

I do agree that Paul was saved before he was baptized in water and the scriptures teach this.

An example of believing is Abraham , Romans 4:3 where the writer records “ Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness”. Abraham was declared righteous and he never was baptized in water. Surely you would not argue that Abraham was not declared righteous.

Another example of believing is the malefactor on the cross beside the Lord. This man had not been baptized in water with the Mark 16:16 commission or with your ceremonial baptism. Acts 22:16 Let us listen to the scriptural witness of the thief saying at Luke 23:40 “Dost not thou fear God seeing thou art in the same condemnation? (41) “ and we indeed justly for we receive the due reward of our deeds but this Man hath done nothing amiss.” (42) And he said unto Jesus , Lord remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom”. (43) “ and Jesus said unto him, verily, I say unto thee today shalt thou be with Me in PARADISE. Paradise is described in Genesis 2 as lost, it's restoration spoken of by the Lord in Luke 23:43, seen in a vision by Paul 2 Corinthians 12:2,4, as promised at Revelation 2:7 and as restored Revelation 22:1-5,14-17.

Mr. Campbellite, are you going to argue that after they both died there at Calvary that the thief was not going to be in paradise with Christ?

Christ didn't tell him “to be baptized in water to wash away your sins” but He knew the thief's heart so the ultimate preacher declared him righteous when he said “ Today shalt thou be with me in paradise”. The same place that man had lost in Genesis 3.

Now back to Abraham, he heard God and believed God, Romans 10:17 and he had the ultimate preacher (the Lord of Glory) to declare him righteous.

Romans 10:13,14,15 applies here. “For whomever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”. It doesn't say those that are baptized in water shall be saved.

Then Romans 10:14 makes a startling statement. “ How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?” and