

Step 6: Living Faithfully

Introduction

- A. Five Step Plan of Salvation
- B. Now I'm baptized, is that it?
 - 1. Some see baptism as the end.
 - 2. Go home and wait for heaven.
 - 3. No change in life, return to former ways (REF. 2 Pet. 2: 22)
- C. Is there more than just being baptized?
 - 1. People go to church, should I?
 - 2. Should I behave differently?
- D. If Baptism is the end...

I. ...Continued steadfastly

- A. Apostles on Pentecost—Acts 2: 42
 - 1. “Continued”—to go on or keep on without interruption.
 - 2. “Steadfastly”—firm in purpose, unwavering
 - a. Hungered and thirst for righteousness—Matt. 5: 6
 - b. Didn't want to go home
 - i. Sold property, goods—Acts 4: 35, 37
 - ii. Goods redistributed—vs. 35b
 - 3. Can't continue steadfastly is you're sitting at home
- B. Paul to Corinthians—1 Cor. 15: 58
 - 1. “Unmovable”
 - a. Refusing to give in to any doctrine—Eph. 4: 14
 - b. Test the spirits—1 Jn. 4: 1, 6
 - 2. “Always abounding in the work...”
 - a. Can't do the work if you don't know what the work is.
 - b. Can't be unmovable if you don't practice discipline.

II. Diligence—

- 1. Definition—SPOUDAZO meaning: Haste, Zeal, hasten to do a thing, to exert oneself.
- 2. Bible Examples--

- a. 2 Tim. 2: 15, give diligence to study
 - i. Not just reading book
 - ii. Study, compare to other scriptures
 - iii. Make application to daily life
 - b. Heb. 4: 9-11, give diligence to enter into rest
 - i. Strive to go to Heaven
 - ii. Don't sit back and wait for it to arrive.
 - c. Heb. 6: 9-12, give diligence to the end.
 - i. You may live for the next 40-60 years
 - ii. Pace yourself, don't wear out your zeal early.
3. Daniel's example—Dan. 6: 7-11
- a. Knew of decree
 - b. Went home and prayed anyway
 - c. Diligent in his routine regardless of decree
 - d. Vs. 13-16, Thrown in Lion's den

III. Endurance

- 1. Definition of Endure—HUPOMENO, to abide under, to bear up courageously (under suffering)
- 2. Bible examples
 - a. Afflictions and Persecutions—1 Cor. 4: 11-13; 2 Thess. 1: 4
 - b. Temptation—1 Cor. 10: 13
 - c. For the brethren—2 Tim. 2: 10-13
 - d. Warning—2 Tim. 4: 3
- 3. Faithful unto Death—Rev. 2: 10

IV. Baptism is the beginning

- A. The Virtues—2 Pet. 1: 5-10
 - 1. Strive to achieve each of these virtues
 - 2. Not necessarily in order given
- B. Encourage others—Heb. 10: 24-25
 - 1. You can't edify brethren from home
 - 2. They can't edify you if you're not there.
- C. Teach others—
 - 1. Paul to Timothy—1 Tim. 1: 18
 - 2. Timothy to others—2 Tim. 2: 2

3. Share the gospel—Prov. 23: 23; Jn. 8: 28-30
 - a. talk to classmates
 - b. Co-workers
 - c. Family
 - d. Neighbors
 - e. friends

4. Treasures in Heaven—Matt. 6: 19-20
 - a. All worldly possessions left behind, burnt up (2 Pet. 3: 10)

 - b. Jesus said—Matt. 16: 26

“For what shall a man be profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? or what shall a man give in exchange for his life?”

 - c. Rich Young Ruler—Matt. 19: 16-22
 - i. All he had will be given to someone else when gone.
 - ii. Wasted youth on the here and now.

D. The Second Coming—1 Thess. 4: 16-18

Conclusion

Instead of saying, “Now that I’m baptized, I’ll wait for Heaven” say, “Now that I’m baptized, what comes next? I’m ready to work!”