

“Call on His Name”

In his sermon on the day of Pentecost, Peter quoted: “Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21). In view of this statement, some people sometimes ask:



What was Moses told to write on the staff (rod, walking stick) of each leader within the tribes of Israel?

“Why do members of the church of Christ insist that baptism is a requirement for being saved?” That is a good question to understand! A person should *not* assume that “calling upon the Lord’s name,” and “being baptized,” are mutually exclusive obligations. A dictionary definition of “mutually exclusive” is this: If two things are mutually exclusive, they are separate and very different from each other, so that it is impossible for them to exist or happen together. Thus, the two expressions complement one another and are NOT mutually exclusive!

Please consider the following... Calling “Lord, Lord” is Not Enough: It is evident that merely “calling” on the name of Christ is not sufficient to effect salvation since Jesus Himself declared: “Not every one that says unto me, Lord, Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 7:21). Clearly, therefore, “calling” on Christ involves more than a mere verbal plea. “Calling on the Lord” is much more than mere words that you or I may say. It involves “doing His will.” We need to read more about how to “do His will.”

Calling on the Name of the Lord Includes Repentance and Baptism: In Acts 2, the same apostle who promised salvation to all who “call on the name of the Lord,” also commanded: “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). Since the “shall be saved” of Acts 2:21 is equivalent to the “forgiveness of sins” in Acts 2:38, it necessarily follows that “calling on the name of the Lord” includes BOTH repentance and baptism.

“Calling on His Name” is Defined: Later testimony from the New Testament makes it apparent that the person who submits to baptism, in order to receive pardon, is “calling on the name of the Lord.” In Acts 22:16, Ananias instructed the penitent Saul as follows: “And now why do you tarry? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, *calling on his name.*” Why give these directions IF Saul is already “saved?” All people who seek to enjoy the remission of past sins will “call on the name of the Lord” by obeying the gospel plan of redemption. In no other way is a person promised pardon from their sins. Read and heed the words of the Bible with an active response to His will.

Underline “calling on the name of the Lord” in Acts 2:21 and in the margin write this: “Not *mere* words; see Matthew 7:21.” Also, observe the harmony between Acts 2:21 and Acts 2:38 ...and you may want to write the following graphic somewhere in your Bible...

“calling on His name — saved”
“repent and be baptized — remission of sins”

A “saved” person must have their sins “washed away.” Do you understand? Have you had your sins washed away in order to be saved?

By Wayne Jackson, mod kss

A special note from those who received the “goody” bags—
Thank you for your love in putting everything together!

To all our visitors: *Please feel free to participate!*

You should expect to hear singing with voices only, a few “family” announcements, prayers spoken, and see the Lord’s Supper offered, then free-willed giving, and gospel preaching from the Bible. Any response is up to you and will be kindly received.

We are glad you decided to worship God with us on this first day of the week!

Birth/Anniversary Lunch: Second Sunday of the month...

NMCCH: Spray & Wash and Bar Bath Soap (pick up **April 6, 2019**)

Friday Bible Study: resumes **1/4/2019** at 7PM
Men’s Bible Study: resumes **1/9/2019** at 10AM

Ladies Bible Class: resumes **1/16/2019** at 10AM

Building Relationships Seminar: at Howe, **January 11-13, 2019** (more INFO on bulletin board)