HOW TO KEEP SAVED

INTRODUCTION:

1. A Christian has been saved from his past sins and has come into a saved relationship, the church -- Acts 2: 37 - 38, 41,47; Gal. 3:27; I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 2:16

2. When one is saved from his past sins, and has come into the saved relationship with God, he wants to stay saved -- Matt. 28:19; II John 9

3. The same desire which caused one to obey the gospel will motivate him to do what he can to stay saved.

4. A person does not stay saved simply because he has obeyed the gospel.

5. Many teach and say that a child of God cannot apostatize and be lost.

   (1) The Word of God teaches a child of God can fall so as to be finally lost.

   1. We can fall -- I Cor. 10:12; Gal. 5:4; Heb. 3:12
   2. We can turn from God’s holy commandments -- II Pet. 2:20 - 21
   3. We can make shipwreck of our faith -- I Tim. 1:19
   4. We can depart from the faith -- I Tim. 4:1

6. Calvinism teaches the preservation of the saints is UNCONDITIONAL.

7. The Bible teaches the preservation of the saints is CONDITIONAL -- I Pet. 1: 5, 9; Rev. 2:10; II Tim. 4: 6 - 8

8. Let us study some things a Christian must do to keep his soul saved from sin.

I. HE MUST READ AND STUDY THE WORD OF GOD REGULARLY

   1. Only by study can we GROW -- I Pet. 2:2; II Pet. 3:18; Acts 20:32
   2. All things that pertain unto life and godliness comes through a knowledge of God’s will -- II Pet. 1:3
   3. Only by study can we discriminate between truth and error, sin and righteousness -- Heb. 5: 12 - 14
   4. Study and having the word in our heart helps keep us from sinning against God -- Psa. 119:11; I Pet. 4:2
   5. By study we can overcome temptation -- Matt. 4: 3 - 4
   6. By studying God's Word we are built up in the faith -- Acts 20:32
   7. The gospel is God’s power to save because it is a REVEALER:

      (1) The gospel REVEALS God’s righteousness -- the way God makes men righteous -- Rom. 1: 16 - 17
      (2) The gospel REVEALS the unrighteousness of men -- Rom. 1:18
      (3) The gospel REVEALS the wrath of God against all unrighteousness -- Rom. 1:18
   8. We need to give attendance to READING AND STUDY DAILY -- I Tim. 4:13; Eph. 3:4; Acts 17:11

II. WE MUST ATTEND ALL THE SERVICES

   1. We are told NOT TO FORSAKE the assemblies of the church -- Heb. 10:25
   2. We should be GLAD WHEN THE SAINTS COME TOGETHER -- Psa. 122:1; 27:4
3. The public worship of the church is for OUR OWN GOOD

   (1) It is to provoke to LOVE and to GOOD WORKS -- Heb. 10:24
   (2) In the assembly we TEACH AND ADMONISH one another in song -- Col. 3:16
   (3) In the assembly we PRAY together -- Acts 2:42; Matt. 18:19
   (4) We are to GIVE -- I Cor. 16:1 - 2
   (5) We are to BE TAUGHT -- Acts 20:7; Acts 2:42
   (6) We must eat the LORD'S SUPPER each first day of the week -- Acts 20:7

4. One of the marks of spiritual sickness is missing the opportunities for collective worship.;

5. Those who begin neglecting worship become less and less spiritual people.

6. Those who neglect worship become more and more worldly.

7. On the other hand, those who always place worship as a high priority in their lives tend to grow in Christ.

III. WE MUST BE WORKERS

   1. "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" -- James 2:24
   2. "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" -- Phil. 2:12
   3. "Always abounding in the work of the Lord" -- I Cor. 15:58
   4. "Created in Christ Jesus unto good works" -- Eph. 2:10
   5. Matt. 7:21
   6. Gal. 5:6

IV. WE MUST KEEP PURE

   1. We must think pure thoughts -- Phil. 4:8; Matt. 5:8
   2. Without holiness we cannot see the Lord -- Heb. 12:14
   3. We are to be Holy in all our conduct -- I Pet. 1:15
   4. We must be unspotted from the world -- James 1:27
   5. We have been called unto holiness -- I Thess. 4:7
   6. We must not love the world -- I John 2:15 - 17

V. WE SHOULD LISTEN TO REBUKES AND WARNINGS

   1. The rebuke that comes from the preaching of the Word -- II Tim. 4:2
   2. The warning that comes from the elders -- I Thess. 5:14; Heb. 13:17
   3. The spiritual-minded that talk to men about their sins -- Gal. 6:1; James 5:19 - 20
   4. "It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools" -- Eccl. 7:5
   5. We should listen to the rebukes of Christians who are friends who have our own good at heart.
   6. Col. 1:28
VI. WE SHOULD PRAY REGULARLY

1. Paul said, "Pray without ceasing" -- I Thess. 5:17

2. Jesus said, "That men ought always to pray, and not faint" -- Luke 18: 1

3. Phil. 4:6

4. We are to pray for our daily bread -- Matt. 6:11

5. Peter said, "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you" -- I Pet. 5:7

6. I Pet. 3:12

7. Matt. 7: 7 - 11

8. Some things about prayer that every Christian should know:
   (1) Prayer is personal communication with God, a personal Being -- a Being who will reward those who have faith in Him -- Heb. 11:6
   (2) God is able to answer prayer -- Eph. 3:20
   (3) God is willing to answer prayer -- I Pet. 3: 12; Matt. 7:11; Psa. 145: 18; James 5:16; James 1: 5 - 8; I John 5: 14 - 15

9. Prayer builds a close communion or fellowship with God -- James 4:8

10. We confess our sins when we commit them and pray for forgiveness -- Acts 8: 22; I John 1:9

CONCLUSION:

1. Let us all work hard to keep saved.

2. It is a terrifying thing to think about being lost -- Matt. 25:41

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