

“What Must I Do To Be Saved?”

What Others Teach

by Bill Crews

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fervently praying, was told, not to continue praying, but to “*arise, and be baptized*” (Acts 22:16).

In some churches, if one makes known his desire to be saved, they will then pray for him that he might be saved. Neither is this found in the New Testament. They need to teach him what to do to be saved, and then urge him to do it.

The people who call themselves “Jehovah’s Witnesses” are apparently not much concerned about saving men from sin. As Watchtower slaves whose minds have been closed to any teaching except from “headquarters,” they think that their primary function in life is to go about “witnessing” for “Jehovah.” They misuse Isaiah 43:10 and 44:8 (where God was speaking to Israel about Israel) which a former head of their organization, “Judge” Rutherford, misapplied to them.

If you want to know what to do to be saved, be sure that you obtain God’s answer from God’s book, and especially from the book of conversions, Acts.

Stuff About Things

by Robert F. Turner

Some folk never enlarge their borders, though they may travel two and one-half Red Top axle greasings from home. In the new country, they view with a jaundiced eye everything that differs from their limited experience. We are proud and unrealistic who suppose there is no truth beyond what we already know, and nothing good but what we have already done. Such attitudes make “status quo” and “self” the ultimate authority for all things.

In order to grow we must change. Something new must be added to our experience, understanding, or knowledge. This does not mean casting out the old, tried and true. But it does mean recognizing a source of truth and good that is greater than ourselves, and reaching out for it.

But there are problems involved in trying new things. Once, in a far away land, I decided to eat like the natives. I found a cafeteria that was doing a thriving business, joined the line, and ordered exactly what the man ahead of me ordered. The food smelled and tasted good, and I was able to enjoy my meal until I noticed the oriental people about me were picking some pieces from their food and leaving them on the back of their plates. Curiosity finally got the better of me and I asked my nearest neighbor what they were laying aside. He gave me a cool stare and replied in precise English, A man your age should know what to receive and reject. And he resumed his chopstick rhythm.

I should — perhaps, but I didn’t. Maybe I wasn’t as old as he thought — but he had given me no other standard by which to settle the matter.

In a sense the problem is duplicated in the religious world — with far more serious consequences. For those who have no standard other than their experience each new challenge becomes a Rubicon. They may hold back, creed-bound and party oriented, with little hope for freshness and growth; or, they may launch out blindly — to fail or at best to postpone ultimate failure. God’s answer is better than this.

Gods word is truth (Jn. 17:17). It answers present legitimate spiritual questions, and unborn generations may grow in grace and truth without exhausting its treasures. Best of all, objective, obedient faith never fails.

The food? Oh, I ate it all. I was trying to enlarge my borders.

— via Plain Talk
volume 9, number 12, page 8

302703