

Gospel Means

Gospel Means

Do Men Get Eternal Life by
Believing the Gospel ... or by God's
Sovereign Grace and Power Without It?

Eternal Life Is of Crucial Importance ...

For your personal salvation from damnation.

For proper worship of God in spirit and truth.

Let Us Define a Few Terms ...

Gospel = the glorious news about Jesus Christ.

Means = condition, instrument, way to be saved.

What Does “Gospel Means” Mean?

Believing the gospel is the way to get eternal life.

Eternal life is not a free gift – it has a condition.

Regeneration is by God and man cooperating.

You will not be born again until you comply.

God chose to regenerate by preaching.

Life and action are simultaneous.

What Do We Believe?

Believing the gospel is the response of the saved.
Life is given first by the Holy Ghost before action.
Regeneration is God's work without cooperation.
Eternal life by preaching is error by many proofs.
Cornelius was regenerated without the gospel.
The gospel does not have resurrection power.

Our Answer Is an Identifying Mark ...

In history, RCC and daughters exalt sacraments.

In doctrine-hating, perilous times, truth is rare.

Only Revelation Counts for Truth ...

Let God be true, but every man a liar (Rom 3:4).

For we are committed to scripture, not to men.

Fear or Love of Men Bring a Snare ...

Quoting Calvinists is vain folly (Ps 119:98-100).

We are hyper- or high Calvinists, if labeled.

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“Anti-Means” Baptists Is Historical Slur ...

If not their means, enemies accuse us of no means.

We believe in means ... not theirs ... Bible means.

Antinomian Baptists Is Another Slur ...

Antinomian = grace ends duty to obey moral law.

Proving election by obedience is a very holy view

Duty-Faith Controversy Is Unnecessary

Duty-Faith = all men should believe the gospel.

Preaching it to all does not require ability of all.

Calvinists Try to Avoid the Difficulty

They know they are synergists or very close to it.

So they guarantee an “effectual call” like fatalists, which they also do with perseverance of saints.

But I Get Scared Going Against So Many

The RCC and Reformed grossly pervert baptism.

Charismatics think gibbership an apostolic gift.

Futurists reject nursing when Jesus returns.

Arminians invent an age of accountability.

Mormons created baptism for the dead.

The SDA chose porn flakes for purity.

98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

Psalm 119:98-100

Rephrasing Our Title a Little ...

What are the means or conditions of eternal life?

Is the gospel the means, or new sacramentalism?

Let Us Define a Few Terms ...

Means = condition, instrument, way to be saved.

Sacraments = ordinances with saving power.

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Do Men Get Eternal Life by
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Our Doctrine Summarized

All men are condemned by Adam's sin alone.
All men are also spiritually dead toward God.
Eternal life must be unconditional in this case.
Eternal life must have imputed righteousness.
Life must be given; resurrection must be first.
God chose to save some and all will be saved.
He fulfilled all the means for their eternal life.

But What About the Gospel?

The gospel is the good news of God's sovereign grace and mighty power to save His chosen ones. It tells the elect what God has done for them and what they can do to please their adoptive Father. It does not bring eternal life but knowledge and assuring evidence of eternal life by godly living.

But What About Man's Responsibility?

Man is surely responsible to fear and love God.
But his depraved nature precludes doing either.
So God must regenerate without cooperation.
Regeneration gives man ability to please God.
He is responsible to obey to avoid chastening.
He is responsible to obey for any assurance.

We Have Proven This Many Times Before

Many previous studies are linked at the end.
I have not preached this topic in some years.
It has been percolating for quite some time.
Recent external confusion has called for it.
Today is a reminder, not exhaustive at all.
More verses and points could be used.

Here Is the Method We Will Use

Let us state and explain an argument for truth.
Then let us use two or three verses to prove it.
Then we will use other verses or logic for truth.
Then we will correct some popular perversions.
Much more material will be linked for the topic.
All the Bible has been reconciled (Problem Texts).
Let us keep it plain and simple for our youth.

