

“AND HE BROUGHT HIM TO JESUS”

John Edwards

“One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus...” (Jn. 1:40-42). Andrew was a unique individual! Let’s study about Andrew.

ANDREW WAS INTERESTED IN FINDING THE TRUTH. He heard John speak (Jn. 1:32-39). Few today seem very interested in learning the truth. We ought to be interested in truth as it makes free (Jn. 8:32).

ANDREW WAS A FOLLOWER. Not only did Andrew hear, but he followed! Some are too proud to follow. We must learn to follow! Jesus said, *“If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me”* (Mt. 16:24).

ANDREW PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST. He *“first findeth his own brother”* (Jn. 1:41). So many today have their priorities all mixed up. The kingdom or church and His righteousness must come first in

our lives (Mt. 6:33). Are we putting first things first?

ANDREW FOUND THE TRUTH IN CHRIST. He said, *“We have found the Messias... the Christ”* (Jn. 1:41). We must recognize the difference between truth and error as Andrew did!

ANDREW BROUGHT HIS BROTHER TO JESUS. Many take folks to others. We must learn to bring others to Jesus! He is the way (Jn. 14:1-6). He is the door (Jn. 10:9). He has the words of eternal life (Jn. 6:63, 68). Begin today bringing others to the Lord!

We need more Andrews today!

THINGS THAT CANNOT SAVE

John Edwards

Many today are trying to be saved by things that just cannot save. The Bible records some things that cannot save us. Let’s notice some.

IDOLS. Isaiah recorded, *“Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations: they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a god that*

cannot save” (Is. 45:20). Notice some characteristics of idols: *“They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good”* (Jer. 10:5). Idolatry is condemned in both the Old and New Testaments (Ex. 20:3-5; Col. 3:5). God said, *“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else”* (Is. 45:22).

FAITH ONLY. Some read *“Therefore being justified by faith”* (Rom. 5:1) and conclude that we are saved by faith alone. When studying about faith, or any other subject, we must read and study all the Bible says on that subject. It is true that we are saved by faith, but we are not saved by faith or anything else alone. James stated, *“Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only”* (Jas. 2:24). The faith that saves is the type of faith that Noah and Abraham had—faith which leads to obedience.

SOME WORKS. Paul wrote, *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast”* (Eph. 2:8-9). There are different works mentioned in the Bible: works of God (Jn. 6:28), works of

faith (1 Th. 1:3), works of righteousness (Acts 10:34-35), good works (Titus 3:1), works of the law of Moses (Gal. 2:16), and works of our own righteousness (Titus 3:5). The works of the law of Moses cannot save (Gal. 2:16).

PRAYER ALONE. Some have been led to believe that they are saved by prayer. Prayer by itself cannot save. Ananias was told to inquire for Saul, *“for, behold, he prayeth”* (Acts 9:11). If saved by prayer, why send Ananias? Saul had asked, *“Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said to him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do”* (Acts 9:6). If Saul was saved by prayer, he was saved before he was even told what to do to be saved.

THINGS THAT SAVE

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The Scriptures teach that man is not saved by any one thing alone, but that a number of things work together to bring about salvation. Let's call to mind some things that save.

THE GOSPEL. Paul declared, *“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). The salvation of the Corinthians was brought about by the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-2). No wonder Paul spoke of the *“gospel of your salvation”* (Eph. 1:13).

PREACHING. Paul wrote, *“For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe”* (1 Cor. 1:21). Preaching plays an important role in man's salvation (Rom. 10:13-17; Mk. 16:15-16).

GOD. Paul spoke of *“God; Who hath saved us”* (2 Tim. 1:8-9). God wants none to be lost! It is written, *“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth”* (1 Tim. 2:3-4). God announced, *“Look unto me, and be ye saved”* (Is. 45:22).

CHRIST. Jesus was born to

save. *“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 Lord proclaimed, *“For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost”* (Mt. 18:11). Thus the Bible speaks of *“a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord”* (Lk. 2:11).

THE CONFESSION. The Lord requires us to make a confession of our faith to be saved (Mt. 10:32). An example of this confession is when the eunuch said, *“I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”* (Acts 8:37). This *“confession is made unto salvation”* (Rom. 10:9-10).

HOPE. *“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). Hope keeps us from drifting (Heb. 6:18-19).

BAPTISM. Peter affirmed, *“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us”* (1 Pet. 3:21). Jesus uttered, *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved”* (Mk. 16:16). Have you been baptized as the Bible teaches?

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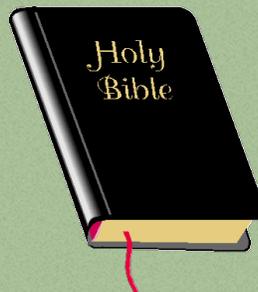
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