

**SLB-026**

**11-12-06**

**The Spiritual Life Techniques (SLT):  
Phase I Techniques Continued -  
Repentance  
Reliance**

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- 5. Believe and Repent of your sins.
- John 3:16-17 *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. **For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.**"*

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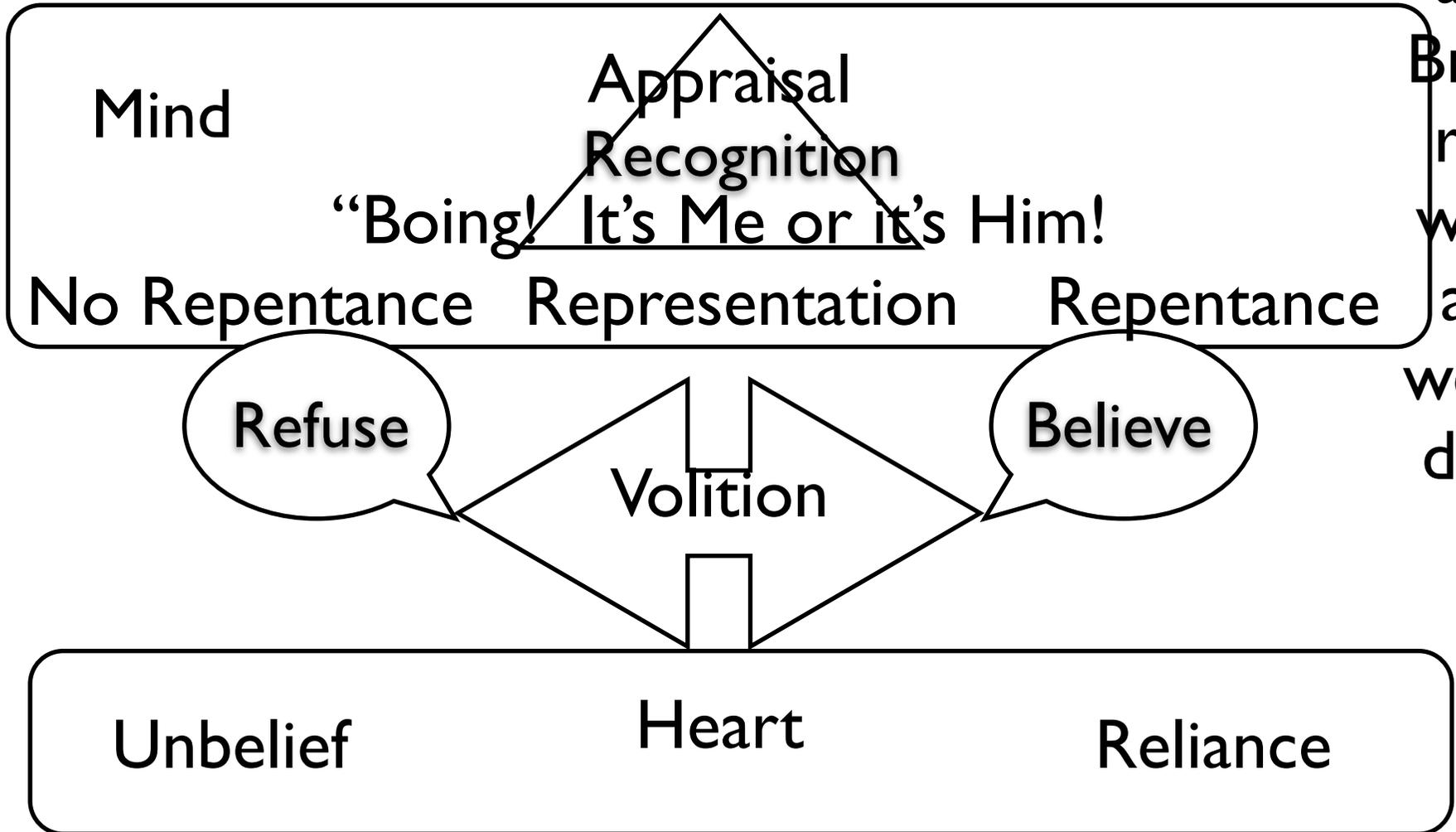
- Repentance:
  - There are 150 salvation statements with “faith” or “believe”, but without “repentance”.
  - When the true meaning of repentance is known, metanoeo - change your thinking, it is obvious that repentance is a part of the believing process, and a direct result of the Recognition process.
  - When one recognizes that nothing BUT Christ will do, we are forced to change our mind.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation Diagram

"Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life" John 5:40.

