Believing on the Lord and Baptism

Acts 18:8

Introduction:
A. Most professed Christians know that the Bible teaches baptism.
B. But, many find it hard to believe that it is necessary to one’s salvation.
   1. Is this conclusion based on hard evidence or personal opinion?
   2. Is one persuaded by Bible evidence or hypothetical situations?
      a. “What about all good people who are not?” - Some not bel. or repent.
      b. “What one who can't get to water?” - Pagan get to gospel?
      c. “What about one killed on way to baptism?” What about repent, pray, etc.
      d. “How can so many good people be wrong about it”? - Many wrong about Christ.
C. We need to deal with two questions on the necessity of baptism to salvation.

Discussion:
I. Is There Compelling Evidence That Jesus Can Make Baptism Necessary to Salvation?
   A. He can if he is the Son of God.
      1. Eyewitnesses (John 20:20,21; 1 John 1:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:1-8)
   B. He can if he has all authority. (Matt. 28:18; cf. Acts 2:36; Matt. 9:1-6).
   C. He can if he can make any blessing conditional.
      1. Made washing a condition of seeing. (Jno. 9:7; 2 Kings 5).
   D. He can make any thing necessary, if he can make one thing necessary.
      1. Faith is necessary. (Acts 8:24).
      2. Repentance is necessary. (Acts 17:30).

II. Is There Compelling Evidence That Jesus Does Make Baptism Necessary to Salvation?
   A. The “great commission” (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15,16).
      2. Samaria (Acts 8:12,13).
   C. The Epistles. (Rom. 6:3,4; Col. 2:12; 1 Cor. 12:13; 1 Pet. 3:21).

Conclusion:
A. If you believe that Jesus both can and does make baptism necessary, why not be baptized this very hour?