

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

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SOME THINGS THAT DO NOT SAVE

John Isaac Edwards

Most people have misconceptions as to what saves a person. This writing points out some things that do not save.

1) MORALITY ALONE.

Cornelius was a good moral man as he was devout, feared God, gave much alms, and prayed to God always (Acts 10:2). Yet, he was not saved for he had to hear words whereby he could be saved (Acts 11:14).

2) PRAYER. Many are told to be saved they just need to pray a prayer of some kind. Where in the Bible was a person ever told to pray for salvation? Saul was a praying man, but he was not saved (Acts 9:11).

3) FAITH ONLY. Faith does save (Rom. 5:1), but nowhere does the Bible say we are saved by faith alone. In fact the Bible says, “*Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only*” (James 2:24).

4) CALLING THE LORD’S NAME. Just saying, “Lord, Lord” does not save. Jesus said, “*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven*” (Mt. 7:21).

Next, we will point out some things that do save.

SOME THINGS THAT SAVE

John Isaac Edwards

There are a number of things by which we are saved. This writing makes us aware of some things that save.

1) GOD SAVES. Paul taught that “*God will have all men to be saved*” (1 Tim. 2:3-4). God Himself said, “*Look unto me, and be ye saved*” (Is. 45:22).

2) CHRIST SAVES. It was said of the virgin Mary, “*And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins*” (Mt. 1:21). The reason Christ came was “*to seek and to save that which was lost*” (Lk. 19:10).

3) GRACE SAVES. Ephesians 2:8 teaches, “*For by grace are ye saved...*” Grace is unmerited favor. Titus was told, “*For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men*” (Titus 2:11).

4) FAITH SAVES. Jesus declared, “*for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your*

sins” (Jn. 8:24). The Hebrew writer penned, “*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him*” (Heb. 11:6).

If all these things save (and they do), then you can surely see that we’re not saved by faith or anything else alone.

SOME MORE THINGS THAT SAVE

John Isaac Edwards

Contrary to the thinking of many, we are not saved by anything in and of itself alone. Our study shows this to be true.

1) HOPE SAVES. The Romans were informed, “*For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?*” (Rom. 8:24).

2) PREACHING SAVES. According to 1 Corinthians 1:21, “*It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.*”

3) THE GOSPEL SAVES. Paul told the Romans, “*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of*

God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Rom. 1:16).

4) **BAPTISM SAVES.** The Lord preached, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mk. 16:16). Peter declared, "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us..." (1 Pet. 3:21).

In light of this study, how can anyone think we are saved by faith or anything else alone?

ERRORS OF SABBATH KEEPING

John Isaac Edwards

The Bible teaches the Old Testament, including the command to keep the sabbath, has been done away (Col. 2:14-17). Yet, there are those who try to keep the sabbath today.

1) **SABBATH KEEPERS FAIL TO RECOGNIZE TO WHOM THE SABBATH COMMAND WAS GIVEN.** When

God gave the command to keep the sabbath day, He was speaking to those who had been "brought out of the land of Egypt" (Ex. 20:1-2, 8). Were you brought out of Egypt? The sabbath was a sign between God and the children of Israel (Ex. 31:13-17).

2) **SABBATH KEEPERS DO NOT KEEP THE SABBATH PROPERLY.** There were some rules that accompanied the Sabbath observance. It was a day of rest (Ex. 35:1-2), of burnt offering (Num. 28:9-10), and of restricted travel (Acts 1:12). Death was the penalty for violating its observance (Num. 15:32-36). If you keep the sabbath, do you keep these rules concerning its observance? If not, why not?

3) **SABBATH KEEPERS DO NOT KEEP THE WHOLE LAW.** If you try to keep part of the Old Testament, you become "a debtor to do the whole law" (Gal. 5:3). Do you know any sabbatarians who offer animal sacrifices or go to Jerusalem three times each year to worship?

THE ONE BODY

John Isaac Edwards

The Scriptures point out, "There is one body" (Eph. 4:4). What saith the Scripture about the one body?

1) **IS THE CHURCH.** The identity of the one body is disclosed in Colossians 1:24 when Paul said, "for his body's sake, which is the church." If there is but one body and the body is the church, then there's just one church. Isn't that simple?

2) **IS THE PLACE OF RECONCILIATION.** Sin, which we're all guilty of (Rom. 3:23), separates us from God (Is. 59:1-2). Reconciliation, the making of peace with God, is only available today in the body, the church (Eph. 2:16). If we're not in the one body, then we're not reconciled to God.

3) **IS ENTERED THROUGH BAPTISM.** How do we get into the one body? Scripture says, "baptized into one body" (1 Cor. 12:13). The only way anybody today gets into the one body, the church, is by being baptized into it. Have you been?

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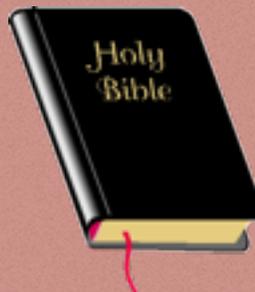
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