

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **1Peter 3:18-22**.
- B. I would like to read 1Pet. 3:21 in the KJV that says "baptism is the answer."
- C. Many people today think they have answers, but do they really know what the questions are.
- D. In light of baptism being the answer, let us look at 4 Bible questions.

I. THE QUESTION IS MATTHEW 19:16.

- A. Scripture text: Matthew 19:16.
And behold, one came to Him and said, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?"
- B. The rich young ruler was a law keeper all of his life and wanted to know what law of Jesus would insure his eternal life in heaven.
- C. One thing we see here is that the answer to his question is a "good thing."
- D. We also see that the rich young ruler wanted to inherit eternal life which means that a death must take place.
- E. Does our answer of 1Pet. 3:21 (baptism) fit this question? YES!
 - 1. Because baptism is a good work (thing).
 - 2. Because baptism involves Jesus death on the cross.
 - 3. Because baptism involves our dying to self.

II. THE QUESTION IS ACTS 2:37.

- A. Scripture text: Acts 2:37.
Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"
- B. The people who had heard the apostle Peter's sermon were convinced that they (by their sins) had crucified Jesus.
- C. These people also learned that they must "do" something to rid themselves of that sin.
- D. Getting rid of sin is not done by:
 - 1. A feeling or emotion.
 - 2. Prayer.
 - 3. Confession.
- E. But sin is removed by something that is done. Action is required on our part (repentance and baptism).
- F. Does our answer of 1Pet. 3:21 (baptism) fit this question? YES!
 - 1. Because baptism is a passive act on our part.
 - 2. Because baptism was commanded by Peter in answer to this question.
 - 3. Because baptism is commanded by X to be saved (Mk. 16:16).

III. THE QUESTION IS ACTS 16:30.

- A. Scripture text: Acts 16:30.
and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
- B. This is one of the greatest questions in the Bible, and in the entire world.
- C. The answer to the question is given by Paul in 16:31. The jailer was told to believe in the Lord Jesus to be saved.
- D. Does this answer contradict Peter's answer in 1Pet. 3:21? NO!
 - 1. Because all who believed (the household) were baptized.
 - 2. Belief and baptism are both required for salvation as spoken by Jesus.
 - 3. Belief must have appropriate works to be valid.

IV. THE QUESTION IS HEBREWS 2:3.

- A. Scripture text: Hebrews 2:3.
how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,
- B. This is probably one of the scariest questions in the entire Bible.
- C. This is true because of the answer. We shall not escape.
- D. Does our answer in 1Pet. 3:21 (baptism) fit this question? NO!
 - 1. Because if we reject God we will not be baptized.
 - 2. Because if we reject God's plan of salvation we cannot be saved.
 - 3. Because the Bible teaches no second chance after death.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. The answer applies to those who want to be saved eternally.
- B. If we want to:
 - 1. Know what to do to inherit eternal life--
 - 2. Know what to do to be saved--
 - 3. Know what it is to accept so great a salvation--...then we will obey the answer to the question, and be baptized.
- C. Let us hope that some here today are asking these questions and will accept the Bible's answer.
- D. Finding the hope of eternal life, the remission of sins, and being part of the saved means answering the question with baptism.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring-Xians.