

## WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

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## Are Christians Saved by Works?

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Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Are Christians Saved by Works?

Based upon the following verse, some believe Christians are saved by works.

• **Romans 2:6-7:** He will render to each one according to his works: <sup>7</sup> to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life.

Paul in this verse is not saying we will be saved by works, but that we will be judged according to our works and rewarded or suffer loss accordingly.

• 1 Corinthians 3:11–15: For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— <sup>13</sup> each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. <sup>14</sup> If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

Many also use the following words of James to support the theory we are saved by works:

- James 2:14: What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?
- James 2:17: So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
- James 2:20: Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

Again, the same principle applies, the idea is not that we are saved by works, but that there should be outward works that evidence our inward faith. A simple example of this, is a person who says they are Christians, but have no interest in reading the Bible, no interest in fellowship etc., and live as they please, in this case, it is clear they are not saved, for there is no outward evidence of their inward faith. In contrast to these hypocritical believers, those who have true faith will enjoy reading the Bible, love Christian fellowship, endeavor (I say endeavor because none of us do this perfectly, to live a lifestyle that honors God and brings a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**CONCLUSION:** we are saved by faith in Christ, and those who are saved will have outward works that evidences their faith. The following verses (there are many others) sum up the security of salvation of those in Christ:

- Romans 20:20: For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
- Romans 20:21-23: But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it, <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.
- Romans 20:28: For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.
- Galatians 2:16: yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through
  faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by
  faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be
  justified.

- 1 John 4:17: By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.
- 1 John 4:18: There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.
- 1John 5:13: I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

These verses and the many others like them, shine a brilliant spotlight upon the truth of the following verse:

• John 1:16: For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

We have a marvellous hope, and should live a godly life in full expectation of receiving it, for this is the faith God wants us to live with.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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