Gospel Means

Do Men Get Eternal Life by
Believing the Gospel ... or by God's
Sovereign Grace and Power Without It?

Argument #1

Man is spiritually dead toward God and the gospel, so that no means requiring his cooperation will work.

1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Ephesians 2:1-3

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

I Corinthians 2:14

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:7-8

Argument #2

The Bible clearly declares that man does not cooperate in obtaining the gift of eternal life.

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh,
nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 1:13

So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that
runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

Romans 9:16

For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:6

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

John 3:8

Argument #3

Faith to believe the gospel and bring forth works are results of salvation, not means or conditions.

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 3:3

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13

Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

I John 4:15

Argument #4

The means of eternal life is by the obedience of one Man, Jesus Christ the Second Adam.

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Romans 5:19

21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

I Corinthians 15:21-22

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

I Peter 1:2

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

Hebrews 9:15

Argument #5

The gospel and its ordinances were never intended to give eternal life but to show it.

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

I Peter 3:21

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

I Corinthians 11:26

15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:

16 To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?

II Corinthians 2:15-16

Argument #6

The Bible gives examples of sinners saved without believing or obeying the gospel.

1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;...

4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

I Corinthians 10:1-5

26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes....

32 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

Romans 11:26-32

22 And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

II Samuel 12:22-23

Argument #7

If human means are involved, then the glory of salvation is compromised from God to man.

29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.

30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

I Corinthians 1:29-31

5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Ephesians 1:5-6

22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

Romans 9:22-24

Gospel Means

God Saves by His Sovereign Grace
and Power Alone, and Gospel Faith
Is a Result of Salvation, Not a Means.

We Do Believe in Means – God’s Means

God the Father eternally chose those to be saved.
He sent His Son Jesus Christ to die to save them.
He then sent His Spirit to quicken each of them.
To this point it is God’s sovereign grace & power.
Each of these persons are in the Book of Life.
They will all be saved without loss of one.

Here Is the Further Method We Will Use

We have seven clear proofs of no human means.
Our doctrine is certain by testimony of scripture.
Let us review those seven points we just studied.



Argument #1

*Would you like to repeat after me
and receive Jesus into your heart?*





SYNERGISM



MONERGISM

Argument #1

Man is spiritually dead toward God and the gospel, so that no means requiring his cooperation will work.



Argument #2

““Thus saith the Lord’
is the only authority in
God’s Church.”

Charles Spurgeon

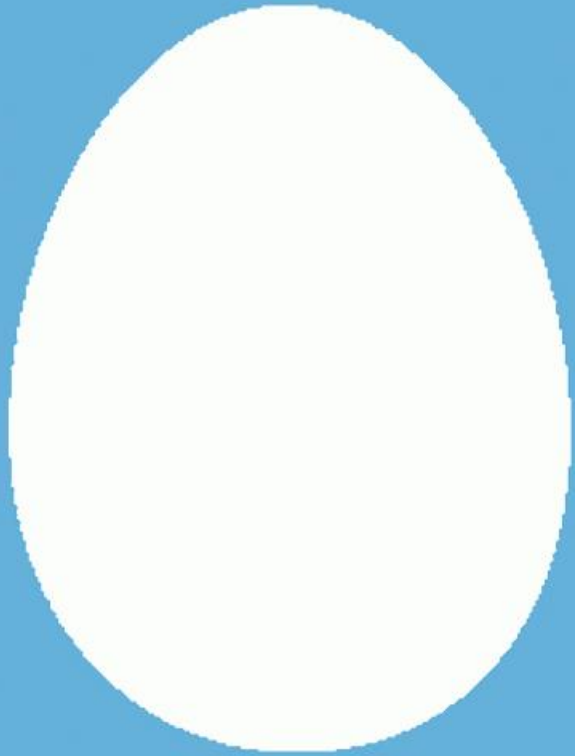


Argument #2

The Bible clearly declares that man does not cooperate in obtaining the gift of eternal life.



Argument #3



Argument #3

Faith to believe the gospel and bring forth works are results of salvation, not means or conditions.



