

TO WHOM SHALL WE GO FOR SALVATION?

I. INTRODUCTION

A. The word, “go,” is an important word in the Bible. It often involves actions that have eternal consequences.

B. There are decisions that have to be made when seeking advice, assistance or knowledge. We must be careful to go to the right persons for that which we seek.

C. This important question should peak our interest.

II. TO WHOM SHALL WE GO FOR SALVATION?

A. John 6:1-71. The setting for the question.

1. The multitude was fed with loaves and fishes. 6:1-14

2. The multitude misunderstood the miracle. 6:15

a. They thought, “It is time to make him king because he will provide for our needs.”

b. He would not allow them to force a kingdom upon him. This might be another effort on the part of Satan to turn Jesus from his work and keep him from the cross!

c. Jesus withdrew into the mountain alone. The parallels show he went there to pray.

3. Jesus walked on the sea and joined the disciples in the boat. 6:16-21

4. The multitude found Jesus but missed the lesson he taught them with the loaves and the fishes. 6:22-40

a. The lesson is that Christ is given for man's spiritual nourishment. Christ is to spiritual life what bread is to the body. He is a necessity, not a luxury. Moses did not give manna, God did. Christ is essential for spiritual life.

b. They still do not understand.

c. The Jews (National Israel) would not believe him.

- d. The remnant (Spiritual Israel) would believe him.
- e. Every individual willing to allow the Old Testament to prepare their minds and lead them to Christ would believe and have eternal life.

5. The Jews murmured concerning him because they judged him by the wrong standard. 6:41-51

6. The Jews strove with one another over his teaching. 6:52-59

7. The disciples murmured over his teaching. 6:60-65

8. Many of the disciples went back and walked with him no more. 6:66-71

- a. When the disciples went away, Jesus asked the twelve, "Would ye also go away?"

- b. Peter answered, "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we have believed and know that thou art the Holy One of God."

- c. Jesus announced that one of the twelve, Judas, was a devil because he would betray him.

9. Consider Peter's question and answer. "This implied their firm conviction that Jesus was the Messiah, and that he alone was able to save them There was no one else who could teach them. The Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the scribes were corrupt, and unable to guide them aright; and, though the doctrines of Jesus were mysterious, yet they were the only doctrines that could instruct and save them."¹

B. To whom might we go for salvation?

1. Shall we go to the world or to Satan, the god of the world? They will **deceive** us.

- a. James 4:4

- b. 1 John 2:15-17

2. Shall we go to sin? It will **destroy** us. Romans 1:18-32; 6:19-23; 8:6,13

3. Shall we leave the *fountain of living waters* for *broken cisterns*? They will **disappoint** us. Jeremiah 2:13

4. Shall we go to the heathen philosophers, and become their disciples? They will **discourage** us.

a. They are vain in their imaginations, and, professing themselves to be wise in other things, are become fools in religion. 1 Corinthians 1:18-30; Colossians 2:8

b. They worship in ignorance. Acts 17:23

c. "It is said a French infidel taught his damnable doctrine to his mother, and as she lay upon her death bed she said, 'Son, you took from me my faith and hope and my Savior. What will you offer now in the hour of death?'"²

5. Shall we go to the scribes and Pharisees, and sit at their feet? They made void the commandments of God by their traditions. Matthew 15:1-9; Mark 7:1-13

6. Shall we go to Moses? His law has ended.

a. Colossians 2:8-3:4

b. Hebrews 10:1-18

7. Shall we go to John the Baptist? He was not in the kingdom.

a. What did John say of himself? John 1:19-34; 3:22-30

b. What did Jesus say of John? Matthew 11:2-30

c. Acts 2:22-41,47; 19:1-7

8. Shall we go to Peter? He was a pebble, not the rock.

a. Acts 10:24,25; 14:8-18

b. Revelation 19:10; 22:8

c. Ephesians 1:22,23

d. Colossians 1:18

9. Shall we go to Paul? 1 Corinthians 1:10-2:5; 3:1-9
10. Shall we go to the largest crowd? Matthew 7:13,14

C. Let us go to Jesus for salvation.

1. He is qualified to save us.
 - a. Judas recognized he “betrayed innocent blood.” Matthew 27:4
 - b. Pilate proclaimed him a “righteous man.” Matthew 27:24
 - c. The Centurion exclaimed that he “was the Son of God.” Matthew 27:54
2. He is the one who “came to seek and to save that which was lost.” Luke 19:10
3. He is the one who came “to give his life a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28
4. He is the one whose blood was “poured out for many unto remission of sins.” Matthew 26:28
 - a. Ephesians 1:7
 - b. Hebrews 9:11-28
 - c. 1 Peter 1:17-25
 - d. Revelation 1:5
5. He has “the words of eternal life.” John 6:68
6. He has the only invitation that will save us. Matthew 11:28-30; 17:1-8 (especially v. 5).
7. He has the only name “wherein we must be saved.”
 - a. Luke 24:45-47 with Acts 4:12
 - b. Acts 2:38
8. He is the one who gave evidence that he is the Son of God so that we may believe and be saved. John 20:30,31 with John 8:24

9. He is the one through whom we may believe and “call upon the name of the Lord” for salvation. Romans 10:13,17

10. He is the one in whose name we repent of sins in order to have them remitted. Acts 2:38

11. He is the one in whom we confess faith in order to be saved.

a. Acts 8:36-38

b. Romans 10:9,10

12. He is one who taught us to believe and be baptized in order to be saved.

a. Mark 16:16

b. Acts 2:41,47

13. He is the one in whom we enjoy all spiritual blessings. Ephesians 1:3

III. CONCLUSION

A. “Christ's holy religion appears to great advantage when it is compared with other institutions, for then it will be seen how far it excels them all. Let those who find fault with this religion find a better before they quit it. A divine teacher we must have; can we find a better than Christ? A divine revelation we cannot be without; if the scripture be not such a one, where else may we look for it?”³

B. Obey the plan of salvation.

C. Live faithfully.

ENDNOTES

1. Albert Barnes, Notes On The New Testament, (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1965), Luke and John, p. 252

2. Edwin C. Stillings, “To Whom Shall We Go?,” Article in file, p. 75

3. Henry, p. 959