

PREPARED TO ANSWER SOUND DOCTRINE

Additional resources for the Salvation & Doctrine studies

1 Peter 3:15-16

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience..."

ANSWER TO: "Salvation comes from Faith Alone"

James 2:14-26 "Faith alone" is not sufficient for Salvation.

John 3:16 Faith is the basis of Christianity, but must be understood in context.
[also John 8:30-32, Hebrews 5:9, Romans 1:5, Romans 16:26]

ANSWER TO: "Salvation comes from Praying Jesus into your heart"

Revelation 3:20 Written to Christians - they were ALREADY saved [3:14, 22].
"Be earnest & repent" means to let Christ BACK into your life, not to be converted. The passage mentions nothing about faith, confession, or baptism, as the readers were already converted.

Romans 10:9-10 A popular verse. Remember 4 chapters earlier [Romans 6:1-5] Paul teaches that baptism is necessary for Salvation. Scripture does not contradict itself.
See [Appendix C](#) by Steve Staten

The false doctrine of "praying Jesus into your heart," "accepting Christ" or "receiving Christ" for Salvation takes Revelation 3:20 out of context. It was invented on the American frontier in the early nineteenth century from this verse.

ANSWER TO: "Once Saved Always Saved"

Hebrews 10:26-27 Salvation can be lost by continual & deliberate rebellion.

1 Peter 1:10 If the saved are locked into eternity, there would be no need to ensure our election.

ANSWER TO: "Infants Should be Baptized for Salvation"

Colossians 2:12 & Galatians 3:26-27 Personal, not proxy faith is key in baptism. Can babies have faith? No. Neither do babies have the ability to repent.

Ezekiel 18:20 Each person is accountable for their own sin. Guilt is nontransferable ["original sin" is a false doctrine].

ANSWER TO: "The Thief on the Cross didn't get Baptized for Salvation"

Mark 2:10 Jesus had authority during his earthly ministry to forgive sins.

Romans 6:3-4 Baptism is a participation in Jesus' death, burial, & resurrection. The thief could not have been baptized, as Jesus had not yet died, been buried, or resurrected.

Hebrews 9:17 The new covenant [New Testament] was not yet in effect, as Jesus had not yet died under the old covenant.

Acts 2:39 Salvation is prescribed for “all who the Lord our God will call” through repentance & baptism. Nowhere in the Bible does it say to imitate what the thief did in order to receive Salvation.

ACTS CONVERSIONS

Acts 2:36-47	First Christians in Jerusalem
Acts 8:26-39	Ethiopian Eunuch
Acts 9:1-22	Paul [also Acts 22:3-16]
Acts 16:13-15	Lydia & her household
Acts 16:22-34	Philippian jailer & his household
Acts 18:24-26	Apollos
Acts 19:1-5	Ephesians

EARLY CHURCH FATHERS "PATRISTICS"

Irenaeus 140AD

Elder in France / Disciple of Polycarp who was a disciple of John

"Baptism is regeneration to God"

Justin 150AD

Converted Philosopher / Martyred with his students for their faith

"There can be no other way than this - to become acquainted with Christ [and] to be washed in the fountain...for the remission of sins"

Tertullian 180AD

Converted Lawyer / Evangelist in Africa

"Christians are made, not born"

"We are plunged in water, but the effect is spiritual, in that we are freed from sins."

Cyprian 200A D

Elder of Carthage North Africa / Executed by Romans

"Be revived to a new life in the bath of saving water"