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THE BEATITUDES

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit, For
Theirs Is The Kingdom Of Heaven

Matt. 5:3

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **The sermon on the mount.**

- **Moses had gone up the mountain to receive the law, Jesus preaches from the mountain the true spirit of the law.**
- **The beatitudes are characteristics that differentiate the children of God from the rest.**
- **These do not describe 8 types of people, but every follower of Christ must manifest these characteristics.**

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **Why the beatitudes?**

- These are not a Christian version of the 10 Commandments.

- This is the response of Jesus to the teachings of religious leaders of the day:

- The Zealot's attitude was "don't worry about your spiritual life, our hope is in our military might"

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **Why the beatitudes?**

- These are not a Christian version of the 10 Commandments.
- This is the response of Jesus to the teachings of religious leaders of the day:
 - The Sadducee's attitude was "we can only survive by compromising with the world, so negotiate the best bargain you can"

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **Why the beatitudes?**

- These are not a Christian version of the 10 Commandments.
- This is the response of Jesus to the teachings of religious leaders of the day:
 - The Pharisee's attitude was "live a clean, ritually pure life and trust in God, He will do the rest"

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **Why the beatitudes?**

- Jesus offered the people the true solution.

- He did not say “live like this and you will be my disciple”

- But His sermon presented the idea of “if you are my disciple, then live like this”

- With the beatitudes, Jesus shows that happiness does not depend on outward circumstances. ***Luke 12:15***

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **Blessed are the poor in spirit.**
 - Not financially poor, no inherit value in that. ***Prov. 30:7-9***
 - Poor can be just as evil as the rich, rich can be just as faithful as the poor. ***Matt. 18:23-34 vs. Gen. 13:2***
 - Nor is He talking about being poor-spirited. ***Titus 1:15***

Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **What does poor in spirit mean?**

- It is to recognize we are empty and have nothing to offer to God.

- Ps. 8:3-4 Cf. Luke 18:9-14***

- This Pharisee seemed to think that God was lucky he was on His side!

- Paul on the other hand placed no confidence in self, but in Christ. ***2 Cor. 4:5; Phil. 1:21a***

- It is to understand that we cannot direct ourselves, that we depend on the Lord. ***Jer. 10:23; John 15:5 Exam. Matt. 15:22-28***

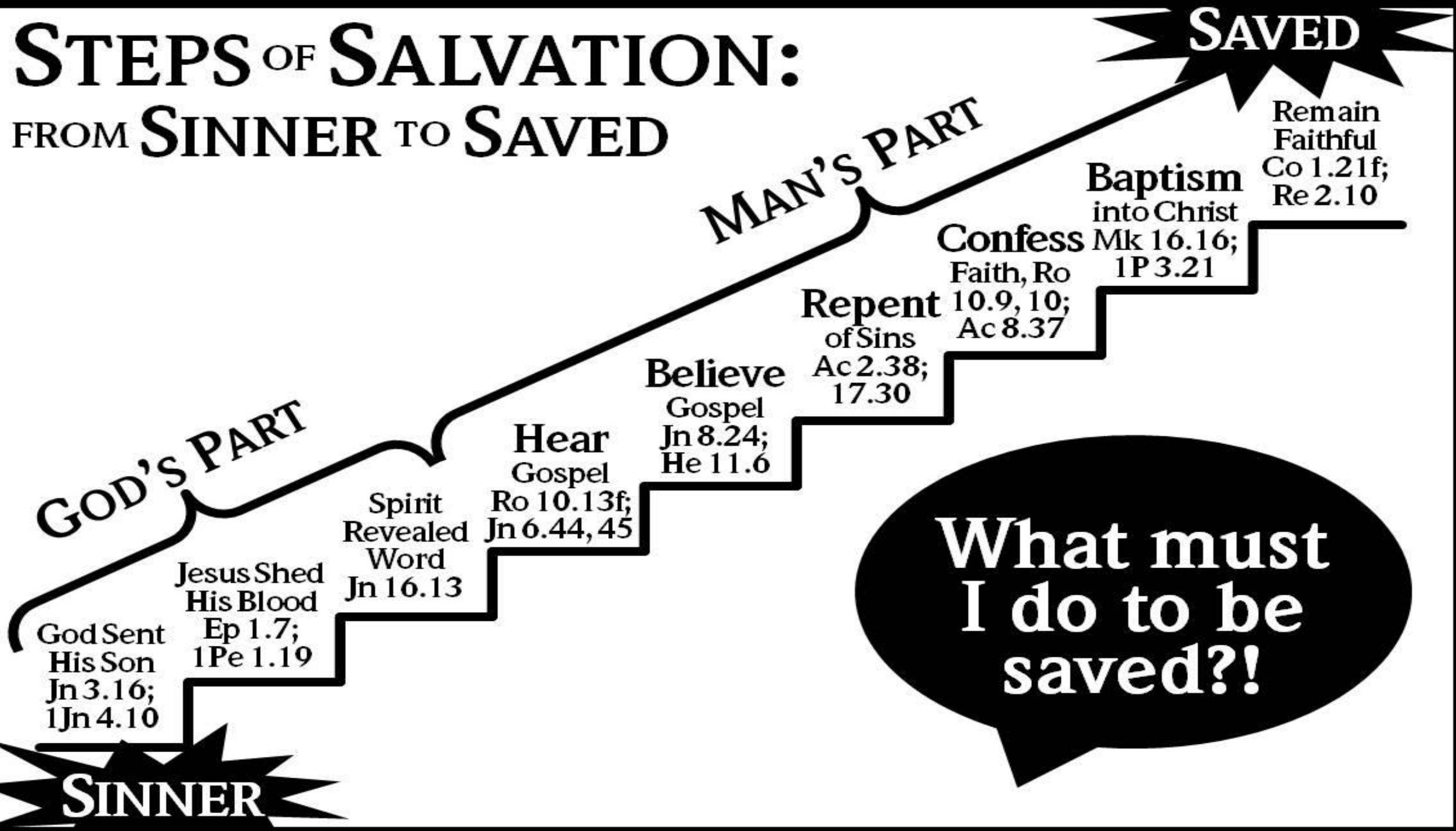
Blessed Are The Poor In Spirit...

Matt. 5:3

- **For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**
 - Not a future kingdom, but the kingdom of God is composed of such. ***Matt. 11:11; Matt. 18:3-4***
 - The poor in spirit will be the servants of others.
Phil. 2:3-8; John 13:34-35
 - The kingdom is the consequence of, not the reward for, being poor in spirit. ***Isa. 57:15; 66:2; James 4:6; 10***

STEPS OF SALVATION:

FROM **SINNER** TO **SAVED**



GOD'S PART

MAN'S PART

What must I do to be saved?!

SINNER

SAVED