

# 1. What Is the Gospel?

Before one can understand “what must I do to be saved?” (Ac 16:30), he first needs to know what is the gospel, because “The gospel... is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Ro 1:16). So, what is the gospel?

## 2. The Bible Says It Is...

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-5, then fill in the blanks below.

“ that Christ... D \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
and He was... B \_\_\_\_\_  
and He was... R \_\_\_\_\_ ”

Note: Read about our sins for which Christ died: 1 Cor 6:9-10 and Rev 21:8.

## 3. We Must Obey the Gospel

to Be Saved From Our Sins for Which Christ Died

When Jesus returns, “those who [A] do not know God and... those who [B] do not obey the gospel [the D.B.R.] of our Lord Jesus Christ... will pay the penalty of eternal destruction” (2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9 / also refer to 1 Cor 15:34 & 1 Peter 4:17, 18). So then, one needs to both [A] know God and [B] obey, do, submit, or yield to something to be saved. So...

[A] What does one need to “know [about] God” to be saved from “the penalty” of hell and instead go to heaven? [READ Romans 10:9, 10]

[B] How does one “obey the gospel” to be saved from “the penalty” of hell and instead go to heaven? [READ 1 Peter 2:24 and Romans 6:1-11]

Note: If the Bible says that the gospel is the death [D], burial [B], and resurrection [R] of Jesus Christ for our sins (SEE 1 Cor 15:1, 3, 4), how then must one “obey the DBR” of Christ to be saved? How does one obey a DBR, a death, burial, and resurrection? How should one do this?

## Answer Key / Explanation

STOP! Before you read the answers, please fully answer the questions to the left. In this way you will learn best.

Q1/Q2: Essentially, the gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for our sins. For example, Paul said, “Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel... that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Cor 15:1, 3, 4). The Old Testament prophets said that this would happen to the Messiah. He would bear our burden of sin on the cross for us (SEE Ps 22, Isa 53).

Q3A: One needs to know in his heart that Christ died for his sins, and that He was buried, and raised from the dead (this is the gospel of Jesus Christ). So one needs to hear and understand the gospel; that God loved us so much that He sent His one and only Son to die in our place for our sins (SEE Jn 3:16), and that God raised Him from the dead. And when one believes this in his own heart, and when one confesses it with his own mouth, he can be saved from the penalty for his sins, hell, and instead go to heaven. For example, “If you confess with your mouth, Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Ro 10:9).

Q3B: One should die to his sins (renouncing them, putting them aside), get baptized into the death of Christ, and rise up from the water to live a new life, the Christian life. For example, since the Bible says that Jesus Christ D “died for our sins” (1 Cor 15:3), was B “buried”, and was R “raised” to live again [Paul said that the gospel is the DBR of Christ 1 Cor 15:1, 3, 4], we then, to obey it, must submit to a DBR. We must D “die to sin” (SEE 1 Pe 2:24). We must be buried with Christ B in water baptism [immersed, not sprinkled or poured, but buried]. We must be R raised up out of the water to live a new life, the Christian life. In these key verses below, look at how one obeys the gospel [DBR]. Peter said, “He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die [D] to sin and live to righteousness [R]” (1 Pe 2:24). And Paul said, “How shall we who died [D] to sin still live in it? Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized [B] into Christ Jesus have

been baptized [B] into His death [D]? Therefore we have been buried [B] with Him through baptism [B] into death [D], so that as Christ was raised [R] from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life” (Ro 6:2-4). Truly, this is what it means to obey the gospel, to be born again, and to have new life.

So, “What must I do to be saved?” (Ac 16:30). Or, “What must we do [to be saved]?” (Ac 2:37). One must understand and believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, the DBR, and also obey it! But someone will say, “We are saved by grace, not works!”. Does our obedience somehow “earn” our own salvation for us? Certainly not! Jesus alone earned it for us on His cross. But doesn't God favor [grace] obedience? We know that His wrath, the opposite of His grace, is upon those who are rebellious

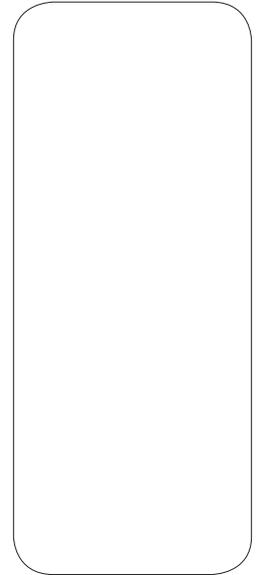


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Everyone who knows God and obeys the death, burial, and resurrection (the gospel) of Jesus Christ will be saved.



to the gospel. For example, "He who **does not** obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him" (Jn 3:36). And, "What will be the outcome for those who **do not** obey the gospel [the DBR]?" (1 Pe 4:17). So one must obey the gospel to be saved. For "He [Jesus] **became to all those who obey Him, the source of eternal salvation**" (He 5:9). But someone might say, "To be saved, all we have to do is accept Jesus into our heart through prayer." Where does prayer fit into the DBR? Did Jesus die, pray, then rise up from His prayer? Is the gospel a DPR or a DBR? Should one call upon the name of the Lord in prayer to be saved, or should one call upon the name of the Lord in baptism to be saved? To learn the correct answer, get my tract **Call Upon the Name of the Lord to Be Saved**.