Argument #4

JESUS GOD ISRAEL HEAR LORD

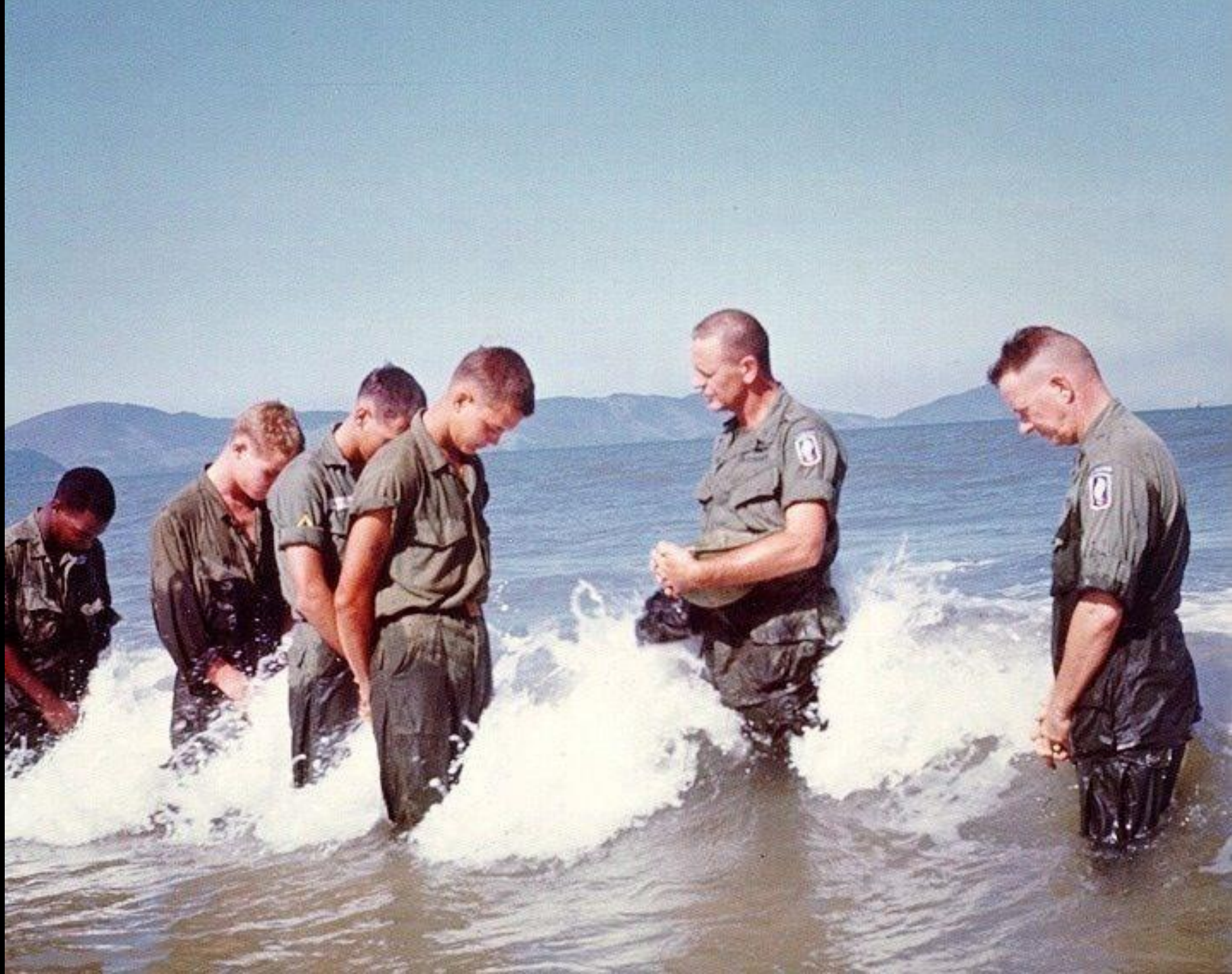


Argument #4

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Argument #5



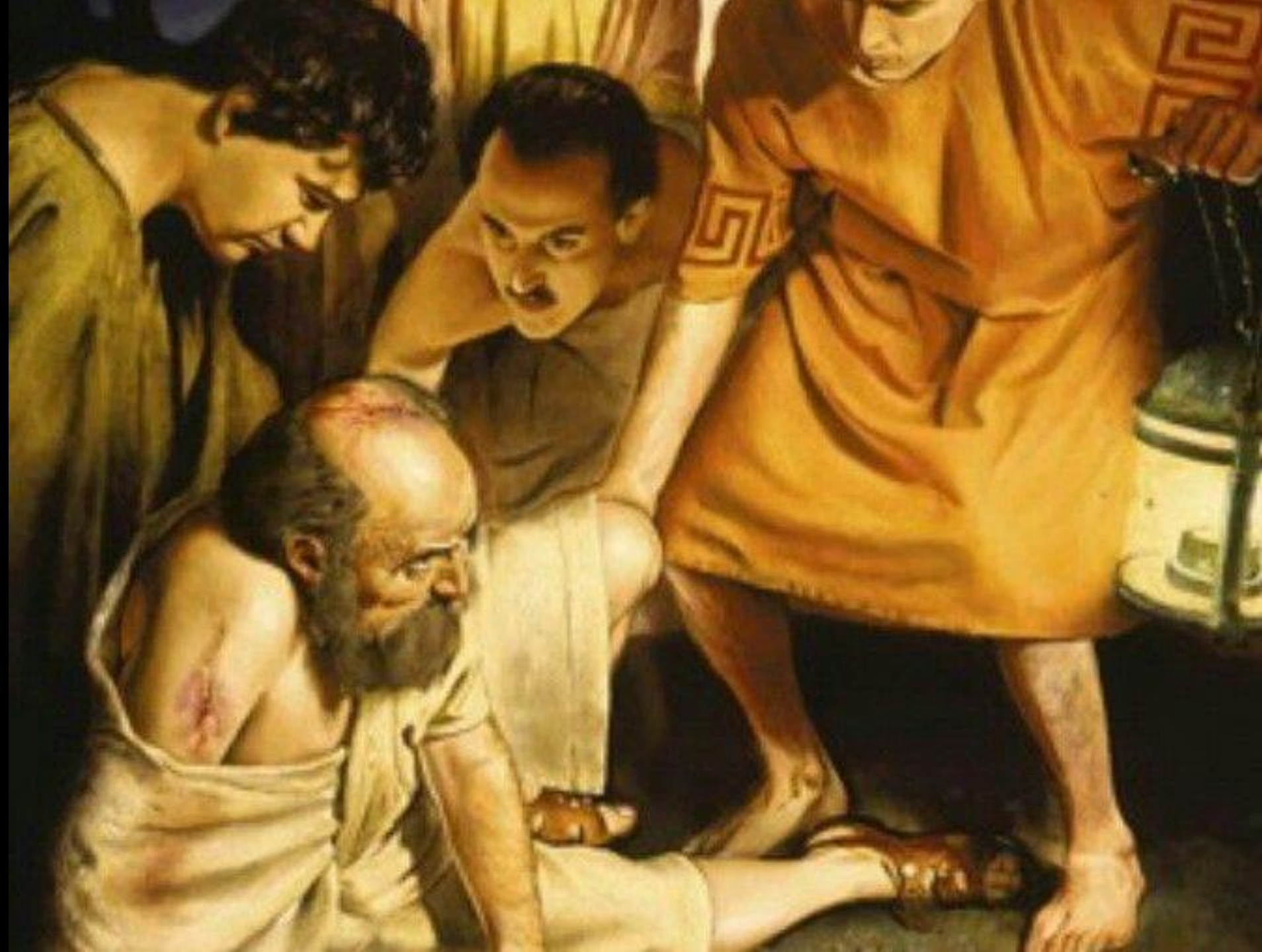
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The gospel and its ordinances were never intended to give eternal life but to show it.



Argument #6





Argument #6

The Bible gives examples of sinners saved without believing or obeying the gospel.



