"Grace"

Saved by Faith Alone in Christ Alone

Belief is believing and trusting in something or someone. In this dispensation of Grace, Salvation is exclusively trusting that Christ paid for all our sins [past, present and future] on the cross – while not relying on what you do of your own works – no matter how small.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved"

Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Romans 5:1-2 KJV "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

If someone would ask you why God should let you into Heaven. Your only answer should be. Because I believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for my sins on the cross, was buried and rose again. I truly trust him as my only and all sufficient Saviour.

Ephesians 1:13 KJV "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also <u>after that ye believed</u>, <u>ye were sealed</u> with that Holy Spirit of promise,"

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

NOW LET'S LOOK AT WHAT SALVATION IS NOT

Most churches by tradition use feel good "clichés" that are not found in the Bible for Salvation and these clichés are not biblical. The following is a list of some of them.

- 1. Receiving Jesus 2. Asking
- 2. Asking Jesus into you heart
- 3. Accepting Jesus

- 4. Opening the door to your heart
- 5. By praying the sinner's prayer

- 6. Confessing your sins
- 7. Making Jesus the Lord of your life
- 8. Keeping the "Ten" commandments
- 9. Repenting of your sins
- 10. Turning your life around
- 11. Being water baptized 12. Speaking in tongues
- 13. Doing good deeds
- 14. Doing your best to live a good life

Note: that in all of the above "clichés" its all about you doing something but we know that its about what <u>Jesus Christ has done</u> for us. The above scripture verses clearly indicate that Salvation is by BELIEVING and TRUSTING, **not by anything that we do**.

Romans 11:6 KJV "And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work."

"BUT IF IT BE OF WORKS, THEN IS IT NO MORE GRACE"

If you think your works are part of your Salvation, then it is no longer Grace.

The Law was Israel's program which God temporarily suspended when He introduced Grace through the Apostle Paul. You hear people say from time to time I obey God, I obey the ten commandments thinking they will be okay. Well let's see what the ten commandments actually are and if they would be okay with their human efforts?

- 1. **Exodus 20:3 KJV** "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."
- 2. **Exodus 20:4 KJV** "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:"
- 3. **Exodus 20:7 KJV** "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."
- 4. **Exodus 20:8 KJV** "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy."
- 5. **Exodus 20:12 KJV** "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."
- 6. Exodus 20:13 KJV "Thou shalt not kill."
- 7. Exodus 20:14 KJV "Thou shalt not commit adultery."
- 8. Exodus 20:15 KJV "Thou shalt not steal."
- 9. **Exodus 20:16 KJV** "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."
- 10. **Exodus 20:17 KJV** "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's."

Now if you Choose Grace – then it does not include **any of your own works** no matter how small, anything that you do invalidates Grace. Gentiles are to BELIEVE & TRUST that God's Son Jesus Christ paid for their sins on the cross for their Salvation. Jesus Christ who knew no sin fully fulfilled God's required penalty for our justification. **Jews** [BELIEVE BY FAITH - **PLUS WORKS**] **Gentiles** [BELIEVE BY FAITH – **FREE GIFT**]

But now both Jew and Gentile come to Christ the same way until the Rapture. After the Rapture Grace will be over and it will revert back to **faith plus works** & the tribulation.

LAW OR GRACE





But what does BELIEVING & TRUSTING in Jesus Christ really look like. Christians have willingly **gone to their death rather than deny Christ** though the years. Even in this present age Christians are being slaughtered by the hundreds and thousands throughout the world each year.

We have to go no further than **Foxe's Book of Martyrs** to find out what a true "believer" really looks like. Here are a couple of excerpts taken from this book.

Alexander, Malchus, and Priscus, three Christians of Palestine, with a woman of the same place, <u>voluntarily accused themselves of being Christians</u>; on which account they were sentenced to be devoured by tigers, which sentence was executed accordingly.

Maximus, governor of Cilicia, being at Tarsus, three Christians were brought before him; their names were Tarachus, an aged man, Probus, and Andronicus. <u>After repeated tortures and exhortations to recant</u>, they, at length, were ordered for execution.

In summary, God is reconciled to us by what Christ has done for us on the Cross. God is no longer mad at us. He has given us a way to be with Him and walk with him in the garden. It is we who need to be reconciled to Him. It is a two-way street. For a full reconciliation both parties need to be reconciled to each other. It is not one-sided.

God loves us so much that he sent His Son to be born as a human and represent us as God's sinless lamb of God. To be made sin for us and to shed His blood on the cross for us to be reconciled to Him. What is our part in the reconciliation? In this age of "GRACE" – its to BELIEVE and TRUST that Christ's shed blood on the cross paid for all our sins [past, present and future]. That He was buried and rose again the third according to the scriptures.

Will you BELIEVE today? You can be reconciled and "SAVED" today, right where you are. God knows your heart and will know if you are sincere or not. You don't need to talk to a Pastor or Priest or go to a church. Each of us are to come individually before God seeking Salvation. You can be on your way to Heaven if your time on earth has come to an end or the Rapture occurs. Many people say, that's too simple, how could that be!

Yes, a free gift is simple but you must want to be with a righteous God for eternity. If you love your sin and don't want to be with God, then that's another story. You either love God or you love your sin. If you fail to act on this gift you will by default have to pay for your own sins yourself. The Bible tells us that every human being on this planet is a sinner and that includes you. God is light and we enjoy God's light now whether we are saved or not but if we chose to be separated from God by our own choice we will be in total darkness for eternity. Heaven will be more wonderful than we ever expected and Hell will be a lot worst than we ever expected. **God paid a horrific price for his part to save us** – Our part, wanting to be with Him and accepting what Christ has done for us. Its up to you, where you will spend your eternity. With God in light, or darkness in Hell. Think of it. If people want to continue with their sinful life and still want to be in Heaven then Heaven would become as evil as the world is now. Not going to happen!