**Acts 16:16-34 – Salvation Made Simple**

**I. The Simple Truth**

Acts 16:30-31 - And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

**II. Substantiated**

John 1:12 - But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:36 - He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Acts 10:43 - To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

Acts 13:39 - And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

Romans 10:9 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

**III. Formulated**

LBCF 7.2, 11.1, 11.2, 14.1, 16.2

Keach’s Catechism Q. 42

**IV. Contradicted**

Jesus says that on the day of judgment…people will “go away into eternal punishment” because they really failed to love their fellow believers: “As you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me” (Matt. 25:45-46). There is no doubt that Jesus saw some measure of real, lived-out obedience to the will of God as necessary for final salvation.

*In final salvation at the last judgment*, faith is confirmed by the sanctifying fruit it has borne, and we are saved through that fruit and that faith.

The stunning Christian answer is: sola fide—faith alone. But be sure you hear this carefully and precisely: He says *right with God* by faith alone, not *attain heaven*by faith alone. There are other conditions for attaining heaven*,* but no others for entering a right relationship to God. In fact, one must already be in a right relationship with God by faith alone in order to meet the other conditions.

The exclusive ground of the justification of the believer in the state of justification is the righteousness of Jesus Christ, but his obedience, which is simply the perseverance of the saints in the way of truth and righteousness, is necessary to his continuing in a state of justification.

The righteousness of Jesus Christ ever remains the exclusive ground of the believer’s justification, but the personal godliness of the believer is also necessary for his justification in the judgment of the last day.