

## Have You Been Saved?

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by Bill Crews

### WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE WERE SAVED IN THE FIRST CENTURY?

1. The Jews on Pentecost, devout men, who, by the hand of lawless men, had rejected and crucified the Son of God, Acts 2 (note verses 5 and 23).
2. Simon, who had for a long time deceived the people with his sorcery and pretended to be some great one, Acts 8:9-13.
3. Saul, who had persecuted followers of Christ and had many put to death, Acts 9 (note 9:1-2; 8:1, 3; 22:4; 26:10).
4. The treasurer of the queen of Ethiopia, a man who was already a sincere worshiper of God, having made a long journey to the temple at Jerusalem, Acts 8:26-39.
5. Cornelius, a Roman military officer, who was a *“devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, who gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always,”* described by his own soldiers and servants as a *“righteous man”* and *“well-reported of by all the nation of the Jews.”* Acts 10 (note verses 1, 2 and 22; that he was still lost is clearly shown by 11:13-14 -- he was to send for Peter that he might hear words whereby he and his house might be saved).
6. Lydia, who was already a *“worshiper of God,”* Acts 16:13-15.
7. The jailor at Philippi, whose background is not given, but who in all probability was a Gentile reared in idolatry, Acts 16:22-34.
8. The Corinthians, some of whom had been *“fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers and extortioners,”* Acts 18: 1-8; 1 Cor. 6:9-11.

But these all had one thing in common -- **THEY WERE LOST!** They needed salvation and wanted salvation. When their faith led them to repent and to be baptized, all their past sins were forgiven. No matter how “good” the life you are living now, until God forgives you you are still lost in the sins you have committed. All sin (Rom. 3:23), and all who sin are lost. All who are lost need to be forgiven and then live as children of God.

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