for Christ, this

approach often minimized the biblical teaching on repentance and baptism.

However, the Bible does not mention a "sinner's prayer" as a means of salvation. Instead, it commands repentance, confession, and baptism (Acts 2:38; Romans 10:9-10; Mark 16:16).

#### 4. Resistance to Baptism as Necessary

Many reject baptism as necessary for salvation due to:

- Misunderstanding baptism as a "work," contrary to grace.
- Viewing it as symbolic rather than essential.
- Emphasizing internal faith over external acts of obedience.

However, the Bible teaches that baptism is not a work of merit but an act of obedience through which God's grace is applied (Colossians 2:12, Acts 22:16).

#### 5. Biblical Truth on Salvation

The full counsel of Scripture presents salvation as requiring:

1. **Faith** in Jesus Christ (John 3:16; Hebrews 11:6).
2. **Repentance** of sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38).
3. **Confession** of Christ as Lord (Romans 10:9-10).
4. **Baptism** for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21).
5. **Faithful living** (Matthew 24:13; Revelation 2:10).

Believing in salvation by faith alone or by a prayer overlooks these additional steps clearly taught in Scripture.

#### Encouraging Others to Seek the Truth

Understanding why these beliefs persist helps us approach others with grace and patience. By sharing the full teaching of Scripture and emphasizing passages like Acts 2:38, Romans 6:3-4, and 1 Peter 3:21, we can guide others toward the biblical truth about salvation.

### JASON said:

Some say passages emphasizing the importance of baptism, such as Romans 6:3-4, are referring to Holy Spirit baptism, not water baptism. How can we prove that such passages are referring to water baptism?

### ChatGPT said:

The claim that passages such as Romans 6:3-4 refer to Holy Spirit baptism rather than water baptism can be addressed by examining the context and consistent biblical teaching on baptism. Here are some key points to establish that such passages refer to water baptism:

#### 1. The Context of Romans 6:3-4

- **Romans 6:3-4:** *"Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."*

To be continued... Full article on <http://www.JasonsBibleBlog.com>