Argument #7



Argument #7

If human means are involved, then the glory of salvation is compromised from God to man.

Is It Possible to Summarize Them?

- #1 Man is unable.**
- #2 Bible denies it.**
- #3 Faith is a result.**
- #4 Obedience of One.**
- #5 Ordinances cannot save.**
- #6 Examples of unconverted.**
- #7 Maximize glory of God.**

We Love the Gospel of Jesus Christ

We rejoice in the good news of glad tidings.
We thank God for beautiful feet that preach it.
We thank God we have heard the joyful sound.
With joy we draw water from the wells of salvation
We spend money and time to spread it worldwide.
But we deny it adds any names to the book of life.
And we deny any eternal destiny depends on it.

Let's Take a Short Soteriological Break

Theologians invent terms to justify their heresies. "Gospel means" Calvinists create the effectual call. The gospel is to be preached generally to all men. In other words, the gospel calls all men to repent. Sometimes the Holy Spirit will regenerate by it. If this miracle happens, it is the effectual call. Preaching the gospel effectually regenerates.

The Bible Has No Effectual Call

The preaching of the gospel does not regenerate. It never regenerates, not even on its very best day. It is only information or news accepted or rejected. If a hearer is not born again, he always rejects it. If a hearer is born again, he will likely receive it. God alone regenerates by supernatural power. The gospel can only help those regenerated.

Calling in the Bible Has Two Senses

Yes, there is a gospel call that reprobates hear.
But there is a call that is God's ordination to life.
But there is a call that is God's appointment to life.
Paul was called to be an apostle – he wasn't asked!
And we are called to eternal life – we aren't asked!
A man's calling is a gift from God for certain work.
We are called to eternal life by God's designation.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle,
separated unto the gospel of God,

Romans 1:1

Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

II Timothy 1:11

Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.

I Timothy 2:7

But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

I Corinthians 1:24

26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

I Corinthians 1:26-27

For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain
salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

I Thessalonians 5:9

And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

Acts 13:48

14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Minor Difference #12 - Truth Is a Glorious Gift

- God chose, the Spirit regenerated, they believed ... by gospel preaching.
- Most Christians can only think of heaven as glory, so they miss this text.
- There is great glory to know details of God, Jesus, and salvation correctly.
- New Testament preaching advances men from glory to glory (II Cor 3:6-18).
- The devil blinds most, but we have glory revealed (II Cor 4:1-7; Jn 17:22; I Pet 1:8).
- From more about glory unto glory... <http://www.letgodbettrue.com/pdf/from-glory-to-glory.pdf>.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Romans 8:28-30

That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you
unto his kingdom and glory.

I Thessalonians 2:12

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

I Peter 5:10

For many are called, but few are chosen.

Matthew 22:14

(For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Romans 9:11

Here Is the Further Method We Will Use

We have seven clear proofs of no human means.
Our doctrine is certain by testimony of scripture.
Let us add to the evidence by verses saying so.

Argument #8

Gospel preaching cannot help the lost, for it is foolishness to all men but those already saved.

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

I Corinthians 1:18

22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

I Corinthians 1:22-24

Argument #9

The only ones that believe the gospel were chosen to it, so the means is God's choice, not man's faith.

And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

Acts 13:48

44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

John 6:44-45

26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

John 10:26-29

Argument #10

The gospel only brings life and immortality to light;
it does not bring life and immortality into existence.

9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

II Timothy 1:9-10

18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

II Corinthians 5:18-19

Argument #11

Faith is too late to be the means of eternal life,
for regeneration is before it and produces it.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 5:24

Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

I John 5:1

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

I John 5:4

Argument #12

Since the gospel is hid to the lost, how will you save the lost when they cannot see it?

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

II Corinthians 4:3-4

Here Is the Further Method We Will Use

We have seven clear proofs of no human means.
Our doctrine is certain by testimony of scripture.

Let us add to the evidence by verses saying so.

Let us add to the evidence by logic of faith.

Argument #13

How will you use the gospel to get a camel through the eye of a needle, which is impossible?

