

## You Have to Hear the Prerequisites, Part 1

Today we got an e-mail from a Christian watchdog society. They are up in arms. We are a little contrary to their established doctrine. Jesse wrote to them as someone outside, just in the world, wanting to know what they thought of our paper. They've written about us and it is clear that they have no understanding of the word, "believe."

They take it the way the word *believe* is used nowadays. "Where is that rake?"

"I believe it is outside the barn, but I am not sure."

They say this as if there were not pre-requisites to what the word *believe* means, but our Master said there were. Many *believed* in His name because they saw His miracles, but on His part, He didn't *entrust* Himself to them. Jn 2:23-24 – There are the words *entrust* and *believe*. They are the same word in the Greek. The fact that He didn't believe in them or entrust Himself to them means they believed in their brain, which anybody can do. But nobody can believe in his heart without faith, without totally entrusting himself to our Master. If someone is a youth in the world, he can do it after he reaches legal age to come in and surrender himself to our Master.

No one can come in without coming out from under the sway of his parents. After a while, it shows where the seed didn't go into the fertile soil to produce fruit. If you don't renounce your parents' rights to direct you, there is no salvation, because that is a prerequisite (Mt 10:34-37). The parents come and say you have to leave that group and you are afraid of them, because they still have authority in your life.

You didn't renounce their authority over you. If they still have it, then of course you didn't believe. You didn't actually surrender to His authority. You didn't surrender to the greater king. That is just one of the prerequisites, as Mk 10:29-30 speaks to us what believing is. If you don't give up all those things, your house, sister, brother, wife, etc., then you don't actually *believe*. The gospel is the comprehensive gospel.

## **The Day of Pentecost and the Philippian Jailer**

On Pentecost, the people cried out, “What shall we do?”

Peter responded, “Believe on the Sovereign and be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

But they couldn't be saved without hearing the prerequisite. That is why Peter went on in verse 40 with the many other words. He went on and on, expounding for hours, perhaps, the many other words. He knew they couldn't be saved without hearing and obeying the prerequisites. So, he told them the many other things our Master commanded them to when they preached the good news. In Mt 28:18-20 He told them, “Make sure you tell them the many other words.”

It is just like the silly understanding of the jailer. In those days the jailer would have been killed if he had lost any prisoners. So the man asked, “What must I do to be saved?”

Paul said, “Believe on the Sovereign Messiah Yahshua and you shall be saved, you and all your house.”

The jailer didn't say, “Okay, I believe” and he was saved.

He brought Peter and Silas back to his house and there they heard the many other words. After that, they were baptized (Acts 16:32-33). They had to hear the prerequisites.

But I never heard Acts 16:32-33 in Christianity. Peter went to his house and told him and his family everything that the gospel entailed. In Jerusalem among the million people there, only three thousand believed. After he told them the prerequisites and what it entailed, what the comprehensive gospel was, the three thousand rejoiced and were saved. The rest walked away like the rich young ruler. The believers didn't have a problem with the comprehensive gospel. They knew there were great needs in the Body and that some people had come without any means.

When you are saved that is all that matters: “Yes, I am saved. I have salvation. What difference does it make about all the things I left behind?”

They were devoted to the four things of Acts 2:42. Such people have no problem with submitting. Not any one with possessions had any trouble. But if the seed had not been implanted in their hearts, then they would say, “I didn’t know this is what it meant to believe and now it is time to say goodbye.”

And there were Ananias and Sapphira...

Then Matthew 13 speaks of the time of testing after the seed is sown. It is a time of testing and understanding to see who has received the true gospel and who hasn’t. You will see who has and who hasn’t received the seed in the true soil and who will bear fruit and who won’t. We will be talking about this tomorrow. I just wanted to introduce it tonight.

### **Demanding Relatives**

You will have problems with demanding fathers. If the parents won’t come here to visit you, you can’t go there. We don’t know what their agenda is. You can’t trust them. They are liable to turn you over to some headshrinker. You can trust the parents who come here and see our lives. They spend time with us and come to trust us. But we don’t have to go there every Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. We are not a suitcase college that empties out on weekends and holidays. It is wonderful we have more parents than not that are thankful their children are here.

