

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD

As born again believers we place their faith and trust in Jesus Christ, we are justified through Jesus Christ, the blood sacrifice and atonement for our sins. We need His perfect righteousness. (2 Cor 5:21) Sadly man made religion has taught millions you just believe and works play NO part and they are so very wrong!

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:21-24)

What we see here is a wonderful gift of God...salvation to those who have faith and believe in Jesus Christ. Quite often many people think that just acknowledging or knowing is belief...but we see God warns us that is not so as even the demons believe (James 2:19) and we all know demons will not be in heaven. Faith is:

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. (Hebrews 11:1-3)

Faith and works do go together.....

We see the works of faith throughout the book of Hebrews 11:

4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain

5 By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death,

7 By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the

world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise

11 By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*

20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come

21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, *leaning* on the top of his staff

22 By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones

There are many more listed but what this shows us is an active living faith that these godly men and women had even though...

39 And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise

God's Word shows us that true faith has works, evidence, fruit, action etc. A person cannot work their way to salvation as it is free gift received by faith lest any man boast

(Ephesians 2:8-9) but God's Word clearly shows us that faith that does not produce works, is dead.

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. (James 2:26)

Abraham was justified by his faith and works which is evidence of his love of God:

Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? ²² Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? (James 2:21-22)

And again God's Word shows us justification by works which is evidence of their love/transformation of God:

²³ And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. ²⁴ You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. (James 2:23-24)

We also see Rahab justified by here works as a result of faith and love of God:

Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way? ²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. (James 2:25-26)

God also calls works 'fruit' of the Holy Spirit. This means if a person has the Holy Spirit, they will have fruit or works that are evidence of their faith and love of Jesus Christ.

I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. (John 15:1-2)

I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned (John 15:5-6)

Jesus also rebukes those who claim to love Him but do not keep His commandments. What are His commandments, the 10? No, the New Testament is replete with numerous commands for believers throughout the generations.

“If you love Me, keep My commandments. (John 14:15)

But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say? (Luke 6:46)

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’ (sin) (Matthew 7:21-23)

He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. (John 14:21)

We also see the apostles, inspired by the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ, teach about obedience to His Word, lest we be disqualified and perish in the end.

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness? ¹⁷ But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. ¹⁸ And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members *as* slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading* to *more* lawlessness, so now present your members *as* slaves of righteousness for holiness. (Romans 6:15-19)

He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. (1 John 2:4-6)

Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance; ¹⁵ but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, ¹⁶ because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:13-16)

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (James 1:22)

For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. (2 Corinthians 2:9)

in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:8)

And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him

(Hebrews 5:9)

I praise you, brethren, that you remember me in all things and keep the traditions just as I delivered *them* to you. (1 Corinthians 11:1)

But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: “We ought to obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29)

But he who endures to the end shall be saved. (Matthew 24:13)

Jesus teaches us in Matthew 24 that in the last days there will be many false teachers deceiving many people. We see this as a growing danger with all the false teaching of ecumenism, Calvinism (Eternal Security), prosperity gospels, sinner’s prayers, altar calls, pragmatism, etc which are deceiving many. Quite often, they preach a salvation without any works meaning a person can become born again and never lose their salvation even though living in sin and bearing no fruit. This is a lie as God’s Word has clearly shown us that faith without works is dead.

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³ And this we will do if God permits. ⁴ For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵ and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶ if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put *Him* to an open shame.⁷ For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; ⁸ but if it bears thorns and briers, *it is* rejected and near to being cursed, whose end *is* to be burned. (Hebrews 6:1-8)

Here is a grave warning as well:

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Hebrews 10:26-27

We are saved by faith/grace and we cannot earn it through our works. But; we are deceived if we have not obedient works/holiness as fruit that is the evidence of that saving faith/justification/the Spirit at work within us daily striving to obey our God in holiness.

Read God's Word and seek His truth. See the biblical gospel below...

God be praised