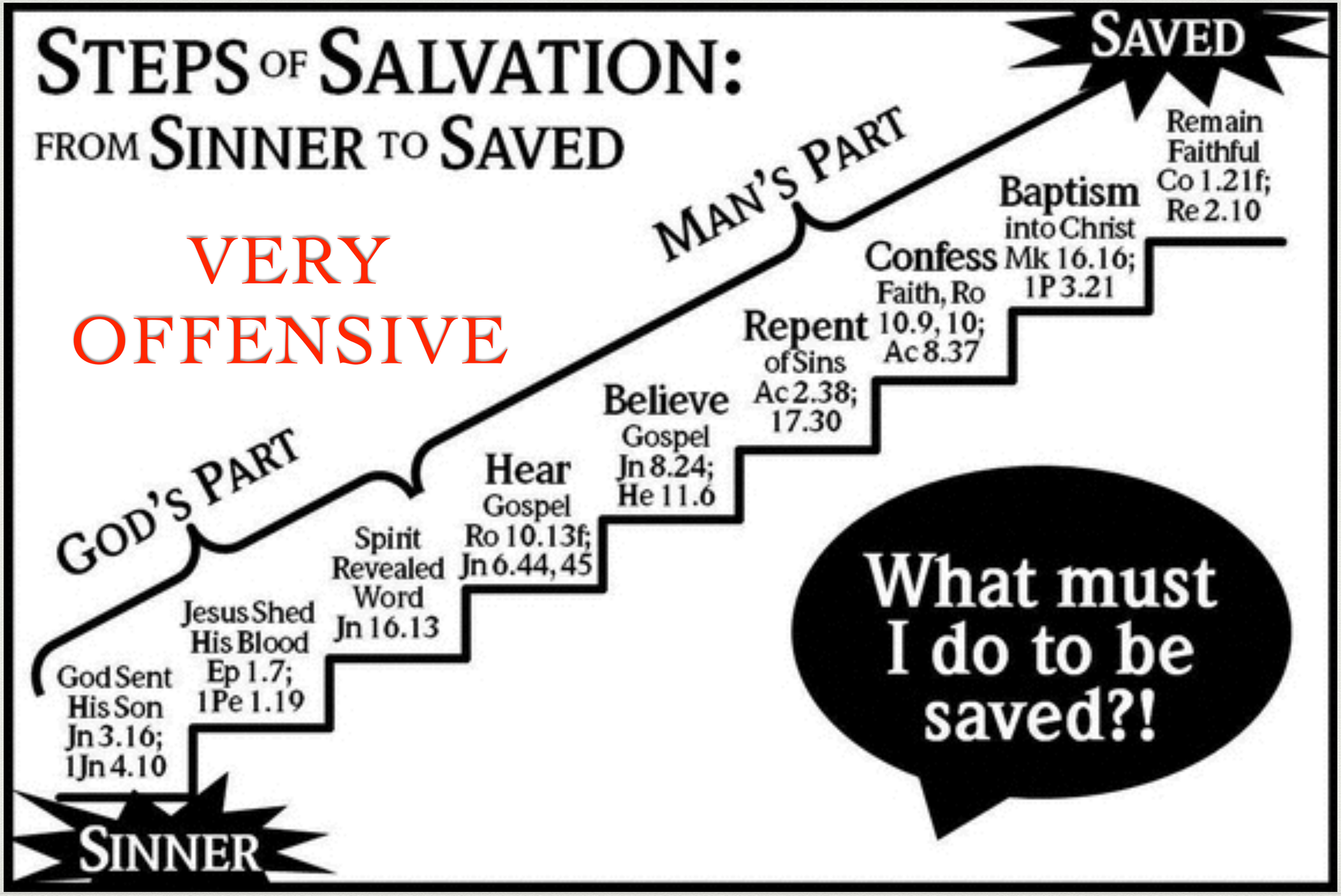
SO GREAT A SALVATION

The Grandest Theme In The Scriptures

“The doctrine of salvation… embraces all of the time as well as eternity past and futuree. It relates in one way or another to all of mankind, without exception. It even has ramifications in the sphere of the angels. It is the theme of both the Old and the New Testaments. It is personal, national, and cosmic. And it centers on the greatest Person, our Lord Jesus Christ.”

