

## Modified National Association of Evangelicals Statement of Faith Comments

From the Statement of Faith:

4. We believe that all human beings are lost and sinful by nature. For their salvation, regeneration by the Holy Spirit and (for all who have the mental capacity) personal faith in Jesus Christ are absolutely essential. Salvation is a gift from God, it is not earned.

**lost and sinful by nature** – I believe that all humans are born with a sin nature, but it is our own personal sin which condemns us before God.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, as sin entered into the world through one man, and death through sin; and so death passed to all men, **because all sinned.**

**regeneration by the Holy Spirit and ... faith in Jesus Christ** – by requiring these 'and' separated events for salvation, there seems to be an implication that one event can take place without the other. You might also include any number of other things that happen to us when we place our trust in Jesus Christ for our salvation.

Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also **trusted**, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also **after** that ye **believed**, ye were sealed with that **holy Spirit** of promise,

**personal faith** – To condemn all those who have never had the opportunity to hear the Gospel is a prerogative I find hard to justify from Scripture, though I challenge the idea with trembling. There remains in me something – though not a subject I would speak about in the public, but only between solid comrades in the faith – to consider from Scripture the possibility of Salvation through Jesus Christ, for those who have never heard the name of Jesus Christ.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.”

We know that if any man comes before God, it is by the saving substitutionary death of Jesus Christ.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of **sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;** 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Just as **Jesus Christ paid** for the sins that were committed by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, though they didn't have a personal relationship with Him, **might** He also be

able to do such a thing with those today who never have an opportunity to enter into a personal relationship with Him?

Romans 1:19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, **even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:**

Roman 2:14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15 Which shew the work of the law **written in their hearts**, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while **accusing or else excusing** one another;) 16 **In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ** according to my gospel.

James 4:17 He therefore who knows to do good, and is not doing it, to him it is sin.

John 9:41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains.