

Necessary, But Not Sufficient

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Presented December 2012 at Blue Ridge Church of Christ – www.blueridgecoc.org

- I. Introduction
 - a. No more important subject that could be discussed
 - i. Review of our lost condition
 - ii. Review the provision of God for justice and mercy
 - b. Example of necessary but not sufficient

For example, for a car to be driven, it needs parts - wheels, an engine etc. These are necessary but not sufficient conditions. When the car has all its mechanical and other parts in working order **and** fuel **and** a qualified driver, then all together, these would meet both the necessary and sufficient conditions for it to be driven. – From Critical Analysis, <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/langc/skills/conc-det.html> - [University of Sussex Language Institute : Study Skills](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/langc/skills/conc-det.html)

- c. Plan of study – Examine twenty things to which the Bible attributes salvation
 - i. NOTE: I looked at every passage where the Greek word SOZO appears and have listed the ones having to do with the salvation of men's souls
- II. Things To Which Salvation is Ascribed (adapted from list by L.G. Tomlinson)
 - a. By God (Titus 2:11; 2 Tim. 1:9; 1 Pet. 1:5) ++
 - b. By the love of the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10) +
 - c. By Christ (Matt. 1:21; John 3:17;1 Timothy 1:15) +++++
 - d. By faith (Acts 16:31; Rom. 10:9; Eph. 2:8; 1 Pet. 1:9) +++++
 - e. By the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5) +
 - f. By repentance (2 Cor. 7:10; James 5:20) +
 - g. By Christ's name (Acts 4:12) ++
 - h. By calling on His name (Acts 2:21; Rom 10:13) ++
 - i. By Christ's blood (Rom. 5:9) +
 - j. By confession of faith (Romans 10:9-10) +
 - k. By Christ's resurrection (Rom. 5:10) +
 - l. By baptism (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Titus 3:5) +++
 - m. By the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-2; Rom 1:16; Acts 11:14; Jam. 1:21; 1 Cor. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:15) ++
 - n. By obedience (Hebrews 5:9) +
 - o. By grace (Acts 15:11; Ephesians 2:5, 8) +
 - p. By works of faith (James 2:24; Phil. 2:12) +
 - q. By hope (Rom. 8:24) +
 - r. By heeding and continuing in the doctrine (1 Timothy 4:16)
 - s. By God's mercy and longsuffering (Titus 3:5; 2 Pet. 3:15) +
 - t. By enduring to the end (Mat. 10:22; Mat. 24:13; Rev 2:10) +
 - i.

III. Thoughts

- a. Each is necessary, but not sufficient. All together they are necessary and sufficient. You need all of these to be saved.
- b. Is Faith necessary and sufficient?
 - i. "...faith is the sole condition to experiencing the new birth ... Water baptism is ... administered only to those who have already been saved. ...faith alone, without the added step of baptism, assures the forgiveness of sin, the promise of the indwelling Holy Spirit and the gift of everlasting life ... [B]aptism ... has nothing to do with washing away sin or with a person's justification" - Sermon by an advocate of "faith only."
 - ii. Where would someone get that idea?
 - iii. "Wherefore, that we are justified by faith, only, is a most wholesome doctrine and very full of comfort" - *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, 1972 Edition, p. 55.
 - iv. But the Bible says NO - James 2:24
 - v. No more important topic that could be discussed
 1. No stock tip
 2. No job skill
 3. No words of reconciliation from a loved one
 4. No medical advice to correct a deadly health condition
 5. Could be more vital than these words from God of how my soul dead in sin can be saved
- c. Is Baptism Necessary?
 - i. "...faith is the sole condition to experiencing the new birth ... Water baptism is ... administered only to those who have already been saved. ...faith alone, without the added step of baptism, assures the forgiveness of sin, the promise of the indwelling Holy Spirit and the gift of everlasting life ... [B]aptism ... has nothing to do with washing away sin or with a person's justification" - Sermon by an advocate of "faith only."
 - ii. Where would someone get that idea?
 - iii. "Baptism is not essential to salvation...; but it is essential to obedience, since Christ has commanded it. It is also essential to a public confession of Christ before the world, and to membership in the church..." - *Standard Manual for Baptist Churches* by Hiscox, p. 21 (via *Handbook of Religious Quotations*).
 - iv. But the Bible says YES - Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Titus 3:5
 1. Baptism is NOT a work of righteousness
 2. We don't attempt to earn salvation by baptism any more than we earn it by believing
 - v. This is the most important topic we could ever discuss
 1. If we think one thing will save us, and leave out the rest we will be lost
 - a. We will be depending on a car with no gas
 - b. Only with eternal consequences

2. If we lack one thing that is necessary, because someone told us it was optional
 - a. We will be depending on a car with no battery
 - b. With our soul in the balance
 3. We must understand, not from man, but from God Himself, what is necessary for salvation
- d. What has been provided and what must we supply?
- i. The things that have been provided are things we could not have supplied ourselves.
 - ii. The things we must supply are things that any responsible person can do
 - iii. The effort we must expend to have salvation is miniscule compared to the effort God has expended to provide it to us.
- IV. Conclusion: What is lacking for our salvation?
- a. If there is any lack, it is not in the things for which God is responsible
 - b. If there is any lack, it is within our power to supply it.
 - c. Will you be saved?
 - i. Acts 2:40;

References

- Faith only quotes From Gospel Way http://www.biblestudylessons.com/cgi-bin/gospel_way/salvation_by_faith.php
- Necessary but not sufficient from article on Critical Analysis, <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/langc/skills/conc-det.html> - [University of Sussex Language Institute : Study Skills](#)
- List of Things necessary for salvation adapted from Churches of Today In the Light of Scripture, by L. G. Tomlinson, 15-16