23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

Matthew 19:23-26

Argument #14

Why did Jesus say to leave the tares alone, when the kind thing to do is convert them to wheat?

28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:28-30

Argument #15

If Jesus could not turn goats into sheep, why do you think you can by means of the gospel?

26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

John 10:26-28

Argument #16

If faith is the means of eternal life, then so is baptism if Baptists were honest with scripture.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mark 16:16

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Acts 22:16

Argument #17

If faith is the means of eternal life, then so are works, if men were honest with scripture.

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

James 2:14-26

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing,
nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

Galatians 5:6

2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;

3 Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.

I Thessalonians 1:2-4

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

II Peter 1:5-11

Argument #18

If faith is the means of eternal life, Jesus said even a man coming back from the dead will not work.

And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Luke 16:31

Argument #19

If gospel faith is the means of eternal life, could Lydia have believed without God opening her heart?

And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Acts 16:14

Argument #20

If gospel faith is the means of eternal life, does God open all hearts like He did the heart of Lydia?

And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

Acts 16:14

Argument #21

If gospel faith is the means of eternal life, why did Jesus use parables to keep the means from some?

11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables:

12 That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

Mark 4:11-12

Argument #22

If faith is the means of eternal life, then why did God grant the means to so few in the world?

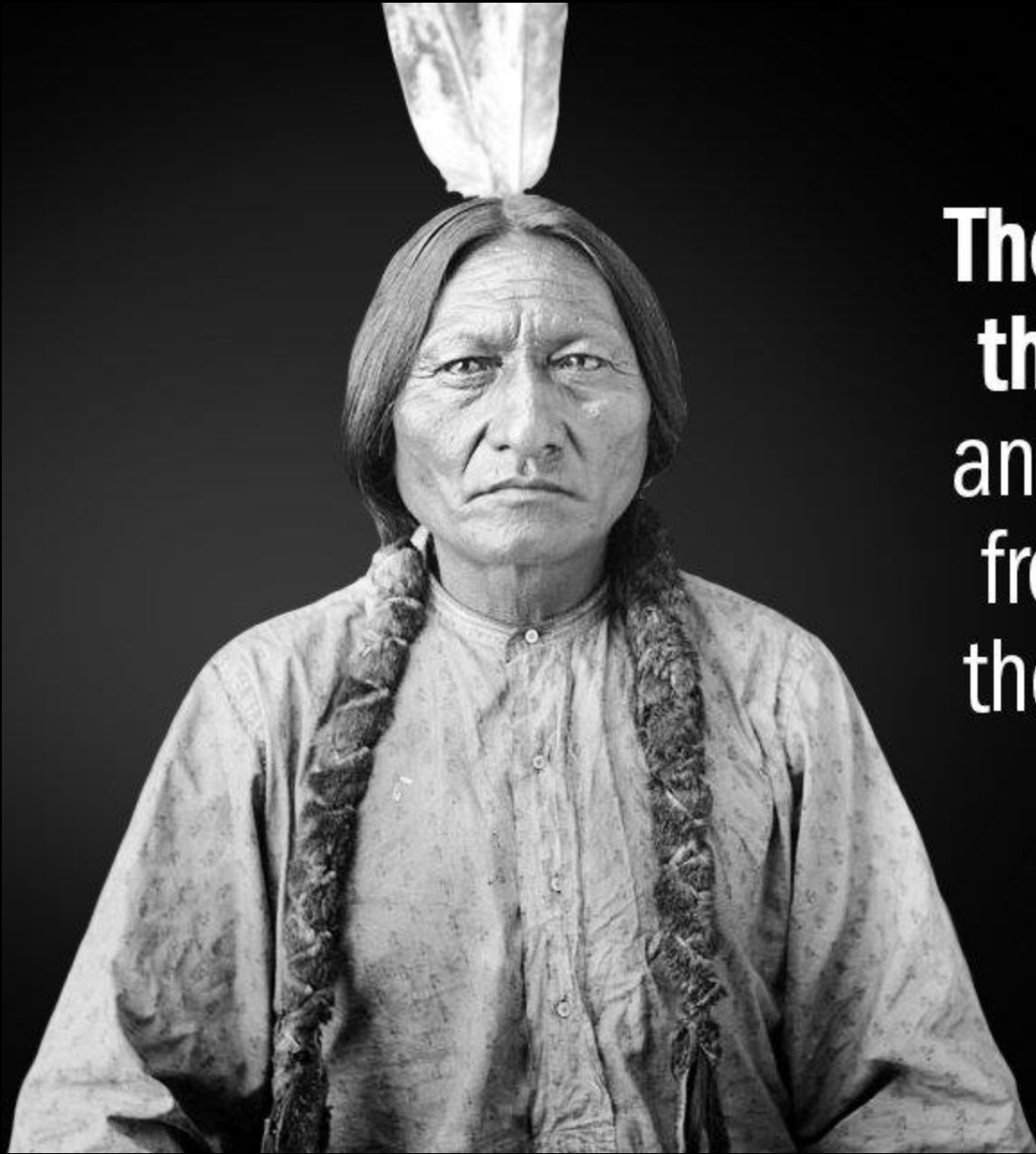
How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Romans 10:14