–Dr. Charles C. Ryrie

so great
SALVATION
Heb. 2:1-4


STEPS OF SALVATION:
FROM SINNER TO SAVED
VERY OFFENSIVE
SAVED
MAN'S PART
GOD'S PART
Remain Faithful Co 1.21f; Re 2.10
Baptism into Christ Mk 16.16; 1P 3.21
Confess Faith, Ro 10.9, 10; Ac 8.37
Repent of Sins Ac 2.38; 17.30
Believe Gospel Jn 8.24; He 11.6
Hear Gospel Ro 10.13f; Jn 6.44, 45
Spirit Revealed Word Jn 16.13
Jesus Shed His Blood Ep 1.7; 1Pe 1.19
God Sent His Son Jn 3.16; 1Jn 4.10
SINNER
What must I do to be saved?!

Scope Of

- What do you see here?
  - Eph 2:8 – For by grace you have been saved….
  - 1Cor 1:18 – For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
  - Rom 5:9,10 – Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Scope Of

- The Three Tenses
  - was saved – Eph 2:8 – For by grace you have been saved….
  - are being saved – 1Cor 1:18 – For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
  - will be saved – Rom 5:9,10 – Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Motives Regarding

- Jn 3:16 – For God so loved the world that . Rom 5:8 – But God demonstrates His own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- Eph 2:7 – so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
- Eph 2:10 – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we would walk in them.

Terminology

- OT – yasha – deliverance, liberation
- NT – soter / soteria – cure, recovery, remedy, rescue, redemption, welfare
- Rom 5:9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him.

Basis

- Rom 3:24-26 – being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, *I say,* of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

The Affects

- Rom 8:18-23 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. [a] And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

Salvation Is

- A necessary work of God
- An exclusive work of God
- A complete work of God

A Necessary Work of God

- Rom 5:12 Therefore, just as through [a]one man sin entered into the world, and [b]death through sin, and [c]so death spread to all men, because all sinned

An Exclusive Work of God

- Jonah 2:9 But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving. That which I have vowed I will pay. Salvation is from the LORD.
- Isa 53:4-6 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.

A Complete Work of God

- Rom 8:29-30 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.
- Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- Jn 3:16; 10:10
- Eph 1 & 2

Salvation's Work on the Cross

- Substitution for sinners
- Redemption from sin
- Reconciliation toward the world
- Propitiation toward God

Substitution for Sinners

- “anti” – in the place of –
    - Mt 17:27 Take that and give it to them for you and Me.
    - 1Pet 3:9 not returning evil for evil or insult for insult
    - Mk 10:45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.
- “hyper” – for the benefit of / in the place of
    - Phile 13 whom I wished to keep with me, so that on your behalf he might minister to me in my imprisonment for the gospel;
    - Rom 5:6-8; 2Cor 5:21

Redemption From Sin

- Agorazo
- Exagorazo
- Lutroo

Agorazo

- Rev 5:9,10 And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them *to be* a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.”
- 1Cor 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Exagorazo

- Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us — for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE”
- Gal 4:4,5 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Lutroo

- set free based on payment
- 1Pet 1:18-19 knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.
- Titus 2:13-14 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Reconciliation Toward The World

- katallasso – to exchange enmity for friendship, hostility for peace
- Rom 5:10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.
- 2Cor 5:18-21

Propitiation Toward God

- hilasterion – Heb 9:5 and above it *were* the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat; but of these things we cannot now speak in detail.
- hilasmo –
  - 1Jn 2:2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for *those of* the whole world.
  - 1Jn 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

What does Salvation do for me as a Saint

- it assures me of a right standing before God – today
- it assures me of being free from sin's captivity – today
- it assures me of my rights in God's family – today
- it assures me of the rule of grace for my life – today
- it assures me that fellowship with God is the design of my life – today

