
IGNORANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Introduction:

1) *What does it take to be saved?*

- a) **Hear** — Romans 10:17.
- b) **Believe** — Hebrews 11:6.
- c) **Repent** — Luke 13:3.
- d) **Confess** — Romans 10:9.
- e) **Be baptized** — Galatians 3:27.
- f) **Live faithfully** — Acts 14:21-22.



2) **Why is sincerity not enough?**

I. Two examples of religious sincere people:

A. **NICODEMUS.**

1. Religious—A Pharisee.
2. Devout—A ruler of the Jews.
3. Devoted—He came to Jesus.

B. **CORNELIUS.**

1. Religious—
 - a. ...One that feared God.
 - b. ...One who had a godly home.
 - c. ...One who gave to the poor.
 - d. ...One who prayed to God always.
2. Devout—the Bible says so.

C. *Both men were lost without God.*

D. Interestingly, God made sure that both learned the truth that could make them free.

E. Will He not work in the same way today? Consider Paul.



II. Scriptural insight:

A. **TYPES** of ignorance:

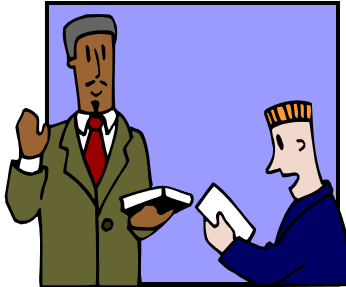
1. Some have never been taught.
2. Some have never been willing.
3. Some do not have the ability to understand.

B. Acts 17:23, 30.

C. Romans 1:20.

D. John 14:26.

E. Acts 4:12.



III. This puts the responsibility on us!

A. Acts 2:1-4:

1. The Holy Spirit did not teach them.
2. God required the apostles to teach them.

B. Acts 8:26-35:

1. The angel did not teach the eunuch.
2. Philip had to go and teach him.

C. Acts 9:3-6:

1. Jesus did not teach Paul.
2. Ananias had to go and teach him.



Conclusion:

1. If ignorance were an excuse, Jesus would not be the only way.
2. Ignorance is not an excuse in any other part of life.
3. **If ignorance were an excuse, evangelism would be dangerous!**

*When an honest person comes in contact with the gospel,
he will either accept it or he will cease to be honest.*