19 He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel.

20 He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the LORD.

Psalm 147:19-20



They claim this mother of ours,
the Earth, for their own use,
and fence their neighbors away
from her, and deface her with
their buildings and their refuse.

– Sitting Bull

AZ QUOTES



Argument #23

If gospel faith is the means of eternal life, then salvation depends on silver and gold funding.

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

I Peter 1:18

Whensoever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you: for I trust to see you in my journey, and to be brought on my way thitherward by you, if first I be somewhat filled with your company.

Romans 15:24

Argument #24

If gospel faith depends on money for missionaries,
then American selfishness determines eternal destiny.





Argument #25

If gospel faith is the way to heaven, then an age of accountability must be invented for children.

Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

Romans 5:14

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:23

Argument #26

Eternal destiny was settled before the world began with no alteration and only dependent on Jesus.

1 Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness;

2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;

Titus 1:1-3

Argument #27

What happens to the poor folk who are bewitched from the true gospel and have their faith overthrown?

O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

Galatians 3:1

16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.

II Timothy 2:16-18

Argument #28

Why did God choose means that He knew would result in no one being saved?

2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.

3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

4 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.

Psalm 14:2-4

Argument #29

If Paul got people saved by them believing his preaching, how could his work be in vain?

For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

I Thessalonians 3:5

We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

II Corinthians 6:1

Here Is the Further Method We Will Use

We have seven clear proofs of no human means.
Our doctrine is certain by testimony of scripture.

Let us add to the evidence by verses saying so.

Let us add to the evidence by logic of faith.

We then test popular, perverted verses.

Argument #30

BUT ... Revelation 3:20 says that all I have to do is let Jesus into my heart to get saved, Billy G. said so!

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Revelation 3:20

Revelation 3:20 Is Not About Eternal Life

It was written to a church of those already saved. The opportunity for them was greater fellowship. Nothing in the text or context is about eternal life. Such use of this text shows incredible ignorance. If it were a door to be saved, none would open it. More about the abuse and use of this verse, [here](#).

Argument #31

BUT ... Ephesians 2:8 says we are saved by our faith, for we must receive God's gift by faith.

For by grace are ye saved through faith;
and that not of yourselves:
it is the gift of God:

Ephesians 2:8

Do Not Abuse this Maligned Verse

Many say, “For by faith are ye saved through grace; and it depends entirely on yourselves: but we still call it the gift of God without works.”

Context Makes It Easy and Precious

Paul had clearly stated regeneration by grace (v.5).

Our faith is assurance, result, evidence, proof, and claim of salvation based on God's work.

Paul taught resurrection power to believe (1:19), by which faith we get our earnest.

It is not of ourselves (Jn 1:13; Rom 9:16).

Argument #32

BUT ... Romans 4:3 says all Abraham had to do was believe and it was counted to him for righteousness.