Right Standing before God – today

- Rom 3:21-26 But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; for the demonstration, *I say,* of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Free from Sin's captivity – today

- Rom 5:20 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more
- Rom 6
- without effect (3:3); make void (3:31); made of no effect (4:14); done away with (6:6); released (7:2); and delivered from (7:6)
- Heb 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil

My Rights in God's family – today

- Jn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name,
- Eph 1:5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will
- Gal 4:5 so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.
- Rom 8:15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"
- Rom 8:23 even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

The Rule of Grace – today

- Rom 6:14 For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.
- Gal 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?
- Gal 3:23-25 But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Fellowship with God – today

- 1Jn 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous
- Heb 10:14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.
- 1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

GOD'S INVITATION TO SALVATION

Common Grace – Need For

- Jer 17:9 The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?
- Eph 2:1-3 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.
- 2Cor 4:4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Channels Of – Natural Revelation

- Jn 1:9 There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.
- Rom 1:18-20 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.
- Ps 19:1-4 The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their utterances to the end of the world.

Channels Of – Natural Revelation

- Acts 14:17 and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.
- Mt 5:45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on *the* evil and *the* good, and sends rain on *the* righteous and *the* unrighteous.
- Lk 6:35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil *men.*

Channels Of – Human Government

- Rom 13:1-4 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

- 1Tim 2:1-2 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

Channels Of – Testimony

- Mt 5:13,14,16 You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty *again?* It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.
- Col 4:5-6 Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. Let your speech always be with grace, *as though* seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

Channels Of – The Arts

- Phil 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

Decline Of

- 2Thess 2:6-10 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way. Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; *that is,* the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

SALVATION'S OFFER

Salvation's Offer – Universal

- Isa 45:22 Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.
- Isa 55:1 Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.
- Rev 22:16-17 I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star. The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.
- Jn 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.
- Mt 11:28 Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Salvation's Offer – Genuine

- Jn 1:11,12 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name,
- Jn 5:40 and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.
- 1Jn 5:10 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son.

Salvation's Offer – Supernaturally Promoted

- Jn 16:7-11 But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

Origin

- Jn 14:17 *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.
- Jn 15:26 When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, *that is* the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me

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Agency

- Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”
- Jn 14:16,17 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

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Nature

- Jn 8:46 Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?
- Rom 3:23-25 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed
- 2Cor 4:4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

