

# Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2023.10.15

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## Sermon recordings

Click or type the short URL, or visit oakgrovecofc.org/Sermons.

**Speaker-AM:** Robbie Moreland

**Title:** Common Sins

**Recording:**

[oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/commo-n-sins/](http://oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/commo-n-sins/)

**Speaker-PM:** Tyler Glidden

**Title:** One Came Back

**Recording:**

[oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/one-came-back/](http://oakgrovecofc.org/sermons/one-came-back/)

Pride leads to disgrace,  
but with humility comes wisdom.  
**Proverbs 11:2**

**And the Lord turned, and  
looked on Peter. And  
Peter remembered the  
word of the Lord, how he  
had said to him, Before  
the cock crow...**

**—Luke 22:61**

### At What Moment in Faith? 10/12/2023 by Terry Wane Benton

Salvation is by grace through faith ([Ephesians 2:6,8](#)). Of this, there is no controversy. The question is, "At what moment in faith does salvation or remission of sins actually become ours through faith?" Has God designated an exact moment?

The answer is very clear unless one has an agenda guided by unbelief in the word of God. [Colossians 2:12](#) tells us that we are buried with Christ in baptism "*through faith in the operation of God.*" That means that we go down in the water with faith that God will "operate" and remove our sins. Thus, there is an exact moment in faith that salvation becomes our possession. The first case of conversions after Jesus' resurrection is given to us in Acts 2 where we see 3,000 Jews move from a state of sin and condemnation into a state of salvation. It is a case of 3,000 being saved by grace through faith, but the Holy Spirit shows us the exact moment in faith when salvation is brought into possession. Follow the text and make observations along the way.

#### Acts 2:36-42

36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." **(Not saved yet.)**

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" **(No saved yet.)**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**(If they do this they can be saved.** The **when** they could have remission of sins through faith is discussed here).

40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." **(Not saved yet.)**

41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. **(Now they are saved.)**

So, God told the 3,000 exactly the moment in faith they could have remission of sins. There is no doubt that they were saved through faith. The question is at what point in faith? It was **when** their faith moved them to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ **for** the remission of sins. If their faith did not move them to repent and be baptized in His name, then their faith would not have the right content and consistency.

Does just any faith claim qualify? No! The men in [John 12:42](#) "believed" in Jesus but would not confess Him. Was **that** faith enough to save them? No! So, there must be a faith that is willing to confess Jesus, repent of sins, and be baptized in His name. Without the right content of faith, it is not the faith that saves.

There is a precise moment when we become “*united together*” with Christ. Paul clearly says it is when we are “*baptized into Him*” ([Galatians 3:26-27](#); [Romans 6:3-6](#)). Believe what the Spirit said in Acts 2, and believe what the Spirit says in [Romans 6:3-6](#).

"Or do you not know that as many of us as were **baptized into Christ Jesus** were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been **united together** in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin."

Notice the moment in faith is precise. The 3,000 were not celebrating salvation until after baptism, not before. The Ethiopian Eunuch was not celebrating until after baptism because that is the precise moment in faith that he entered **into** Christ and was “*united together*” with Christ. This runs counter to modern denominational doctrine, but honesty demands that we accept the word of God over the ideas and doctrines of men. The Bible does tell us the precise moment when grace brings us into salvation through faith.

### **A Psalm of Repentance, 10/13/2023 By Sam Bunyard**

Students of the Bible are familiar with the account of Nathan confronting David about his sin with Bathsheba and the murderous cover-up that followed (II Sam. 12). We often talk about David’s reaction to Nathan when he was faced with his guilt. He did not make excuses or try to rationalize his harmful behavior. He simply confessed, “I have sinned against the Lord” (II Sam. 12:13). Because of his humble confession he was forgiven of his sin.

Great emotion was behind David’s confession, as demonstrated in Psalm 51. His prayer to God was more than a simple “I’m sorry, please forgive me.” In begging for mercy from God, David recognized his guilt in a profound way.

“I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight” (Ps. 51:3-4). Of course, David had sinned against Bathsheba as well in making her an adulteress. He had sinned against Uriah by sleeping with his wife and having him killed. He had sinned against many people by his corruption trying to hide his sin. But he recognized he had wronged God more than anyone else!

David’s repentance went beyond feeling sorry. “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me” (Ps. 51:10). David asked God to help him change – to be restored to his previous state as “a man after God’s own heart” (I Sam. 13:14)!

David recognized his need to continue to serve God; but this would not be productive until his heart was restored. “You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it... the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart... then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness” (Ps. 51:16-19). We should all look to David as an example of repentance.