

What Must I Do?

Common questions . . .

- What must I do to be healthy?
- How do I take care of my car? . . .

Critical question

- What must I do to have eternal life?

No matter the answer . . .
satan will fight us all the way

I. I Must Know Something

Lk.12:39

- Who is guilty: God or man?
- Society blames God for every sin / tragedy
[indirect]
- People blame God because “He made me this way” [direct]
- Blaming others does not change truth

I must know and admit the truth about . . .

- Myself, Ro.3:23
- God, Ro.2:4
- Christ, Ro.1:3-4
- Gospel, Ro.1:16

I. I Must Know Something

II. I Must Believe Something

I cannot believe just anything

‘Thus Protestantism in the 19th Century is divided into half a dozen or more large denominations, without counting the minor divisions which are even far more numerous. The Episcopalians, the Lutherans, the Presbyterians, the Congregationalists, the Methodists, and the Baptists, are distinct and separate families. Nor is the centrifugal tendency of Protestantism exhausted, and may produce new denominations, especially in America, where no political power can check its progress’ (Schaff VII, p.48)

Mt.21:25, The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?” And they reasoned among themselves, saying, If we say, From heaven, He will say to us, Why then did you not believe him?”

Jn.8:24, unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins...

What I believe is important

Eve believed error; did it cost her?

2 Th.2:10-12, some embrace error, reject truth

2 Th.2:10-12

- Some embrace error, reject truth
 - **10a:** extends thought of 7-9 – lawless one, deceives the perishing
- On their way to eternal misery
- Even now, lost perception of truth and salvation
 - **10b:** why perishing?
- Do not love the one thing that can save them...
- Truth demands change; they hate it
 - Satan's dupes get their wish: no truth
 - Love of the truth (in heart) – Prov.2

2 Th.2:10-12

- Some embrace error, reject truth
- **11:** God helps them believe the lying, lawless one
- Strong delusion: working of satan (v.9). Ro.1
- Sin brings its own punishment
 - **12:** they all will be condemned. Why?
- Did not believe truth (10)
 - God spoke; they scorned Him
- Pleasure in unrighteousness: they **enjoy** wrong. Evil has become their good.
 - Ahab, 1 Kg.22

I. I Must Know Something

II. I Must Believe Something

III. I Must Feel Something

Two extreme views --

- **One denies emotions.** Reduces worship to ritual; no joy... Ps.122:1
- **The other elevates emotions above truth**
...hides truth. Subjectivism
 - 2 Co.7:10
 - Ep.4:19
 - **Past feeling:** beyond feeling, calloused, morally insensible
 - **Pain is good:** it urges the sick to seek a remedy

I. I Must Know Something

II. I Must Believe Something

III. I Must Feel Something

IV. I Must Confess Something

Confess Christ

Mt.10:32-33

1. It is one thing to believe Jesus is Messiah; it is another to confess Him when facing opposition.

Jn.9

2. "I" is emphatic

- Those who confess Him will be acknowledged by Lord before the Father in heaven.
- Those who deny Him...

Romans 10:9-10

A: Bible tells us what to do to be saved in Ro.10:9

B: True, but we can't isolate this one verse...

A: Other verses confirm this passage: Thief...; tax collector (Lk.18:10)

B: Did these believe God had raised Jesus...??

A: No, He had not yet died

B: Re-read Ro.10:9! Thief and publican don't fit

B: Also, it doesn't mention repentance. You believe repentance is necessary?

A: Yes

B: Then you admit that we must accept all... AND not all of it is in this passage

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IV. I Must Confess Something

V. I Must Do Something

“But salvation is by grace”

True: grace teaches us what we must do

His grace teaches us . . .

1. Hear and believe the gospel, Ac.2:37
2. Repent of sins, Ac.2:38 . . .
3. Baptism for forgiveness, Ac.2:38; 22:16;
Titus 2:11-12 – grace teaches us what to do
 - Noah: Gn.6:8 ... (14 ... 22): grace: taught; ark
 - 1 Pt.3:20-21

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V. I Must Do Something

VI. I Must Endure Something

- Tribulation, persecution, Mk.4:17
- Sound doctrine, 2 Tim.4:3-4 (Ac.17:20-21)
- Temptations, Ja.1:12
 - OT “Joshua” means “Yahweh is salvation”
 - Hellenized form of name: Jesus
 - His name is divinely appointed – Mt.1:21