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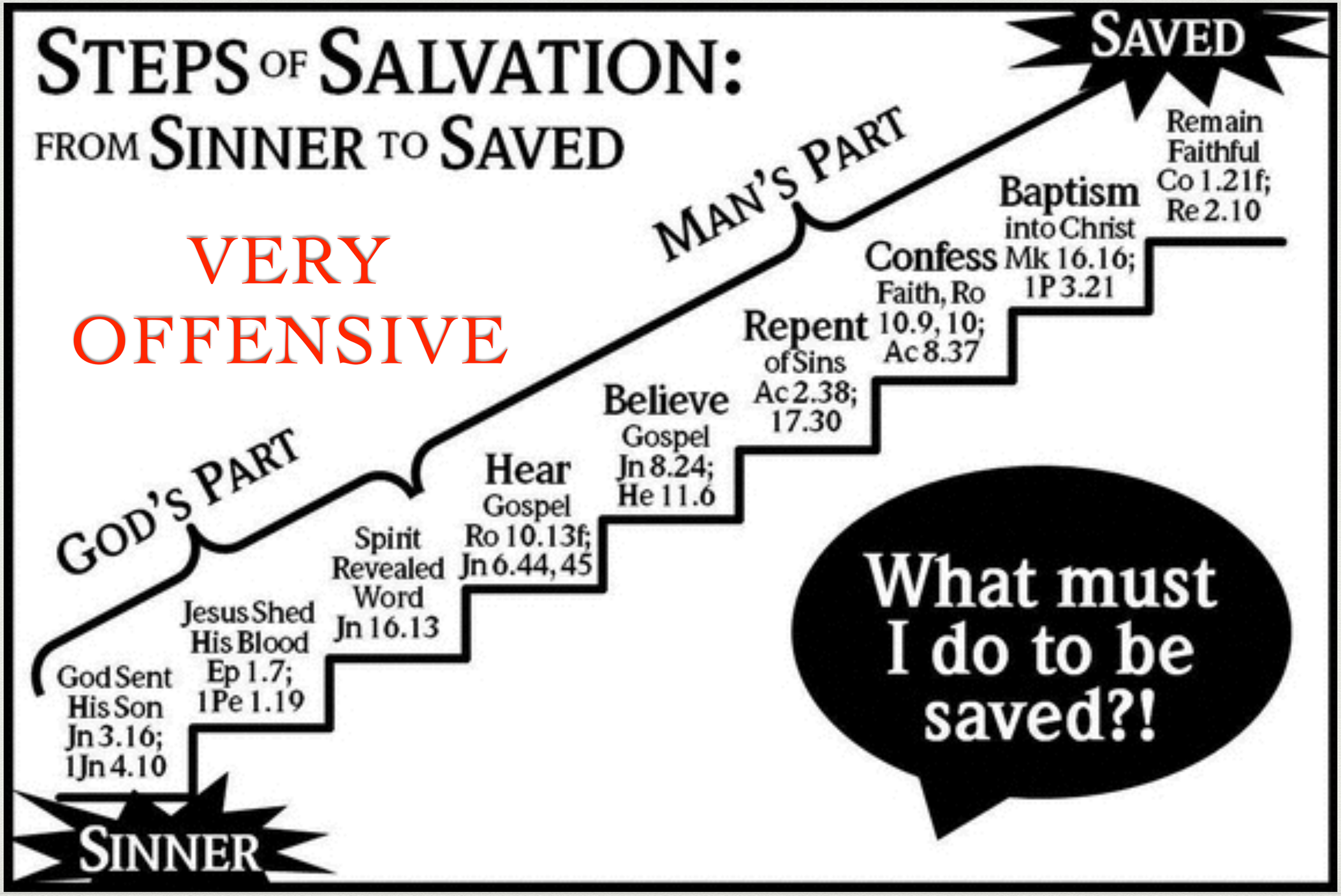
Method

- Phil 2:14-16 Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.

SALVATION'S APPROPRIATION

Scope Of

- The Three Tenses
  - was saved – Eph 2:8 – For by grace you have been saved….
  - are being saved – 1Cor 1:18 – For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
  - will be saved – Rom 5:9,10 – Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.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Salvation's Work on the Cross

- Substitution for sinners
- Redemption from sin
- Reconciliation toward the world
- Propitiation toward God

Role of God: Regeneration

- Word: paliggenesia
- Tit 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit
- Mt 19:28 And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

New Birth

- Jn 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
- Jn 3:5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- Jn 3:7 “Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”
- Jn 3:31 He who comes from above is above all
- Mt 27:51 And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom

Source (IJn)

- 2:29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.

- 3:9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

- 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

- 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him.

- 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

- 5:18 We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

Means

- Jn 1:12,13 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
- Jn 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Imparts

- Life — Jn 3:13-16; 10:10
- New Nature — 2Cor 5:17; 2 Pet 1:4

1Jn 3:9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Order – Key Passages

- Eph 2
- Jn 3

Order – Key Passages

- Jn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name
- Jn 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.
- Jn 3:18 He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- Jn 3:36 He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Order – Key Passages

- Jn 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.
- Jn 5:40 and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life
- Jn 20:31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name

Order – Key Passages

- Acts 13:39 and through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things, from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses.
- Acts 16:31 Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved,
- Rom 3:22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.
- Rom 3:26 [God offered Jesus] to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

Order – Key Passages

- Rom 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? “[a]ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.”
- Rom 4:5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness
- Rom 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

FAITH AND WORKS

The Debate

- faith and works with regard to salvation
- Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
- The “All-Terrible” is also the “All-Merciful”
- Rom 1:16,17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.”

