

Who Wants You to be Baptized?

Compiled by Paul R. Blake

Introduction:

A. Bill Robinson, Sr. was looking for a church for him and his new bride to become members. He had visited a number of denominations in Fontana, CA, but found nothing that satisfied his heart or mind. He heard of the church of Christ eleven blocks away, and found out that they were having a gospel meeting. He attended the first service on a Sunday with his wife, and began going every night of the meeting, walking 22 large city blocks round trip, occasionally in the rain. It was a two week meeting, and on the last night, the meeting preacher learned that Bill was not a Christian. He had assumed that Bill was a member because he didn't miss a night of the meeting. The preacher asked him, "Well, you have been coming for two weeks hearing gospel sermons. Why haven't you been baptized?" Bill responded, "No one asked me."

B. Many people know the gospel and especially know that they must obey it, but are hesitating for some reason.

1. Perhaps you have not been directly asked, or have been asked but are uncertain about responding.
2. God created us to be social beings; we need human contact and interaction in order to thrive.
3. Most of the choices large and small that we make in this life are influenced at some level for good or ill by others around us.
4. This decision is no different; while you make it alone, you cannot escape the fact that Christianity is a teaching religion, where one person by means of the gospel tries to persuade another to be saved.

C. Who wants you to be saved?

I. GOD

- A. You are the focus of His plan of redemption since before sin entered the world
1. 1Tim. 2:3-4; John 3:16; 2Peter 3:9; Rom. 8:32
- B. The First Cause of all things, your Maker and Sustainer, the All-Powerful, All-Knowing, All-Seeing, All Wise, Always Loving God wants you to be saved.
1. Why?! So you can come live in your own room in His house in Heaven

II. ANGELS

- A. Does this surprise you? - Luke 15:10
1. The angels understand how wonderful God's plan is, how great His love for you is, and how much more glorious Heaven will be with you there

III. CHRISTIANS

- A. Rom. 10:1; Acts 26:29; Gal. 4:11-16; 2Cor. 11:23-29; 1Thes. 2:4-12
Rev. 22:18

VI. THE DEAD

- A. Luke 16:22-31
- B. All who have died in sin want you to be saved and avoid their fate.

Conclusion:

- A. But you have to want to be saved in order to be saved
 - 1. All forces for good want you to be saved
 - 2. All of the unsaved dead want you to be saved
 - 3. All of those who love you want you to be saved
 - 4. By comparison, the forces that want you to be lost are fewer and far less powerful
- B. But the only relevant question at this juncture is: Why don't you want to be saved?