**The Infallibly Safe Path**

*Matthew 7:13-14*

**Introduction**

1. Jesus said there is a narrow way, and a wide way. One leading to life, and one to destruction.
2. Few find the narrow, many find the wide – **with all the religious differences, how can we be sure of the path that is infallibly safe?** *(I.e. a path traveled which unquestionably leads to life, and avoids all destruction.)*
3. **Is there an infallibly safe path? Yes – which means all other paths are not infallibly safe.**
4. **Importance of question and its answer?** – **cf. Hebrews 9:27** (Only take the path of life once, and if you go the wrong direction that is it!)
5. **Cf. Luke 13:22-27** – Had infallibly safe path presented to them, but they missed it, and took another – forever lost.
6. What is the infallibly safe path?
7. Where is the word of God found?
8. **Salvation is from God, so He must tell us of the infallibly safe path. But, where is the word of God?**
9. In the Holy Scriptures
	1. **2 Timothy 3:16** – Scriptures are God-breathed. **(v. 17** – is sufficient)
	2. Yet, we know that these words were written by man. **How can we be sure they are from God?**
		1. **2 Peter 1:19-21** – Inspiration – moved by HS. Man’s writing, but not man’s ideas – God’s thoughts. (**Interpretation – origin**, i.e. did not come from man, but God)
		2. **Ephesians 3:5** – Paul confirms – writing of NT is inspired of God – these are God’s words!
		3. **Hebrews 2:3-4** – Not empty claim, but witnessed by God with miracles. (**Confirmation that the words of scripture are from God!)**
10. What about the creeds?
	1. **Is it safe to follow the creeds? Which should I follow? Or, is it safe to simply follow God’s word, and ignore the creeds entirely?**
	2. Not safe to follow creeds:
		1. **Creeds are not written by God**. How do I know? – **Jude 3** (Once for all delivered.)
		2. **Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12** – Way that seems right to a man may actually be way of death. **(How could following man be safe?)**
		3. **Galatians 1:8-9** – Paul warns not to follow another message given EVEN FROM AN ANGEL!
	3. **Romans 1:16** – What risk is run by simply following what is described as God’s power to salvation? (**HAS ANYONE EVER BEEN STEERED WRONG BY GOD’S WORD?**)
11. **So, let us follow God’s word to find the infallibly safe path 🡪**
12. Who are they that will be saved?
13. **Among those who look to God’s word are differences concerning the claims as to who will be saved. How can we know?**
14. **Universalist** – all will be saved?
	1. **Would that not include the atheist?**
		1. Does not believe in God, and does nothing pertaining to religion.
		2. **Is that a safe path to follow? NO – Have to travel a certain way 🡪**
	2. **Not a safe path** – **Matthew 7:13-14** – Jesus clearly shows not all will be saved. In fact, most won’t be saved!
15. **Calvinist** – Only the individually predestined will be saved?
	1. **Would that not mean that even if I did what I knew, or thought to be right, but I am not of the elect, that I’d be lost? – Yes.**
	2. **Would not that mean that even if I did what I knew, or thought to be wrong, but I am of the elect, that I’d be safe? – Yes.**
	3. **What about what Jesus said?**
		1. **Matthew 7:21-23** – Did not do what He said – LAWLESS – lost.
		2. **Vv. 24-25** – Do what He says – ABIDE BY LAW – firm (spiritual) foundation which withstands any test.
	4. Is it safe to sit idle? NO!
	5. **Is it infallibly safe to do what Jesus says? YES – it won’t make you more lost.**
16. **Infallibly safe path? – Do what Jesus says, i.e. what is in the scriptures.**
17. What must men do to be saved?
18. **Denominations** – Nothing, because there is nothing you can do.
	1. **Is doing nothing safe?**
	2. **When this question was asked:**