The Catholic Response To Luther

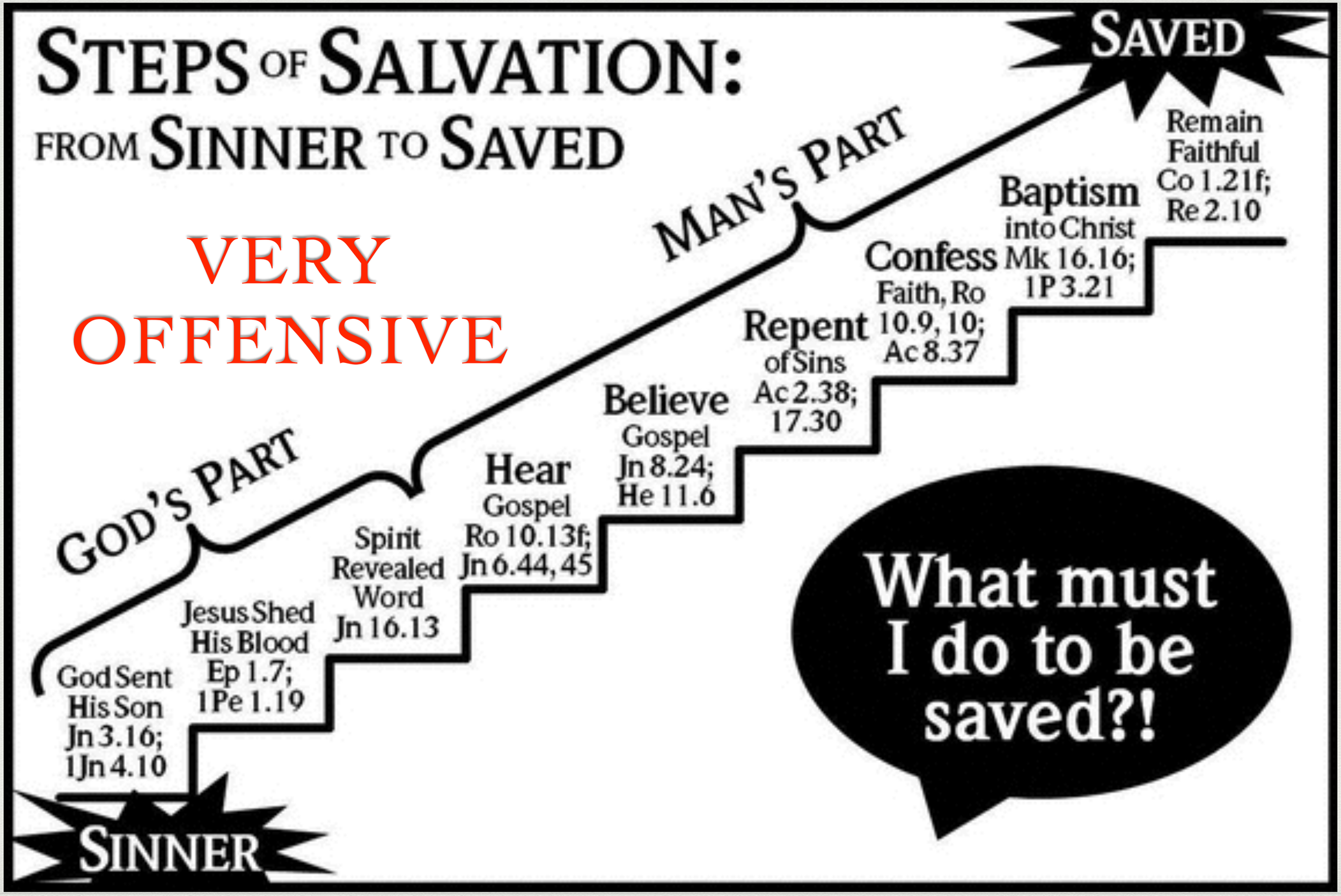
1. Justification must be meritorious
2. Good works is necessary
3. Justification & sacraments are necessary
4. A believer cannot know with certainty he is (fully) justified
5. Justification is both a gift and a merit

