

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Romans 3:20** ...no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law [by doing good]; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. ²¹ But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness from God comes through **faith** in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Romans 3:28** For we maintain that a man is justified by **faith** apart from observing the law.

F W F+W ^{NAS} **Romans 4:4** Now to the one who works, his wage is not reckoned as a favor, but as what is due. ⁵ But to the one who does not work, but **believes** in Him [God] who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness...

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Romans 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life [through **faith**] in Christ Jesus our Lord.

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Galatians 2:15-16** "We... know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by **faith** in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our **faith** in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by **faith** in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified."

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Ephesians 1:5** he [God the Father] predestined us to be adopted as his sons through [faith in] Jesus Christ...

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Ephesians 2:4** ...God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ

even when we were dead in transgressions-- it is by grace you have been saved.

F W F+W ^{NAS} **Ephesians 2:8** ...by grace you have been saved through **faith**; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, that no one should boast.

F W F+W ^{NAS} **Colossians 1:21** And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, *engaged* in evil deeds, ²² yet He [God] has now reconciled you in His [Jesus'] fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach-- ²³ if indeed you continue in the **faith**...

F W F+W ^{NAS} **1 John 5:11** And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has [faith in] the Son has the life; he who does not have [faith in] the Son of God does not have the life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who **believe** in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life.

Conclusion

Is *all* of your trust in Jesus as your Savior?
Are you *certain* of your entrance into heaven because of His finished work? I hope you are able to say: *Yes! Yes! Amen!*

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How Do People Get to Heaven?

→ By what Jesus has done!

OR

→ By what they do!

OR

→ By what Jesus has done AND what they do!



Jesus is God in the flesh!



But

People are weak sinners!

Introduction

The Bible is God's Holy Word, so it should always count ABOVE our feelings and our friends! In other words, when they say one thing and the Bible says something else, we should always go with the Bible!

With that said, it is natural, sensible, reasonable, and logical to believe **people will get to heaven by what Jesus has done AND by what they do**. That was also the answer given by 31% of Bethlehem's faithful members in a recent survey; however, *that answer is wrong!*

This brochure is intended to be a blessing to those 31% and to all who are uncertain about *this reality*: **People get to heaven ONLY BY WHAT JESUS HAS DONE!**

Some Possible Objections

- **Doesn't the good I have done help at least a little bit in getting me to heaven?** No! It actually does the opposite – *it doesn't help but hinders and even worse!* The Bible says: "You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law [you who are trusting in what you have done]; you have fallen from grace." (Galatians 5:4 NAS)
- **Aren't good people rewarded and bad people punished?** That is true *in this life on earth*, but in God's sight no one – *of himself* – is good; *all have sinned!* Therefore, no one deserves to be rewarded AND everyone deserves to be punished!

God's Package of Blessings

Since God's eternal blessings come in a package, to *have one* is to *have them all!* Let me explain using the following key words:

- **Forgiveness** – it comes only through **Jesus**, the Lamb of God, who has taken away our sins (John 1:29)!
- **Righteousness** – it comes only through faith in **Jesus** (Rom. 3:22)!
- **Children of God** – that is true only by God adopting people into His family through **Jesus** (Eph. 1:5)!
- **Eternal Life** – since sin brings death, only through **Jesus** is the gift of eternal life offered to all (Rom. 6:23)!
- **Salvation** – God has saved us from our sins only through **Jesus'** finished work (John 19:30)!

Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!

These passages support this statement: **People get to heaven ONLY BY WHAT JESUS HAS DONE!** With each passage, ask yourself: **How Do People Get to Heaven?**

→ By what Jesus has done! = **FAITH**

OR

→ By what they do! = **WORKS**

OR

→ By what Jesus has done **AND** what they do! = **FAITH +WORKS**

Then keep score: F = Faith; W = Works;
F + W = Faith + Works:

F W F+W ^{NIV} **John 3:16-17** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him [Jesus] shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him [Jesus].

F W F+W ^{NIV} **John 3:36** Whoever believes in the Son [Jesus] has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.

F W F+W ^{NIV} **John 6:28** Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one [Jesus] he has sent."

F W F+W ^{NIV} **John 6:47** I tell you the truth, he who believes [in Jesus] has everlasting life.

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Acts 16:30** "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..."

F W F+W ^{NIV} **Acts 26:17b** I [Jesus] am sending you [Paul] to them [Jews and Gentiles] ¹⁸ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified [justified; right in God's sight] by faith in me [Jesus].