

FIVE FACTS EVERY PERSON MUST FACE!

Intro: As a boy I remember playing church with my brother. I was the “preacher” and he was the “song leader”. I remember drawing a set of stairs on a chalkboard and teaching what man must do to be saved. On the stairs were written hear, believer, repent, confess, be baptized. As a boy I knew what God required to be saved but I did not really understand the facts behind those commands that made them so important and that really compel us to do those things.

Today I want to share those fact also with you.

The glorious God who created us has revealed to us His will for our lives.

The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. (Psalm 19:1)

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (Genesis 1:26)

Can you conceive of a God who created this world and man as the head of it and yet never communicated with us, never declared to us His purpose for creating us? Clearly we cannot know the will of God simply by observation of the universe itself? Hence God has revealed His will to us. Cf. Ps. 19:7ff

The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. (Psalm 19:7)

When we have become sufficiently impressed with the testimony of the universe we will begin to seek the will of God. We will turn our minds to the word that claims to reveal His mind to us, His will for us. And we will—HEAR OR LISTEN TO GOD!

“No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. “It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught of God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me. (John 6:44-45)

The gospels of the NT contain the eye-witness & carefully researched testimony of the life of the most unique individual who every lived, Jesus of Nazareth, who claimed to be the son of God.

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of Life—and the life was manifested, and we have seen and bear witness and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us—what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, that you also may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. (1 John 1:1-3)

If we apply to the gospels the same principles of historical inquiry that we use of other documents that can be no doubt that the gospels accurately present the life of Jesus of Nazareth. The apostles had the opportunity to know the life of Jesus first hand and reported it with a sincerity that was proven by their willingness to give their lives for their report. Their testimony was originally accepted by reasonable people who could verify its truthfulness, and their writings were carefully authenticated and collected by the early church. They pass to us in thousands of manuscript copies that may be compared so that we know the message has been reliably transmitted.

Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)

The message of the apostles is that Jesus.

Claimed to be God

Demonstrated the works of God culminating in His resurrection from the dead.

Thus He was the Son of God.

When a reasonable person honestly confronts this testimony he will believe.

“I said therefore to you, that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins.” (John 8:24)

Indeed, to be saved we must believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

Every person of accountable age is under the wrath of God because he has violated the holy law of God.

And I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive, and I died; and this commandment, which was to result in life, proved to result in death for me; (Romans 7:9-10)

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23)

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, (Romans 1:18)

When we have seriously and honestly considered this fact our conscience will not let us rest until we have turned from our sins in repentance.

“I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. (Luke 13:3)

If we refuse to repent and receive God’s forgiveness, then we remain under the wrath of God and our heart will become harder and harder until our conscience doesn’t bother us any more!

All of us will give account of our earthly life before Jesus, our judge, at the last day.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. (2 Corinthians 5:10)

And we need also to know that He will do with us as we have done with Him!

“Everyone therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. “But whoever shall deny Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 10:32-33)

Think about what it will be like! I suggest that when we seriously consider this fact we will willingly and unashamedly acknowledge Christ to be what He claimed to be--God's son.

that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; 10 for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (Romans 10:9-10)

God loved us so much even though we were sinners against his law that he sent his son to die for our sins in order that through the cleansing of his blood can we be saved from God's wrath.

The Jesus who came to the world said he came for a purpose--to seek and save the lost (Lk. 19:10); to give himself a ransom for many (Mt. 20:28).

Likewise His apostles proclaimed His death:

As a sacrifice by God for the sins of the world--Heb. 2:9; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:24!

As an indication of God's wrath against sin--Rom. 3:25. Jesus' death was a propitiation for sin and indicated God's righteousness.

As a manifestation of the love of God for the sinner-Jn. 3:16

As the only hope of the forgiveness of sins--Eph. 1:7; 1 Pet. 3:18

When we honestly consider this fact in the light of our sins, we will want more than anything to unite yourself with the death of Christ. Out of trust in Him you will do as Paul said the Romans did, be "BAPTIZED into His death"!

Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? (Romans 6:3)

Conclusion: In other words, when we honestly consider the facts I have presented we will obey God's plan for you to be saved. H,B,R,C,B So simple; yet based on the most profound truths that we must understand and accept. Do you?