Elliot’s father has not been here, but it seems that his mother is favorable. Elliot’s father has no authority over him because Messiah is his authority. If he were to let his father persuade him to leave, then he has not met the requirements of the gospel. It is not hard for us to see the parable of the sower and the seed. In Christianity it doesn’t even apply. What difference does it make when all you do is go to church once a week?

It is hard for parents. They spend all this money to send their child to college and then he goes and joins a cult. Still, that is the gospel. The gospel is everything or nothing to a person, either saving or condemning him, if you know what I mean. It is not that we don't respect parents, but we can't respect the ones that believe the liars. Someone, either Bob Pardon or the spirit of Satan himself, is lying to them. "A liar pays attention to malicious lips" (Pr 17:4). They become accusers of the brethren. Do you understand?

Yowceph Rodriguez – It reminds me of when I came to the Community. I called my parents up and told them I had joined. I had just graduated from college. I told my father, "I believed in God" and he said, "What do you mean? You've done that your whole life."

He hung up and didn't talk to us for ten years. Finally, my parents came to Sus. Then they saw everything that was going on. They took part in our lives and were amazed. My father even worked in the bakery with us. "Son," he said, "I didn't understand. Now I see what is going on."

It was a hard battle for Abigail's father. We went to see him in Florida and it was like a total bombardment the whole time. I remember feeling a pull at one time and I said, "No, no way," and we went back to Chattanooga.

They were saying things like, "What are you doing? You are wasting your life?" They wanted us to go back to our old life. It was a forceful thing to totally cut that off. The requirements of the gospel include giving up your life, your possessions, and everything you have, even your relatives, to our Master Yahshua. That is what it means to truly believe. I am thankful for that. I am thankful that is what I did.

Yowceph would have been a famous preacher by now. He would be the Reverend José Rodriguez. He wrote how they did it, exposing the process of turning you into a sorcerer.<sup>1</sup>

Yowceph Rodriguez – They call it the "Ministry of Preaching" class and they videotape you. You have to do everything right. They tell you how to dress, how to open your sermon, telling a story, when to tell jokes, and then your closing statement, and the "altar call."

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<sup>1</sup> He wrote about this in the article, "I Was Trained to be Sorcerer," which was in the first Billy Graham paper.

You have to say things in a “reverend” way.

Yowceph Rodriguez – I got a C- in that class. I didn’t like dressing up in a three-piece suit.

The reason they didn’t like him is because they couldn’t get him to speak in tongues, even though they laid hands on him.

Bathsheva – When I came back to the community that is what people said to me, “What about your future?” I heard the same kinds of things. I am so thankful that we have no future apart from our Master Yahshua. This planet has no future apart from His Kingdom being established.

Yes, believing means leaning your entire personality on Him in faith and trust in every way, withholding nothing. If you withhold anything, there is no salvation. Mk 10:29-30 — There will be persecution with eternal life. People will say bad things about us. If you believe, you have to be persecuted. All those who desire to live a godly life in Messiah Yahshua will be persecuted. It has to be this way because there is evil on every side of us.

We are separate from the world. We have nothing to do with it. We just evangelize to bring people out of it. We try to have as little to do with the world as possible, just as Paul said. I am thankful that is what salvation is. Anything less than that, I reject it, because my Savior is worth everything. I grew up under a Jesus that didn’t work, a Spirit that didn’t work, and a gospel that didn’t work. We have been brought out of that and now we are outside the camp of organized religion. That is where He is. We have to go outside the camp of organized religion to where He is (Heb 13:13).

Yowceph Rodriguez – We have to bear the reproach.

That’s right. That is where the reproach is. Some people leave after five or ten years, or six months, because the seed didn’t go into fertile soil. They think about their future in the world and not their eternal future. They had the opportunity every day in the Edah to surrender to our Master Yahshua and give up their lives. There will be no excuse for them; that is why it says that their guilt remains in Jn 9:41. They are worthy

of the second death. They hear the good news from those who have the Holy Spirit and are living by the Holy Spirit. They have no need to be judged by their deeds. They go on to the second death apart from the judgment everyone else goes to. There is no need, for they have rejected the good news, proving themselves unworthy of our Master Yahshua (Acts 13:46). This applies even if you are born here.