

August 12, 2018  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

David Yancey

**Song Leader**

Brad McAlister

**Scripture Reading**

Jeff Staggs

**Opening Prayer**

Ross Shackelford (A.M.) Gene Yancey(P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

Andy Reese (A.M.) Larry Wood (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Terry Chapman (Presiding),  
Chase Chapman, Ricky Loveless,  
Kevin Shackelford

**Count and Usher**

Joel Moore & Palmer Jones

**Prepare Communion**

Joy Simmons & Juan Stroupe

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Tripp Yancey(08/15/18)

**OUR RECORD**

**August 5, 2018**

Sunday Bible Study: 118

Sunday Morning Worship:130

Sunday Evening Worship: 119

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 127

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,564

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:**

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**What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

1. **Hear** the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17).
2. **Believe** the Gospel (Acts 15:7;Mark 16:15, 16).
3. **Repent** of Sins (Acts 3:19).
4. **Confess** Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37).
5. **Be Baptized** for Remission of Sins(Acts 2:38).
6. **Be Faithful** (Revelation 2:10).



# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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**ELDERS:** Barrett Chapman, Terry Chapman,  
Joel Moore, Jarvene Shackelford,  
Tommy Wade  
**DEACONS:** Bryan Davis, Rickey Loveless,  
Brad McAlister, Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood  
**PREACHER:** Mark Lindley

**WHEN ONE IS SIN-FREE**  
Mark Lindley

The book of Romans is a book about being sin-free. The issue that Paul addresses in the book is "how" one may be justified before God. Paul concludes that a sinner can be declared "justified" (saved), only by the gospel of Christ: "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. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith" (Romans 1:16-17). Notice that the "gospel" is God's power unto salvation. In other words, God saves sinners through the gospel message.

But "when" is a sinner saved through the gospel? This question is also addressed in Romans:

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Romans 6:16-18). In this passage, Paul declares that those who were Christians in Rome were sin-free "when" they "obeyed from the heart." Paul affirms that they were "then made free from sin."

This firmly establishes that sinners are saved at the point of obedience to the gospel. Therefore, one who desires to be sin-free today must obey from the heart, the gospel of Christ.

It needs to be stressed in our day that sinners are saved by "obedience" to the gospel. Many do not believe that obedience is necessary; rather, it is often affirmed that sinners are saved by "Faith Only," saying "The Sinner's Prayer," or by "receiving Jesus into your heart." However, Paul refutes these ideas by writing: "but ye have obeyed from the heart...being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Romans 6:17-18).

But what does "obeying the gospel" mean? What is involved? The answer is found in the opening part of Romans chapter 6: "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4). This passage reveals "how" the Christians in Rome had obeyed the gospel that they might be sin-free. They had been baptized "into Christ" that they might "arise to walk in newness of life."

Obedying the gospel saved sinners in Rome, and obeying the same gospel will save sinners today. Those who do so are declared sin-free!

## The Thief on the Cross

J.C. Choate (deceased)

The Scriptures clearly and repeatedly teach that one must be baptized to be saved. Christ Himself said that one must believe and be baptized to be saved (Mark 16:16). Peter said that it is necessary to repent and be baptized to have remission of sins (Acts 2:38). In 1 Peter 3:21, Peter wrote by inspiration that baptism saves, just as Noah and his family were saved by water. We are also told in God's Word that baptism puts one into Christ (Galatians 3:26-27) and into the church (1 Corinthians 12:13). The new birth also involves baptism since one is born of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5). In the light of all of these Scriptures, how could anyone say that a person can be saved without baptism? Yet, there are many who do just that!

Much of the denominational world teaches that the thief on the cross was saved without baptism. The record says:

And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise. (Luke 23:39-43)

Although nothing is said about the thief having been baptized, he most likely had been. Why do I think so? We are told by Mark that "John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there went out unto him all the land of Judea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins" (Mark 1:4-5).

One could therefore well conclude that the thief was baptized, and then later he became involved in the thievery that led to his crucifixion. This would not be the first or the last time that a person fell back into sin after repenting.

