



Power From on High

Series: Power From On High.

Title: What must one do to
be saved?

Lesson: 77

Text: Acts 15:1-12

Date: June 9, 2024

The Gentiles have ways been included in salvation.

The Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 22:18 “In your seed ***all the nations*** of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”

Gen. 26:4; 28:14; Isa 49:6; 55:5–7; Zep 3:9–10; Zec 8:22

The key question - What must one do to be saved?

Acts 15:1–12 Some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” 2 And when Paul and Barnabas had great dissension and debate with them, the brethren determined that Paul and Barnabas and some others of them should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this issue. 3 Therefore, being sent on their way by the church, they were passing through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and were bringing great joy to all the brethren. 4 When they arrived at Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them.

5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses." 6 The apostles and the elders came together to look into this matter. 7 After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brethren, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and believe.

8 "And God, who knows the heart, testified to them giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He also did to us; 9 and He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith. 10 "Now therefore why do you put God to the test by placing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke which neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? 11 "But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also are." 12 All the people kept silent, and they were listening to Barnabas and Paul as they were relating what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles.

Acts 15:1 Some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved."

"men"

Acts 15:24 "Since we have heard that some of our number to whom we gave no instruction have disturbed you with their words, unsettling your souls,

These **"men"** were unauthorized Judaizers.

False teachers have always plagued the church.

Jeremiah 14:14 Then the Lord said to me, “The prophets are prophesying falsehood in My name. I have neither sent them nor commanded them nor spoken to them; they are prophesying to you a false vision, divination, futility and the deception of their own minds.

2 Peter 2:1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

Acts 20:28–30 “Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. 29 “I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

How do false teachers get their wings?

Only the _____ is authorized by God to guard the Truth and to appoint those who proclaim it.

Acts 15:1 Some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.”

“began teaching”

Imperfect tense

What if obedience to the Law by circumcision is true?

1. Peter and Paul could not have been _____ apostles.

2. The 15 books they wrote cannot be divinely _____.

3. Christ's death was not _____.

4. None of those who "believed" were _____.

5. The Gentiles throughout the whole world both in the past and today are _____ saved.

6. _____ would be a process of man and not a one-time declaration of God.

Romans 4:1–16 What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

“believed”

4 Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. 5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness,

6 just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: 7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds have been forgiven, And whose sins have been covered. 8 “Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will not take into account.”

“will not take into account”

9 Is this blessing then on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say, “Faith was credited to Abraham as righteousness.” 10 How then was it credited? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised?

Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised;

11 and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be credited to them,

“sign” - “faith”

12 and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.

“without being circumcised”

13 For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was **not through the Law**, but through the righteousness of faith. 14 For if those who are of the Law are heirs, **faith is made void** and the promise is nullified;

15 for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation.

Romans 3:20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law **comes the knowledge of sin.**

16 For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with **grace**, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all,

Romans 10:1–4 Brethren, my heart’s desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. 2 For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

3 For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

“righteousness of God”

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

“end” (telos)

Implication

**1. False teachers are those who add _____
to grace.**

Romans 11:6 But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.

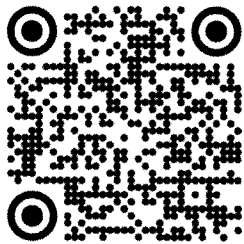
Galatians 1:6–9 I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; 7 which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! 9 As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

Discussion Guide

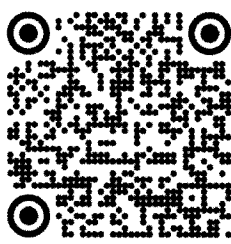
1. Have you ever been exposed by false teaching? If so, what was the error and how did you discern that it was false?
2. Although colleges and seminaries can assist in the area of academics, why are they unable to appoint men to ministry?

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-13 for the full answer.

3. What are the five ways salvation by works destroy the integrity of the Scriptures.
4. How is Christian justification different than all the other false religions?
5. Why is Romans 11:6 so important for the church?



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ANSWERS: church, true, inspired, sufficient, saved, not, Justification, works