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**T**he gospel of Jesus Christ encourages us to do something to be saved. For example, when a jailor began to fear God, he asked Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, "What must I **do** to be **saved**?" (Ac 16:30). Again, when thousands of people began to understand and believe in the gospel, they asked Peter, another apostle of Jesus Christ, "What must **we do** [to be saved]?" (Ac 2:37), for this was the subject of the message which they had heard from Peter and the other apostles with him, for them to: "**be saved from this perverted generation**" (Ac 2:40, ALSO SEE vs. 47). For "The gospel... is the power of God for salvation" (Ro 1:16).

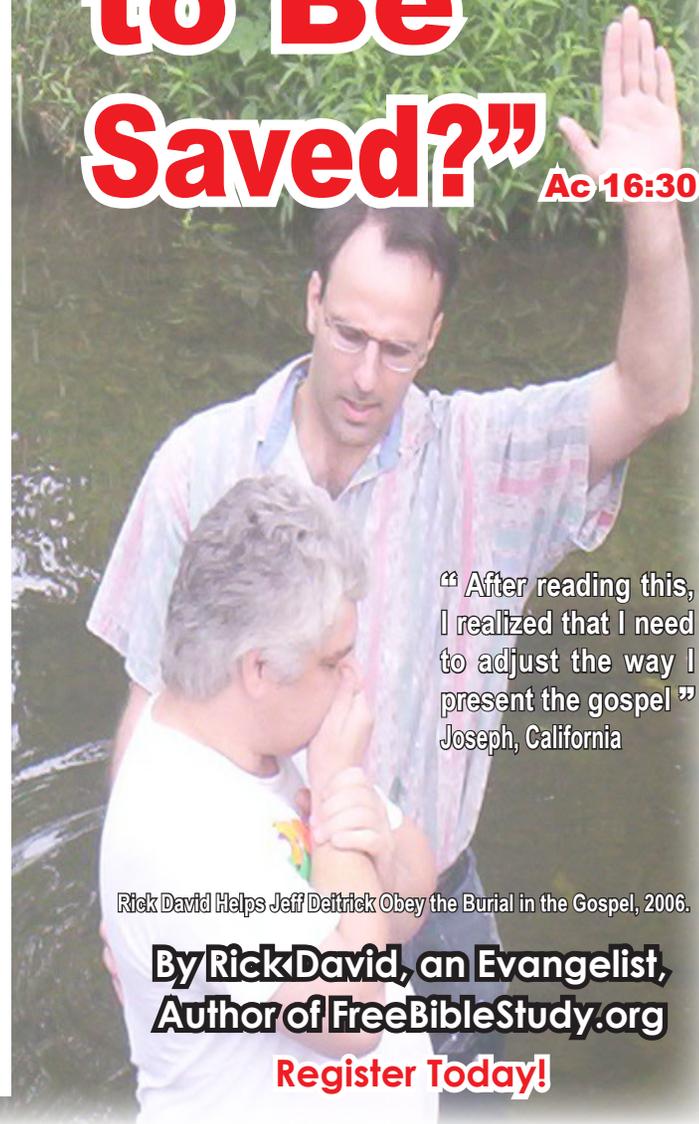
Through the gospel, we can be saved from this perverted world! We can be saved from its sin! We can be saved from our own sins, and the penalty for committing them, hell. Through the gospel, we can receive the forgiveness of our sins. We can receive the hope of eternal life, heaven. We can receive God's GRACE, His favor. We can avoid His WRATH for our sins. (Jesus received God's wrath for our sins on His cross.) Through the gospel, we can receive God's praise. We can avoid His condemnation, hell.

But, "What must I **do** to be **saved**?" (Ac 16:30). Or, "What must **we do** [to be saved]?" (Ac 2:37). When you complete this self-test worksheet, you will know the exact answer to your question. Now, do you know what you should do to be saved? It has everything to do with the true meaning of the Gospel and your responsibility to likewise obey it. As soon as you understand the true meaning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, I encourage you to do what it says to be saved. Rick David, an Evangelist & Author of FreeBibleStudy.org

But Someone Will Say, "There is nothing you have to do to be saved. We are saved by God's grace, not works." I say, "Doesn't God's grace [favor] include obedience? Doesn't God favor obedience? Surely He does not grace [favor] rebellion. Instead, we know His wrath is upon it!

# “What Must I Do to Be Saved?”

**Ac 16:30**



“ After reading this, I realized that I need to adjust the way I present the gospel ”  
Joseph, California

Rick David Helps Jeff Deitrick Obey the Burial in the Gospel, 2006.

**By Rick David, an Evangelist,  
Author of FreeBibleStudy.org**

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