

This email is the *fifth in a series of articles* I've titled "GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW". Each future article builds upon previous articles, so if you need to review an earlier article, they are available online at [www.warnerschapelchurchofchrist.org](http://www.warnerschapelchurchofchrist.org) . It is my hope that these articles will be beneficial to everyone who receives them. Please share them with your friends and family members and feel free to email any questions or comments to me [David Moore] at [dmoore5@triad.rr.com](mailto:dmoore5@triad.rr.com) .

## **GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW!**

Gods wants you to know that you must believe in Jesus in order to have forgiveness of sin and eternal life. In John 8:24 (KJV) Jesus stated: "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins". In light of what Jesus said, we will consider several examples of people who manifested their love toward Jesus by believing in Jesus as a part of their obedience to the gospel of Christ. You will notice that in some cases the scripture literally states that they believed while in others it implies that they believed by describing what transpired. In either case it is obvious that those who were obedient to the gospel of Christ believed what they were taught about Jesus.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Acts many people were obedient to the gospel of Christ. When told they had crucified the same Jesus that God had made both Lord and Christ, verse 37 (KJV) states: "they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, men *and* brethren, what shall we do?" Although this verse doesn't literally say they believed, it implies that they believed Peter's preaching about Jesus because they were pricked in their heart and wanted to know what they must do.

In the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts a eunuch from Ethiopia was obedient to the gospel of Christ. After Phillip preached Jesus unto him, the eunuch said in verse 37 (KJV): "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Also in 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts, some people of Samaria were obedient to the gospel of Christ. Verse 12 (KJV) states: "they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ".

In the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts a jailer was obedient to the gospel of Christ. In verse 30 (KJV) he asked Paul and Silas: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" In verse 31 they answered: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved". Then verse 34 indicates that he "rejoiced, believing in God." Also in the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts, Lydia was obedient to the gospel of Christ. Verse 14 (KJV) states that Lydia "heard *us*: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul", which implies that she believed and was obedient to the gospel of Christ taught by Paul.

Based upon the above scriptures, belief in Jesus is prerequisite to forgiveness of sin and eternal salvation. In the next article we will consider the relationship between repentance, forgiveness of sin, and eternal salvation. "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath." (James 1:19 KJV)