**Things That Save**

**Introduction**

1. It is popular to teach a doctrine of salvation by one thing ONLY.
2. Faith ONLY or Grace ONLY…
3. However, the scriptures speak of many things that save.
4. What we notice about these saving things is their interdependence.
5. There is not only ONE thing that saves, but a collection of things.
6. God (Deuteronomy 20:1-4)

* Deuteronomy 20:1-4
  + Moses is speaking to the Israelites about God’s law, testimonies, statutes and judgments (cf. 4:44-45). (Specifically warfare in this text.)
  + The common theme through scripture is God’s provision for His people. Without God they would not have accomplished anything, and they would have been destroyed.
    - Matthew 19:23-26 – Salvation is only possible with God.
  + We must remember they were not entitled to salvation from God, but God chose them (Israelites) as His people 🡪Unmerited favor.

1. Grace (Titus 2:11; Romans 6:23)

* Titus 2:11 – Salvation is a GIFT from God. It is given, and accepted. Not demanded, and taken. *(“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God” – Ephesians 2:8).*
* Romans 6:23 – God’s grace, or gift, is eternal life in His Son.

1. Jesus (Matthew 1:21; Acts 4:12)

* Matthew 1:21 – Jesus purpose in coming in the flesh was to save the world.
* Acts 4:12 – There is no other by which we can be saved (cf. John 14:6).
  + Salvation is in Jesus name, or by His authority. 🡪

1. The Word (Hebrews 1:1-2; James 1:21)

* Hebrews 1:1-2 – Salvation is revealed by God through Jesus. It is by the word of Christ we are saved.
* James 1:21 – We must receive the word in order to be saved.

1. Preaching (1 Corinthians 1:21)

* 1 Corinthians 1:21 – We hear the word by the preaching of it.

1. Study (Acts 17:11; 1 Timothy 4:16)

* Acts 17:11 – When we hear preaching we must make sure it is the word of God!
* 1 Timothy 4:16 – Continued diligence in study of the word ensures the necessary knowledge to attain salvation.

1. Faith (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6; Mark 16:16)

* Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6 – Faith is necessary to please God.
* Mark 16:16 – Belief in the word, in Christ, in God, is a necessity. Without it there can be no salvation.

1. Repentance (Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38)

* Luke 13:3 – We cannot expect to be saved by continuing in that which brought us death.
* Acts 2:38 – Before they were obedient to the gospel, those on Pentecost repented of their sins.

1. Confessing Christ (Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32-33)

* Romans 10:9-10 – Salvation is only in Jesus’ name. SO confessing faith in Him is a must.
* Matthew 10:32-33 – Denying Jesus has its consequences. Confessing Him allows Him to give testimony of such to God His Father.

1. Calling on the Name of the Lord (Romans 10:13; Zephaniah 3:9)

* Romans 10:13 – Calls on – *epikaleomai* – to invoke; appeal.
  + To call upon the Lord is to appeal to His terms and conditions. (Not just a verbal calling.)
* Zephaniah 3:9 – It is not mere lip service, but being fully devoted to doing whatever He says!

1. Baptism (1 Peter 3:21)

* 1 Peter 3:21 – Answer – appeal or inquiry.
  + Baptism is something done to receive a good or pure conscience before God.
  + It is the requirement in order to stand before God in good conscience.
  + Baptism is a test of our trust, humility, and obedience before God. We should not question, “Why baptism?” but instead submit to the command.

1. Obedience (Hebrews 5:9; 10:36-39)

* Hebrews 5:9 – Jesus died for all, but only those who obey Him receive salvation.
* Hebrews 10:36-39 – It is not a one-time obedience, but enduring obedience.

1. Hope (Romans 8:24-25)

* Romans 8:24-25 – Hope is what allows us to persevere. Without it we will not make it.
* Hebrews 6:19-20 – Hope anchors us to Jesus who is behind the veil in heaven. Without that connection that is by hope, we cannot expect to get there.

1. The Longsuffering of our Lord (2 Peter 3:15)

* 2 Peter 3:15 – Some of these things are done, and some we have to do. God is longsuffering that we might do those things necessary to please Him and get to heaven.
  + If God was not longsuffering we would never have time to make our lives right with Him.

**Conclusion**

1. There are many things revealed in the Bible that save.
2. You cannot expect to be saved without one of these things.
3. God has been longsuffering to this point so YOU can be saved!
4. Will you take advantage of this opportunity?