The Father Draws  
The Holy Spirit Convinces by means of the Word

"Men and Brethren, what are we to do?"



# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- Repentance does NOT mean “give up sinning”, it means “change your mind”.
- Not one verse has in the context the hint of personal sins as the object of repentance.
- It is clear that the object of repentance is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and to “give it or Him up” would be ludicrous.

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- Repentance:
- Note the juxtaposition, not with “sins”, but with “faith” and “believing”:
- "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; **repent**, and **believe** in the good news." Mark 1:15.
- "John baptized with the baptism of **repentance**, telling the people to **believe** in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." (Acts 19:4, ESV)
- In Acts 20, Paul tells the Ephesian elders in his farewell address to them that the message he preached was of "**repentance** toward God and **faith** in our Lord Jesus Christ".

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- One further passage makes the connection.
- The author of Hebrews says his recipients don't need to keep laying the basic foundation but need to move on to deeper things.
- That basic foundation is " of **repentance** from dead works and of **faith** toward God".
- Dead works is not a description of personal sins, but of "religion", Legalism, Human Good.
- "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...", said Peter (Acts 3:19).
- NOTE, that it doesn't say, Repent and blot out your own sins!

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Similarly, on Pentecost, AD 31, in response to their cry, *“What shall we do”*, Peter instructed the assembled crowd, *“Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”* (Acts 2:38).
- The key to understanding this is what prompted their cry?
- Acts 2:36 - *“Therefore, let all the House of Israel know assuredly, that God has made this same Jesus, whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ (Messiah).”*
- That is what they needed to repent, to change their minds concerning.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Sin, we see, is not always a bad deed. Sometimes we sin by not doing what is required. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).
- To repent of sin, then, simply means to "change thinking." We turn from the way of "self-reliance" and "Me" to the way of "Faith" and "Him."
- We stop trusting the insufficient belief systems of our own flesh (ISNA) and turn to Reliance on His System.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from [thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))
- When we begin demonstrating our willingness to change and ask God to forgive our past way of life, He applies the sacrifice of Christ on our behalf. We are then freed from the crushing guilt of sin and its penalty. We are forgiven and our conscience is cleared. The penalty of sin — eternal death — no longer hangs over our head.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from [thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))
- Those whom God will ultimately change from mortal humans to the divine likeness of God—those who will be born as the very sons of God—are those who repent of this "natural" state of mind and its past sinful actions, and then strive to overcome it from that point on.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from [thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))
- God wants everyone of us to eventually become like Him. Therefore He wants us to turn from and strive to overcome the evil influence of the devil's attitude on our thinking and doing while still flesh and blood. This is essentially what repentance is all about!
- The time of repentance is the crisis of your life. It is the turning point in your entire destiny!

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from [thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))
- When we are finally brought to real repentance, we mean business. We are ready, in every phase of our lives, to say: "Yes, Lord...your will be done." In real repentance, we have become completely sick and tired of our own selfish ways. We are truly sorry for our sins—and we are ready and willing to make a permanent change. We are now ready to "turn around and go the other way"—GOD'S way.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from [thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))
- Isn't this clearly why Jesus said what He did to the young rich man? Matthew 19:16-17. Did Jesus enumerate enough of the commandments to make it clear He was indeed talking about the TEN COMMANDMENTS? Verses 18-19.
- COMMENT: Because we can't save ourselves and can't keep God's law perfectly of ourselves, the prevalent teaching today is that Jesus did it all for us—that we don't have to do anything except believe He did it all for us and accept Him as our Savior. Thus, millions today have been led to believe that God imputes Jesus' righteousness to us, counting us as righteous because of His righteousness—while we continue sinning.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from [thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))
- Nothing could be further from the truth!
- Jesus did not live a good life for us—in our stead.
- We are not excused from keeping God's commandments, striving to live a righteous life, overcoming and growing in spiritual character.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from [thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))
- Beware of False Repentance
- Don't make the mistake of overlooking repentance as a necessary step to salvation. Don't assume that you can be made right with God by some man-devised method which is falsely called "repentance."
- Repentance is not only a matter of feeling. It is not just a matter of stirring up one's emotions. It is a matter of heart and mind as well as emotion. It is a heartfelt realization that you have thought, spoken, and lived contrary to God's spiritual laws and that you should QUIT doing so!  
([thetruegospel.org](http://thetruegospel.org))