Necessary Justification

1. Initial Justification
2. Second (or Meritorious) Justification
3. Ultimate Justification

Catholic appeal for Meritorious Justification

- Mt 5:12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great
- Mt 25:34,35 Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat
- Rom 2:6 who WILL RENDER TO EACH PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS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Baptism into Christ Mk 16.16; 1P 3.21
Confess Faith, Ro 10.9, 10; Ac 8.37
Repent of Sins Ac 2.38; 17.30
Believe Gospel Jn 8.24; He 11.6
Hear Gospel Ro 10.13f; Jn 6.44, 45
Spirit Revealed Word Jn 16.13
Jesus Shed His Blood Ep 1.7; 1Pe 1.19
God Sent His Son Jn 3.16; 1Jn 4.10
SINNER
What must I do to be saved?!

Necessary Justification

1. Initial Justification
2. Second (or Meritorious) Justification
3. Ultimate Justification

Catholic View Confuses Reward and Merit

- Rom 4:4 Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due.

Catholic View Makes Works a Condition of Eternal Life

- Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Eph 2:8,9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Catholic View Makes Works a Condition of Eternal Life

- Jn 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.
- Jn 3:36 He who believes in the Son has eternal life
- 1Jn 5:13 I write these things to you… so that you may know that you have eternal life
- Jn 6:29 This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent
- Jn 19:30 “It is finished”

Catholic View Makes Works of Sanctification a Condition of Salvation

- Rom 4:4,5 Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness
- Tit 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit

The Catholic View Confuses Working for Salvation and Working From Salvation

- Phil 2:12,13 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.
- Eph 2:8-10 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Catholic View Makes a False Distinction Between Works and Works of the Law

- Rom 3:20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight
- Rom 4:4,5 Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness
- Eph 2:8-12
- Tit 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit

- 2Cor 11:3,4 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity *of devotion* to Christ. For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear *this* beautifully.

The Catholic View Is Similar to the Error of Galatianism

- Gal 3:3 Are you so foolish? Having begun [1] by the Spirit, are you now [2] being perfected by the flesh?
- Col 2:6-10 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk in Him, having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed.… See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete
- Rom 1:16,17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes,… For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

The Catholic View Loads Works Into Its Concept of Faith

- Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
- Rom 4:5 But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness
- Rom 3:28 A man is justified by faith apart from the works of the Law

