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THE BEATITUDES

Blessed Are Those Who Have Been
Persecuted For The Sake Of Righteousness

Matt 5:10-12

Blessed Are Those Who Have Been Persecuted For The Sake Of Righteousness... *Matt 5:10-12*

- **Some things to keep in mind:**

- Not all persecution is blessed. *1 Pet. 4:14-16*

- Persecution that is blessed is one cause by righteous living.
John 3:19-20; 2 Cor. 2:14-16

- God's ways may be contrary to the ways of the world.
John 15:19-20

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- **Why is there persecution when one lives after righteousness?**
 - Righteous living is a constant rebuke of sin.
 - Noah condemned the world by his life. *Heb. 11:7*
 - Lot's unwillingness to partake in the sin of Sodom made him hated. *Gen. 19:9; 2 Pet. 2:8*
 - Righteous living will make every effort to stop the progress of sin. *John 2:13-16*

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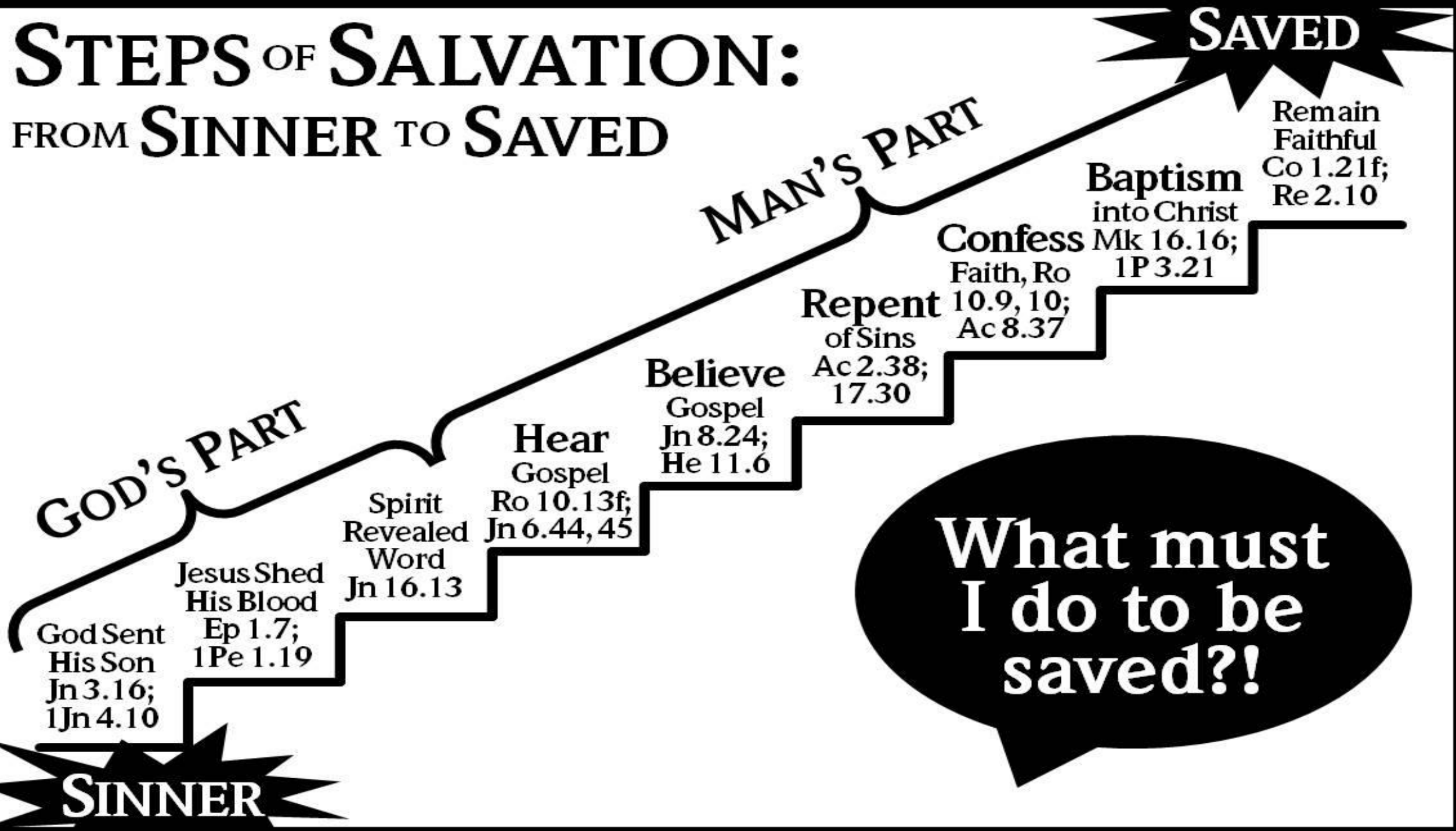
- What should our attitude be when facing persecution for the sake of righteousness?
 - Don't seek your own vengeance. *Rom. 12:17-21*
 - Don't give up! *Gal. 6:9*
 - Pray for those who persecute you. *Matt. 5:43-45; Luke 6:35*
 - Remember that these will refine and strengthen our faith. *1 Pet. 1:6-9; James 1:2-4*

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- **What should be our reaction when facing persecutions?**
 - Rejoice and be glad! *Matt. 5:11-12; Acts 5:40-41*
 - Why?
 - Because we are in the company of the faithful of old.
Heb. 11:32-40
 - Because this finds approval before God.
Gal. 1:10; Phil. 1:28-30
 - Because of the reward waiting for us in heaven.
James 1:12; Rev. 2:10

STEPS OF SALVATION:

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



What must I do to be saved?!