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- Basic Doctrines: Repentance
- by Staff  
Forerunner, "Bible Study," January 1999
- "Repent!"—a word long shouted by hellfire-and-brimstone preachers—is tailored to "scare the hell" out of people and put the fear of God in people. In God's church, we might half-jokingly use it to inform others of a bad attitude and the need to change. It can become a catch-all phrase that loses its God-emphasized meaning in our lives, yet the Bible frequently uses "repent" and similar words. On that basis, true godly repentance is of primary importance.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: by John G. Reisinger
- We often ask people, "When were you baptized?" but it is quite rare to ask, "When did you repent?" Yet repentance and baptism are linked biblically and inseparable. How does one repent?
- ONE: A man must repent and believe in order to be saved. No one was ever forgiven and made a child of God who did not willingly turn from sin to Christ. Nowhere does the Bible even hint that men can be saved without repentance and faith, but to the contrary, the Word always states these things are essential before a person can be saved. The one and only Bible answer to the question "What must I do to be saved?" is "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- **Repentance: by John G. Reisinger**
- Repentance and faith are not vicarious but are the free acts of men. Men, with their own mind, heart, and will must renounce sin and receive Christ. God doesn't repent and believe for us -- we repent and believe. Turning from sin and reaching out in faith to Christ are the acts of man, and every man who so responds to the gospel call does so because he honestly desires to do so. He wants to be forgiven and he can only be forgiven by repenting and believing. No one, including God, can turn from sin for us, we must do it. No one can trust Christ "in our place," we must personally, knowingly, and willingly trust Him in order to be saved.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- Steps in Salvation (False Doctrine)
  - Step 1 -- Hear the Word
  - Step 2 -- Believe the Word
  - Step 3 -- Repent of Sin
  - Step 4 -- Confess Christ
  - Step 5 -- Be Baptized
  - Step 6 -- Remain Faithful
- [thebiblespeaks.com](http://thebiblespeaks.com)

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from CCEL.US)
- If repentance could be described in two words, I would use the words "turning around."
- Turn around from what you ask.
- The answer can be given in one word — "sin."
- The Bible teaches, as we have already seen, that sin is a transgression of the law.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance: (False Doctrine from CCEL.US)
- We know that salvation is based entirely upon the grace of God.
- The Bible says that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, and it also says, "The righteous man shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17).
- Salvation, forgiveness, and justification are based entirely upon the atoning work of Christ.
- However, if the sacrifice of Christ on the cross is to be made effectual for any individual of any age, that individual must repent of sin and accept Christ by faith. (ccel.us)

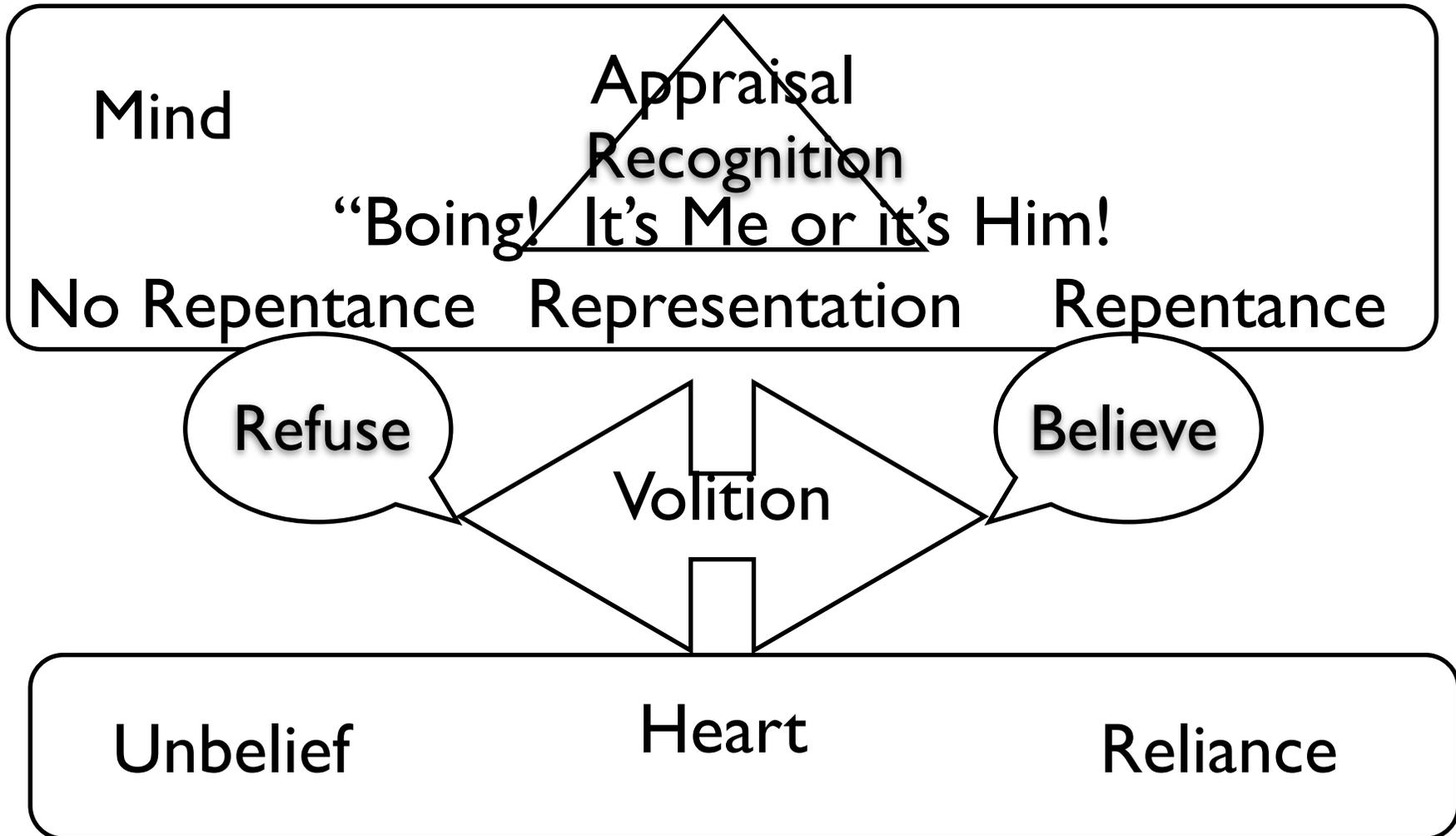
# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- Repentance is part of the process of Believing.
- It is the result of Recognition in the Appraisal Process on the part of the hearer who then is faced with the decision to choose Reliance on Christ.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation Diagram

"Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life" John 5:40.

The Father Draws  
The Holy Spirit Convinces by means of the Word



# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Rely:
- tr.v., -lied, -ly·ing, -lies.
  - 1. To be dependent for support, help, or supply: relies on her parents for tuition.
  - 2. To place or have faith or confidence: relied on them to tell him the truth.
- [Middle English *relien*, to rally, from Old French *relier*, from Latin *religāre*, to bind fast : *re-*, *re-* + *ligāre*, to bind.]
- Reliance: n.
  - 1. The act of relying or the state of being reliant.
  - 2. The faith, confidence, or trust felt by one who relies; dependence. See synonyms at trust.
  - 3. One relied on; a mainstay.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Reliance:
- The Lord Jesus did not teach that saving faith was a simple matter. Far from it. Instead of declaring that the saving of the soul was an easy thing, which many would participate in, He said:
- "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:14).
- "We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God" (Acts 14:22):
- "Strive to enter in at the strait gate" (Luke 13:24).
- "How hard it is for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:24,25).

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- Reliance:
- "Why call ye me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46);
- "Not everyone that saith unto me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

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- Reliance
- Robert McLaughlin:
- “Salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Faith is the only system of perception that is totally devoid of any human merit. Only the object has merit, and in salvation the object of faith is Our Lord Jesus Christ. No one has ever been saved by asking Jesus to come into his heart or life. How much faith does it take to be saved? It takes just a little bit more than no faith at all.

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- Reliance
- The perfect salvation work of Christ on the cross, which is called expiation, excludes anything else being added to faith.
- No works of any kind are allowed. **Ephesians 2:8-9**, *For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that [salvation] not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Reliance
- “What is grace in relationship to salvation? Grace is all that God is free to do for unsaved mankind on the basis of the saving work of Christ on the cross. Grace is extended to unbelievers, who are living under spiritual death in total depravity and total helplessness regarding salvation. Therefore, salvation is a matter of grace, and entirely the work of God. Salvation is the work of the Father in judging our sins, the work of the Son in being judged for our sins, and the work of the Holy Spirit in common and efficacious grace. This is why the way of salvation is faith in Jesus Christ -- faith alone with no works or emotions added to it.”  
- Robert McLaughlin

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Reliance:
- In the words of our Lord Himself, 'Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity' [Matt. 7:21-23]. He does not dispute the facts that these people put forward - they have done all these things. All He says is, 'I am not interested, I never was.' He will have nothing to do with them. There they are, very pleased with themselves, and expecting the chief place but are excluded. 'Going about to establish their

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Reliance:
- *Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.*  
Romans 10:1-3
- We are saved by 'coming to a knowledge of the truth about God's Righteousness', not our righteousness; so that if we do not have that knowledge, we cannot be saved.
- Note well, as we close, Paul does not pray that they would give up their personal sins to be saved, as is commonly presented today!