

# ***Common Misconceptions***



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- *Tithing*
- *Cultural Depictions*
- *Beloved Biblical Wisdom*
- *The Holy Spirit*
- *The Reliability of the Bible*
- *Bible Vocabulary*
- *How to Be Saved*



# *How to Be Saved*

- If the Bible is *ever* going to be clear on *anything*, surely it's going to be clear on how we obtain salvation and avoid damnation
  - And yet, some churches have taught that Heaven is for good people and Hell is for bad people
    - And other churches teach that it's not quite that simple—that, in fact, that's actually *inaccurate*



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- If the Bible is *ever* going to be clear on *anything*, surely it's going to be clear on how we obtain salvation and avoid damnation
  - And yet, some churches have taught that Heaven is for good people and Hell is for bad people
  - Other churches have taught that you have to be a member of that specific denomination or else you can't really be saved
    - And other churches strangely disagree with that



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  - And yet, some churches have taught that Heaven is for good people and Hell is for bad people
  - Other churches have taught that you have to be a member of that specific denomination or else you can't really be saved
  - Still other churches have taught that you have to *do* certain *additional* things in order to be saved (i.e.; get baptized, or say a specific prayer, or go through a specific course of study, or have a priest *declare* and thus *authorize* your salvation, or have a secondary experience of God's miraculous grace in your life, etc.)



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  - And yet, some churches have taught that Heaven is for good people and Hell is for bad people
  - Other churches have taught that you have to be a member of that specific denomination or else you can't really be saved
  - Still other churches have taught that you have to *do* certain *additional* things in order to be saved
  - Still other churches have taught that you just have to “confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead” in order to be saved
    - While others have taught, “Christians speak often of the blood of Christ and its cleansing power. Much that is believed and taught on this subject, however, is such utter nonsense and so palpably false that to believe it is to lose one's salvation. Many go so far, for instance, as to pretend and at least to believe that if we confess Christ with our lips and avow that we accept Him as our Saviour, we are thereby saved...”



# *How to Be Saved*

- If the Bible is *ever* going to be clear on *anything*, surely it's going to be clear on how we obtain salvation and avoid damnation
- So—*without* citing Scripture—how would you describe how we're saved?



# *How to Be Saved*

- Funky little teaching moment...
  - So let's look at how the *Bible* tells us we're saved—
    - Romans 10:9-10  
(and what does Romans 10:13 mean, exactly?)  
(i.e.; what Peter cited from Joel in Acts 2:21)



# *How to Be Saved*

- Funky little teaching moment...
  - So let's look at how the *Bible* tells us we're saved—
    - Romans 10:9-10  
(and what does Romans 10:13 mean, exactly?)  
(and how does *that* relate to Ephesians 2:8-9?)  
(I mean, doesn't "calling on the name of the Lord" constitute *you doing* something?)



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- Funky little teaching moment...
  - So let's look at how the *Bible* tells us we're saved—
    - Romans 10:9-10
    - Acts 16:30-31
      - (so we don't actually have to confess with our lips, right?)
      - (how does this bear out John 3:16?)
      - (what about John 6:47, or John 11:25-26, or John 20:31?)



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  - So let's look at how the *Bible* tells us we're saved—
    - Romans 10:9-10
    - Acts 16:30-31
    - 1 John 1:9
      - (so we *do* actually have to *confess* our sins in order to be forgiven, right?)
      - (isn't that what Luke 13:3 says?)
      - (doesn't Mark 1:14-15 say that we have to *repent* of our sins in order to be saved?)
      - (i.e.; like in 2 Corinthians 7:10?)



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    - 1 John 1:9
    - Romans 2:6-8  
(how do we reconcile that with Ephesians 2:8-9?)



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    - 1 John 1:9
    - Romans 2:6-8
    - **Matthew 7:21-23**
      - (how do we reconcile *that* with Ephesians 2:8-9?)
      - (or any of that with the extended discussion of Matthew 25:31-46?)
      - (or *that* with Titus 3:5?)
      - (or that with James 2:24?)



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    - 1 John 1:9
    - Romans 2:6-8
    - Matthew 7:21-23
    - Acts 2:38
      - (echoing Mark 16:15-16—meaning that we have to be *baptized* in order to be saved, correct?)
      - (how does all of that relate to 1 Peter 3:18-22?
      - or to Acts 2:41? or to Romans 6:3-5?)
      - (i.e.; what *is* baptism—at its *core*—all about?)



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      - 1 John 1:9
      - Romans 2:6-8
      - Matthew 7:21-23
      - Acts 2:38
      - John 5:24
- (so *how much* of God's Word must we understand in order to be saved?)  
(how does that echo Psalm 1?)



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    - Matthew 7:21-23
    - Acts 2:38
    - John 5:24
    - **John 6:50-58**  
(different churches take this differently—so how *exactly* do you have to do this thing which, if you *don't* do it, “you have no life in you”?)  
(do you have to *keep* doing it to “remain” in Him? —and if so, how does *remaining* in Him like this relate to verses like Hebrews 10:26, or Hebrews 6:4-6, or 2 Corinthians 1:1-2?)



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    - John 5:24
    - John 6:50-58
    - **Matthew 7:13-14**  
(different churches take this differently—so how *exactly* do you have to enter this gate which, if you don't do it, leads to your destruction?)  
(for instance, how does that relate to passages such as Ephesians 5:1-5?)



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    - Acts 2:38
    - John 5:24
    - John 6:50-58
    - Matthew 7:13-14
    - **Mark 10:17-23**  
(so the rich *can't* be saved? or is it just that only *some* people have to give up their money in order to be saved?)



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    - John 6:50-58
    - Matthew 7:13-14
    - Mark 10:17-23
    - **John 3:3**  
(what *exactly* does *this* familiar phrase mean?)



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    - Matthew 7:13-14
    - Mark 10:17-23
    - John 3:3
    - **Hebrews 7:25**  
(what *exactly* does it mean that we “draw near” or “come to” Jesus, like in John 6:37?)  
(for instance, if Christians *don't* have a close relationship with Jesus Christ, does that mean that they aren't going to be saved—applying verses like James 2:19 or Revelation 3:20?)



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    - John 14:6

(how does this echo verses like Acts 4:12, or John 3:18, or John 3:36, or 1 John 4:12?)  
(but doesn't Romans 2:12-15 suggest that people *might* actually be able to be saved *without* ever knowing Jesus?  
or is Paul's argument here *not* that they can be saved, but that they can be *equally judged*, since the core of the Law is still written in their hearts?)



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    - Matthew 7:13-14
    - Mark 10:17-23
    - John 3:3
    - Hebrews 7:25
    - John 14:6
  - Instead of getting lost in the “inconsistencies” here, what *commonalities* do you see in these various verses?
    - What common denominator(s) would you say all of these verses are really consistently pointing to, in order for us to be saved?
      - 1) How can you and I *explain* that to people?
      - 2) How can you and I *live* that *out* ourselves?

