

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

Galatians 1:8-9, “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.”

Romans 1:16-17, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes... for in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Can Man Ever Became Right Before God? <The Bible says...NKJV>

Matthew 5:48, “Therefore you shall be perfect <present tense>, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

Psalms 5:4, “For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, Nor shall evil dwell with You.”

Revelation 21:8, 27; “...unbelieving...sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death...Nothing impure will ever enter <Heaven>, nor will anyone who does what is shameful, or deceitful, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.”

Job 25:4; 9:2, 14, 15, 20; “How then can man be righteous before God? How can he be pure who is born of a woman? But how can a man be righteous before God? Though I were innocent, I could not answer him; I could only plead with my judge for mercy. Even if I were innocent, my mouth would condemn me; if I were blameless, it would pronounce me guilty.”

Job 9:32-34 "For He is not a man, as I am, that I may answer Him, And that we should go to court together. Nor is there any mediator between us, who may lay his hand on us both. Let Him take His rod away from me, and do not let dread of Him terrify me.

The Fallacy of Works Righteousness: <The Bible says...NKJV>

<On what basis do you believe you can “become” perfect by obedience to the law?>

Isaiah 64:6, “But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags <to God>”

Galatians 2:21, “I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”

Romans 3:20, 28; “Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.”

Galatians 2:16, “knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.”

Romans 10:2-4, “...have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

Romans 4:2-6, “For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God...Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness...God imputes righteousness apart from works”

Galatians 3:3, 10; 5:4, 5; “Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse...Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them. No one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith. You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ.

Romans 9:30-32, “What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law...”

Ezekiel 33:12, 13; “The righteousness of the righteous man shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression <on judgment day>...if he trust in his own righteousness and commits sin, one of his righteous works shall be remembered, because of the iniquity that he has committed, he shall.

Some say...”I’ve got all eternity to become perfect...” but the Bible says in Hebrews 9:27, “as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment” 2 Corinthians 6:2, “In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.”

Some say....”I’ll do my best and God will do the rest.” But ask yourself honestly, are you doing all you can due to obey God – are you doing your very best? In your heart of hearts you know that this is not true. God does not grade on a curve. His righteous just judgment will be based on the truth <Romans 2:1-4> and we’re without excuse.

Limitations of Biblical Law: <The Bible says...NKJV>

James 2:10, “For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all”

Leviticus 5:17 “If a person sins, and commits any of these things which are forbidden to be done by the commandments of the LORD, though he does not know it, yet he is guilty and shall bear his iniquity.”

Hebrews 7:19, “For the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.”

Hebrews 10:1-4, “For the law...can never <with these same sacrifices>, make those who approach perfect...for then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.”

Galatians 3:24, “Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

Romans 8:3-4, “For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled”

Only Christ’s Righteousness Satisfies God’s Perfect Standard:

<Do you have Christ’s righteousness?> <Whose absolute righteousness will you present to god on your Judgment Day?> <The Bible Says...NKJV>

Romans 1:16-17, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed...the just shall live by faith..”

Philippians 3:9, “and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith”

2 Corinthians 5:21, “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him”

Romans 3:21-4:2,25; “But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed...through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 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, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law. What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God...Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. God imputes righteousness apart from works. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him.”

Romans 4:20-24, “...strengthened in faith...it was accounted to him for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe...”

What Must I do to Gain Eternal Life? <Matthew 19:16-26>

Repent of Your Sins: <Acts 11:18; 16:14; 3:19; 17:30; 20:21; 5:31>

Luke 5:32, “I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance”

Luke 18:13, “God be merciful to me a sinner!”

Psalms 38:3,4,18; 51:3,4; “because of my sins...my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden...I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight--that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge.”

2 Corinthians 7:9,10; “Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner...for godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted;

Believe in Christ's Righteousness:

John 6:28, 29; "Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

John 3:15, 16; "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 3:36, "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

John 5:24, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."

John 6:40,47; "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day." Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life."

John 5:39,40; "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life."

Titus 3:5-7; "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us...having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

1 John 5:11-13; "And this is the testimony: that 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. These things I have written to you who believe...that you may know that you have eternal life, <also see Hebrews 10:22>

Receive The Gift of Christ's Righteousness:

Romans 5:17, "Those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ"

John 1:12, "As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name"

- ❑ **The Gospel isn't about a plan for personal righteousness or obedience to the law, but all about Christ's perfect righteousness, which He makes available to us by faith.**

Galatians 5:1-5, "...Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage...if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing...every man who becomes circumcised - he is a debtor to keep the whole law. You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

2 Corinthians 5:21, "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

❑ **The Gospel isn't about baptism, but the Cross!**

- ✓ Paul separated baptism from the Gospel

1 Corinthians 1:17, "For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel...lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect."

- ✓ Jesus never baptized anyone.

John 4:2, "...Jesus Himself did not baptize" <yet He came to seek and save that which was lost – Luke 19:10>

- ✓ Jesus did get baptized, but not for the remissions of sins – because he was perfect; but to fulfill all righteousness. <Matthew 3:15; 28:19; 1 Peter 3:21>

- ✓ The criminal on the cross was never baptized, but Jesus said he would be with Him that day in Paradise. <Luke 23:42,43>

- ✓ Paul preached Christ and the Cross

1 Corinthians 2:2-5, "For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."

What about good works? <Sanctification>

- ✓ True saving faith will inevitably produce the fruit of good works!

- ✓ Good works is the **byproduct** of genuine faith, not the basis of it!

The faith makes the works; the works don't make the faith!

Acts 26:20, "<Paul> they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance."

Hebrews 6:9, "things that accompany salvation"

2 Corinthians 9:13, “obedience that accompanies your confession”

Romans 1:5, “the obedience that comes from faith”

1 Thessalonians 1:3, “works produced by faith, labor prompted by love...”

Luke 3:8, “bear fruits worthy of repentance...”

Luke 6:46, “why do you call me Lord, and not do the things I say”

John 15:5, “He who abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit. Without me you can do anything...”

James 2:14,17,19,22,24,26; “What does it profit...if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead...Even the demons believe...Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”

Romans 1:5, “Through Him...have received grace...to the obedience that comes from faith.” “That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel to you...”

Ephesians 2:10, “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Philippians 2:12, “...you have always obeyed...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”