The Catholic View Makes Works Necessary for Re-Justification

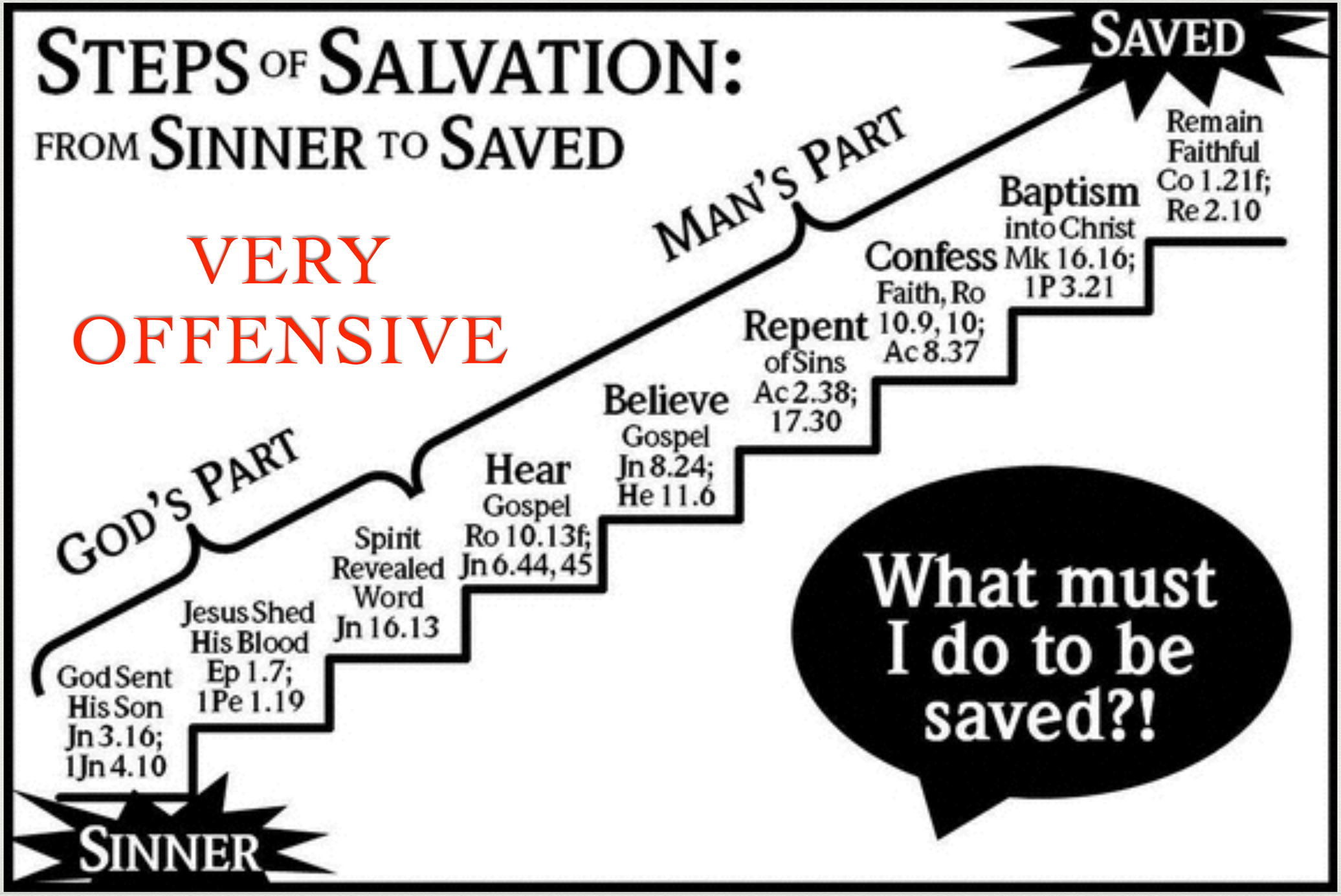
- Counsel of Trent: “This sacrament of penance, moreover, is necessary for the salvation of those who have fallen after baptism, as baptism itself is for those as yet not regenerated.”

Response to Baptismal Regeneration

- Contrary to Grace Alone
    - Mt 3:15 But Jesus answering said to him, “Permit *it* at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”
- Contrary to the need for Faith
- Contrary to Paul’s teaching
    - Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes
    - 1Cor 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel

The Catholic View Confuses the Reward of Salvation with Rewards for Service

- 1Cor 3:11-15 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is *to be* revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.
- 2Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.


STEPS OF SALVATION:
FROM SINNER TO SAVED
VERY OFFENSIVE
SAVED
MAN'S PART
GOD'S PART
Remain Faithful Co 1.21f; Re 2.10
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SINNER
What must I do to be saved?!

Hear

Believe / Faith

- Faith is unique among the conditions of salvation, for “faith as a condition for salvation is the means by which grace is received”

Believe / Faith

- AMEN

Repentance

- “It is true that faith is often mentioned by itself, but this is because faith is the one act that is the specific means (instrument, vehicle, channel) through which God’s saving grace is received…. Faith is thus singled out as the sole *means*, but not as the sole *condition* for receiving salvation. All means are conditions, but not all conditions are means.”

Repentance

1. Repentance means: a change of mind (metanoian)
2. Mk 1:15 “the kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news.” But Jesus didn’t say belief and repentance are separate steps.
3. Acts 20:21 “I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.” Nowhere does the NT list repentance as a second, separate step after faith, necessary for salvation.
4. If faith is the only means of salvation, why is something else necessary?

