

Assurance of Salvation

God desires all to be saved (1 Timothy 2:4), has provided salvation for everyone through Jesus (1 Peter 3:18), and wants all believers to be certain of their entrance into heaven! **Notice how each passage points to our relationship with Jesus:**

- “...for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ” (Galatians 3:27 NIV).
- Jesus said: “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life” (John 5:24 NIV).
- “And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life” (1 John 5:11-13 NIV).

The Introduction Questions

See the cover; these are the answers:

- Yes: The Triune God **is** all-powerful.
- Yes: God **did** create all things according to the clear record in Genesis chapter 1.
- Yes: The Bible **is** proven to be true by prophecy, archaeology, and more.
- Yes: “...there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked” (Acts 24:15 NIV); some will go away to

eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life (see Matthew 25:31-46).

- Understanding our sin, God’s saving work through Jesus, and the importance of continuing to trust in Jesus are critical.

Continuing in God’s Word

Once God has taken action to make us alive in Christ, it is very important to benefit from the Bible every day: ***It is our spiritual food!*** Jesus said: “Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4 NIV). See the “Daily Devotion” brochure and *be faithful* in attending our services and studies!

Conclusion

For more information on this most important topic, please **read** or **do** the following:

- Read these brochures:
 - ✓ “What Is the Way to Heaven?”
 - ✓ “Why Will God Welcome You into Heaven?”
- Schedule a time to meet with the pastor (RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915)

Connect With Us

Website: www.BLC7500.com

YouTube: “Benefit from the Bible”

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Saturdays: Class 3:00; Service 4:00

Sundays: Service 9:00; Classes 10:30

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Will Jesus Welcome Me Into Heaven?

HEAVEN



Protestant Bible Version, NIV 1984

Introduction

Dear Friend: Consider these questions:

- Is there an all-powerful God?
- Did God create the heavens and the earth?
- Did God move men to write down His very words in the Holy Bible?
- Is there an eternal existence for everyone beyond this life?
- Do you believe that when you die Jesus will welcome you into heaven? If you said, “Yes,” **why** will He welcome you into heaven?

Please keep reading to find out more!

A Common **but False Belief** about the Way to Heaven: **Faith + Works = Heaven**

What is the meaning of **those words** in **that equation**?

- **Faith** = I know and believe certain things about Jesus.
- **Works** = I trust that my good works will help me get into heaven. ***I must do them!***
- **Heaven** = I hope Jesus will welcome me in, *but I don't know if I have done enough.*

Faith + Works = Heaven makes sense for these reasons (**CAUTION – these reasons do NOT agree with the Bible**):

- Since *good* is rewarded and *bad* is punished, *those factors* must also determine our place in eternity.
- The Bible includes *much about Jesus* and *much about doing good*; therefore, if we *know and believe some things about Jesus* **and** *try to do good things*, it makes sense that Jesus will welcome us into heaven.
- Some Christian churches teach that faith + works = heaven.

These and other Bible verses prove that **Faith + Works = Heaven is FALSE**:

- Good will **NEVER** be good enough:
 - ✓ “...**no one** will be declared righteous in [God’s] sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin” (Romans 3:20 NIV).
 - ✓ “**All** who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: ‘Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law’” (Galatians 3:10 NIV).
- If we try to add anything to Jesus, *we separate ourselves from Jesus*: “You who are trying to be justified by law have been **alienated** from Christ; you have fallen away from grace” (Galatians 5:4 NIV).
- Since we have all done wrong, Jesus perfectly fulfilled God’s law in our place, as our substitute: “...I have not come to abolish [the OT Scriptures] but to **fulfill** them” (Matthew 5:17 NIV).
- God sent Jesus to *make us right in His sight, to do for us what we could never do for ourselves*:
 - ✓ “... [God] has reconciled you **by Christ’s physical body through death** to present you holy in his sight...” (Colossians 1:22 NIV).
 - ✓ “...Christ died for sins **once for all**, the righteous for the unrighteous, **to bring you to God**” (1 Peter 3:18 NIV).
 - ✓ “...now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known... **This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe**” (Romans 3:21-22 NIV).

The **Only Way to Heaven** taught in the Bible: **Faith = Heaven ➔ Works**

What is the meaning of **those words** in **that equation**?

- **Faith** = I know and believe certain things about Jesus, and I am trusting in Him for eternal life.
- **Heaven** = I am confident Jesus will welcome me in.
- **Works** = I do good works *in response to God’s gift of heaven*. ***I want to do them!***

These and other Bible verses prove that **Faith = Heaven ➔ Works is TRUE**:

- “...God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that **whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life**” (John 3:16 NIV).
- “...it is **by grace** [by God’s loving action] **you have been saved, through faith**--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV).
- “...we maintain that **a man is justified by faith** apart from observing the law” (Romans 3:28 NIV).