For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Romans 4:3

Abraham Was Saved Long Before

Abraham is Paul's favorite example of salvation.
But Abraham was saved long before Gen 15:6.
His belief was only evidence of righteousness.
More about the salvation of Abraham, [here](#).

Argument #33

BUT ... the Bible is quick and powerful and able to save souls like it is declared in Hebrews 4:12!

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

Hebrews 4:12-14

Argument #34

BUT ... the Bible says we are born again by the word of God which is preached unto us!

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

I Peter 1:23-25

Argument #35

BUT ... the Bible says we are begotten by the word of truth, which is by Bible preaching!

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

James 1:18

Argument #36

BUT ... I see it both ways via simultaneity, for God's part and man's part occur at the same time!

Simultaneity Is Wrong by God's Examples

God's favorite salvation examples are in the Bible. They are Abraham, John Baptist, Cornelius, Paul. They were all regenerated before any gospel faith. They show a gap between quickening and faith. There can be no gap in any idea of simultaneity.

For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

Romans 4:3

For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

Luke 1:44

1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band,
2 A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

Acts 10:1-2

And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me,
for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the
ministry;

I Timothy 1:12

Argument #37

BUT ... Paul said he was made all things and used all means that he might save some!

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

I Corinthians 9:22-23

Paul Did Not Use Means for Eternal Life

Paul used means to convert men, not regenerate.

He was willing to compromise liberty for faith.

He said that he endured all things for the elect.

We are willing to do the same for your faith.

The five phases explain this division [here](#).

Argument #38

BUT ... the Great Commission to preach the gospel to all to get them saved is a command of Jesus!

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mark 16:15-16

Have You Ever Read It Past a Sound Bite?

The next two verses list miracles you cannot do.

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Mark 16:17-18

Have You Ever Read It Past a Sound Bite?

The next two verses list miracles you cannot do.

The next two say the eleven did it as ordered.

19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Mark 16:19-20

The Gospel Went Worldwide by 70 A.D.

Jesus said it would before He destroyed Jerusalem.
There are about ten Bible statements confirming it.
Did I say Jesus promised it during that generation?

14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come....

34 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Matthew 24:14-35

Gospel Means

God Saves by His Sovereign Grace
and Power Alone, and Gospel Faith
Is Proof of Salvation, Not a Condition.

What Should We Do Then?

We must make our calling and election sure.

We must always give thanks to God for saving us.

We should seek God's elect to tell them about it.

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

II Peter 1:10

But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

II Thessalonians 2:13

Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

II Timothy 2:10

For Further Study

- Seven Proofs of Unconditional Salvation (Study; 1987) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-1987/seven-proofs-of-unconditional-salvation/>
- Five Phases of Salvation (Study; 1987) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-1987/five-phases-of-salvation/>
- Seven Proofs of Unconditional Salvation (Slides; 2019) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2019/how-are-you-saved/>
- Five Phases of Salvation (Slides; 2018) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2018/how-are-you-saved/>
- Salvation Problem Texts (Sermons; 2006) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2006/salvation-problem-texts/>
- Calvinism, Arminianism, Truth (Slides; 2017) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2017/calvinism-arminianism-and-the-truth-slides/>
- Calvinism, Arminianism, Truth (Sermons; 2006) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2006/calvinism-arminianism-and-the-truth/>
- Calvinism, Arminianism, Truth (Table; 2017) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2017/calvinism-arminianism-and-the-truth-chart/>
- When Was Cornelius Saved? (Sermon; 2004) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2004/when-was-cornelius-saved/>
- When Was Cornelius Saved (1)? (Slides; 2021) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2021/when-was-cornelius-saved-1/>
- When Was Cornelius Saved (2)? (Slides; 2021) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2021/when-was-cornelius-saved-2/>
- Election and Conversion (Slides; 2020) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2020/election-conversion/>
- Why Preach the Gospel? (Sermons; 2001) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2001/why-preach-the-gospel/>
- Why No Invitation? (Sermon Outline; 2002) ...** <https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2002/why-no-invitation/>