		1. **Acts 16:30** – Philippian jailer asked this important question.
			1. **If the answer was nothing, wouldn’t the apostle say so?**
			2. (**v. 31)** – Believe! That’s doing something!
		2. **Belief is not a work?**
			1. **John 6:28-29** – What must we do to work God’s works? – BELIEVE.
			2. **Belief/faith – work ordained by God.**
		3. **But that’s it? Just believe?**
			1. **James 2:24** – Justified (saved) by works, not faith only.
			2. **What works? Works ordained by God. I.e. do as God says – obey God!**
				1. **2 Thessalonians 1:8** – Do not obey gospel? Punished!
				2. Is it safe to do nothing? NO!
				3. **Is it infallibly safe to obey the gospel? YES! (Who ever obeyed God and was punished for it?)**
19. Infallibly safe path? – Obey the gospel.
	1. **What is the gospel message?**
		1. **Mark 16:15** – That which the apostles were commissioned to preach.
		2. **Acts 16:31-32** – It is the word of the Lord.
		3. **Infallibly safe path?** – Do what the word of the Lord says to do – **what those in the 1st century were told to do (Like the Jailer)**.
		4. **What were they told to do?**
	2. **Hear, and believe** – **Acts 16:30-32**
		1. Believe, but can’t do so without hearing – **cf. Romans 10:17.**
		2. **Believe what** – They followed with the content he needed to believe (**v. 32).**
			1. The word of the Lord.
			2. **WHO HE IS, AND WHAT HE SAYS.**
			3. **Infallibly safe to believe what the gospel says!**
		3. **(v. 33)** – Their response was to be baptized, which shows us that is something the Lord requires.
		4. **But, is that it?**
	3. **Repent** – **Acts 2:37-38**
		1. **(v. 37)** – Similar question to that of the Philippian Jailer.
		2. **Remission of sins** – not just baptism, **but REPENTANCE.**
		3. **Cf. 3:19** – Same command given!
		4. **Is it safe not to repent?** – **cf. Luke 13:5** – Repent or perish!
		5. **What did they do to repent? What is repentance?**
			1. **Acts 19:10, 18-20** – Heard word, believed, and repented.
			2. Practicing magic – sin – burned all their magic literature!
			3. **Destroy evil deeds – IN THOUGHT, and if need be, THINGS WHICH ARE PHYSICALLY PERTAINING TO SIN.**
		6. **Safe to hold on? NO!**
		7. **Infallibly safe to destroy, and completely turn from? YES. (Who ever lost their soul from turning completely away from sin?)**
	4. **Confess** – **Acts 8:34-37**
		1. Necessary to prove you believe.
		2. **Confess what**? – **v. 35** – preached Jesus **– v. 37** – confessed Jesus.
		3. **Is it safe NOT to confess Christ?** – **cf. Matthew 10:32-33** – Jesus says NO!
		4. **Infallibly safe to confess Christ? YES. (Who was ever punished by Christ for confessing Him?)**
	5. **Baptism** – **Acts 8:38-40**
		1. The Eunuch did not stop at belief and confession, but was baptized.
		2. **Part of what Philip preached** – **cf. Mark 16:15-16** – part of the gospel.
		3. **Is it safe not to be baptized? NO – that is what everyone did in response to the gospel.**
		4. **Is it infallibly safe to be baptized? YES. (Who ever lost their soul BECAUSE they were baptized?) (Eunuch rejoiced!)**
		5. **What of sprinkling and pouring? IS that safe?**
			1. **(v. 38)** – Went down into the water?
			2. **Baptism** – immersion.
			3. Safe to pour, or sprinkle? You tell me. **Where to you see that in Acts?**
			4. **Infallibly safe to be immersed? YES. (Who was ever lost BECAUSE they were immersed, instead of poured or sprinkled?)**
	6. **Infallibly safe path to take? Do what Jesus says. NOT JUST SOME, BUT ALL, AS WE HAVE ON FULL DISPLAY IN ACTS.**

**Conclusion**

1. Jesus did not tell us there was one way to heaven without explaining that way.
2. The infallibly safe path is the narrow path laid by the Lord – **cf. Matthew 7:13-14**.
3. **If we wish to have ALL CONFIDENCE in our salvation, we must take the path given us by Jesus!**