Confession

- Rom 10:9,10 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; [10] for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.
- Confession must be:
    - that Jesus is Lord
    - orally and publicly

Confession

- Confession is a manifestation of salvation, not a stipulation for receiving it. Nowhere does Bible list confession as a separate and necessary step to being saved (as the ‘stairway’ does).
- Rom 10 phrase: “with the mouth it is confessed unto – or into – salvation.” In other words the mouth naturally “confesses/agrees with” the reality that salvation has been received. This speaks of assurance (cf. 2Tim 1:12).
- Rom 10:10 gives the true order (as vs 9 mentioned first to conform to the order of the quotation of Deut 30:14 in Rom 10:8).
- Orally and publicly – what about a mute person or “secret” disciples in the Gospels.
- Look at overall context of Rom 10:9-17

Confess

- Mt 10:32,33 Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.
    - Referring to disciples
    - Focused on rewards in heaven not being welcomed into heaven (cf. Mt 10:42).
    - Part of our work for Him and therefore flows from faith just as any other good work.

Baptism

- “Baptism is the time during which God graciously bestows upon the sinner the double cure of salvation.”
- Acts 2:38 Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Baptism

- Acts 2:38 Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”
    - Usage of “for” – can mean “to” or “toward” but can also mean “because of” and thus forgiveness would come before baptism
    - Plural: repent / your sins / you will receive
    - Singular: be baptized / every one of you

Baptism

- Also, since Scripture cannot contradict itself and since baptism clearly follows salvation in Acts 10:47, an unclear passage (Acts 2:38) should be interpreted in the light of the clear one rather than the reverse.
- Also, passages should always seek to be understood and harmonized with the clear revelation of God's Word and not used to negate it. The steady drumbeat of the NT is sola fide – faith alone.

Baptism

- Also, Jesus called baptism a work of righteousness (Mt 3:15)
- Also, baptism is not part of the gospel as Paul said.
    - 1Cor 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void.

Baptism

- Also, Paul was saved before he was baptized (Acts 9; 22; 26).
- Cornelius was saved before he was baptized (Acts 10:47; 11:16-18)
    - “Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?”
- The thief on the cross

Remain

- 2 Tim 2:11-13 It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.
- Lk 9:62 But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Remain

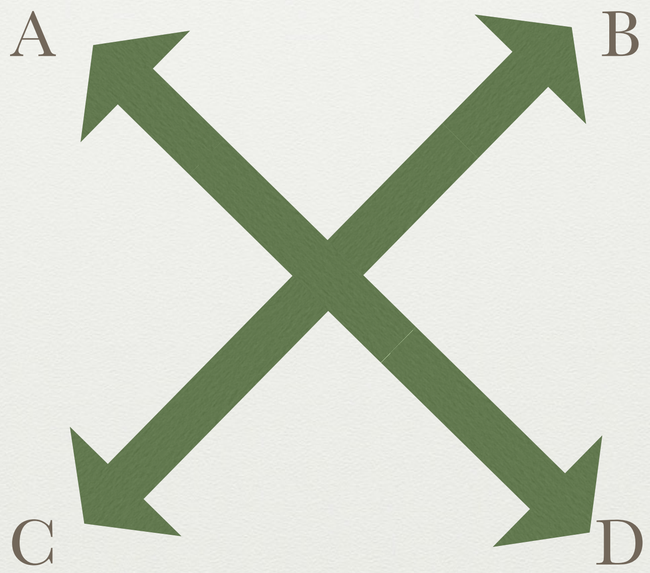
2Tim 2:11-13 has four chiastic couplets

A&D correspond

(certainty)

B&C correspond

(uncertainty)



Remain

- Lk 9:62 “is not fit for the Kingdom of God”
  - “fit” – euthetos – “useful”
- 1Cor 9:27 “lest I myself should be disqualified.”
  - “disqualified” – adokimos – “an unfit metal”