

"What Shall We Do?"  
(Acts 2:37)

Introduction:

1. In Acts 2:37 a very important question is recorded.
  - a. The location was Jerusalem, and the occasion was Pentecost.
  - b. Some Jewish people who had gone to Jerusalem to observe Pentecost asked this question of the apostles -- they asked it because their hearts had been pricked.
  - c. Peter had preached a great sermon in which he showed how Jesus, whom these people had crucified during Passover, is Lord and Christ.
  - d. Peter understood that these people wanted salvation because he showed them how to receive "*the remission of sins*" (vs.38).
  - e. Also, in vs.40b Peter called upon these people to be saved.
  - f. According to vs.41, there was a great response.
2. Because the question found in Acts 2:37 is so important, in our lesson we are examining passages that reveal "the plan of salvation."
  - a. We need to know this information for our own benefit.
  - b. We also need to be able to answer others who may ask this question.
3. Let us first consider several . . .

Discussion:

- I. BASIC PRINCIPLES THAT RELATE TO SALVATION
  - A. The Bible explains why salvation from sin is so important.
    1. The Bible identifies sin as the transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4).
    2. The Bible identifies who is guilty of sin (Romans 3:23).
    3. The Bible reveals the effects of sin (Romans 6:23a; Isaiah 59:1-2).
  - B. The "Gospel" [Good News] is that Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and was resurrected so we may be saved (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).
  - C. The salvation that Christ provides is "*great*" (Hebrews 2:3).
  - D. According to Hebrews 5:8-9, Christ saves those who obey Him.
  - E. With these basic principles before us, let us turn our attention to . . .
- II. THE LORD'S REQUIREMENTS FOR SALVATION
  - A. The Lord requires us to believe that He is God's Son (John 3:16-17; 8:24).
  - B. The Lord requires us to repent (Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 3:19).
  - C. The Lord requires us to confess that He is God's Son (Romans 10:9-10).
  - D. The Lord requires us to be baptized.
    1. Matthew 28:18-20
    2. Mark 16:15-16
    3. Acts 22:16
    4. Romans 6:3-4
    5. 1 Corinthians 12:13
    6. Galatians 3:26-29
    7. Ephesians 4:5
    8. Colossians 2:12
    9. 1 Peter 3:21
- III. THE LORD ADDS THOSE WHO ARE SAVED TO HIS CHURCH (Acts 2:47)

Conclusion:

1. We learn from 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 that the Lord will punish those who do not obey the Gospel when He returns.
2. Therefore, we must not neglect the great salvation that Jesus provides (Hebrews 2:3).