Consider further: This thief obviously knew quite a lot about Jesus, and had a great deal of faith! You ask how we can know these things. By his own words! There they were, the three of them, suffering the death of crucifixion. The disciples who had studied at Jesus' feet for three years had abandoned Him in fear, their faith in Him badly shaken. However, what does the thief say? "LORD!" and he has enough understanding about the spiritual nature of Jesus' kingdom that he begs, "Remember me when you come into your kingdom!" How did the thief know that Jesus' death would not be His end, or that it would not prevent Him from becoming the King over His kingdom? Yes, the thief understood a great deal about our Lord. He was no stranger to His teachings, and most likely he had been baptized.

Yet, suppose he was not baptized. That does not prove anything. It certainly does not prove that one can be saved today without baptism. That thief lived in another period of time and under a different law than we live under today. At that time Christ was still alive, and He certainly had the right to forgive the man and to promise to save him in the coming kingdom. However, with Jesus' death on the cross, a new law was ushered in, the law of Christ, as revealed in the New Testament. We have been living under that law since the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. We cannot go back to the law that was in force before the death of Christ, obey that law and expect to be saved. We cannot change laws to suit ourselves.

The fact is, there is something wrong when we go to the Scripture and try to offset one command by claiming to follow another. There is no such thing as the Lord telling us that we must obey certain commands to be saved, and then for us to look for a Scripture or an example of someone being saved without doing what the Lord has commanded, and for our "findings" to cancel the necessity of obeying Christ.

It was stated in the first part of this article that the Bible clearly teaches that one must be baptized to be saved. At the same time, it should be pointed out that nowhere does God's Word say that "baptism only" saves. Neither does the Scripture teach that one can be saved by "faith only," "repentance only," or by "confessing Christ only."

Rather, the Word of God tells us in command, as well as by the examples of conversion in the Book of Acts, that one must hear and believe the Gospel of Christ, repent of one's sins, confess that Christ is the Son of God and be baptized for the remission of sins. Read Romans 10:17, Hebrews 11:6, Acts 17:30, Romans 10:10 and Mark 16:16.

No, we are not talking about "water salvation," but we are talking about the salvation that the Lord offers when we comply with the terms or conditions that He has laid down in order for us to be saved. Christ is the Savior, and He has every right to tell us what we must do if He is going to save us. We are not in position to tell Him what we will do or not do to be saved. It does not matter who says we can be saved without being baptized, or how many may teach that one can be saved without being baptized, the fact is, the Lord says that we must believe and be baptized to be saved. He is the authority, and that settles it, once and for all! When we believe Him with all of our heart, we are going to do whatever He has asked us to do, and that without question or debate.

Another important lesson in baptism is that when we die to our sins, and we are buried in the waters of baptism, to be resurrected from a watery grave to a new life in Christ, we are picturing the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (Romans 6). Do not be a thief and steal from the lost a command for salvation that the Lord Himself has given.

### PROGRAMS OF WORK

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## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Danny Shackelford, Brad McAlister, Angela Bridges, Derrick Carpenter

•**HOSPITAL:** Curtis Mauney (Corinth)

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Linda Chapman, Nina Morrison, Jo Chapman, Louise Pannell, Roger Bryant (ALS), Venie Holbrook, Cortney Cissom, Tony Morrison, Bobbie Prather, Sandra Hopper, George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Connie Mauney, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** Cohen Hurt (2<sup>nd</sup> grade/Pine Grove), Jimmy Smith, Roxieann Foster, Danny Yancey, Lana Waldon, Diane Hodges, Sandra Jones, Dianne Graves, Betty Faye Ledbury, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Carolyn Medlin, Lanny Yancey, Niani Colom-Omotesa, Kenneth Rainey, Marilyn Harrell, Janice Willingham, Lester Wommack, Doug Pannell, Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges, Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno.

•**SHUT-INS:** Resthaven: **Oleta Phillips, Johnnie Carpenter** (*Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663*), *Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home: Bonnie Chapman, Lorene Daily, Christine Chapman* (*Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663*).