

## Believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, accepting him as our Lord and Saviour

### Is the Belief, Saved by Grace, No Works Necessary, Biblically Correct?

**We are saved by God's grace, not by our works.**

***"it is the gift of God"***

*Ephesians 2:8-9*

"8 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."

**It is true;** all we need to do is believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to go to Heaven, but we do not get to choose which definition of the word "believe" is correct. We need to understand the Bible's definition of believing on the Lord Jesus Christ includes accepting him as our **Lord** and Saviour.

**A Lord** is someone who has authority over others. He tells the people in his kingdom what to do, and he has the responsibility to care for them. If we accept Jesus Christ as our personal **Lord**, we are voluntarily accepting him as the one we will obey, and as the one who will care for us. Our **obedience** to him reveals if we have truly accepted him as our **Lord** (*as the one we obey*). If we think we are in God, but not maturing into being good and righteous, something is wrong.

**Believing on** the **Lord** Jesus Christ, which includes accepting him as our **Lord** and Saviour, is the starting point, not the "all done" point, of walking with Jesus Christ to Heaven. Yes, there are many things to do and obey as we walk with Christ.

**Some people think they will** go to Heaven if they live a decent life, and do lots of good things; but this is not how it works. We cannot earn, or help earn, our admission into Heaven by doing good works; we cannot make ourselves good or holy enough to deserve Heaven. However, God loves us, and he made a way for us to go to Heaven through Jesus Christ.

**When we have genuinely** given our self to Jesus Christ the Bible way, God will fill us (*Christ's followers*) with the Holy Spirit, who will mold us into a merciful people, who wholeheartedly love God, doing Godly works of righteousness.

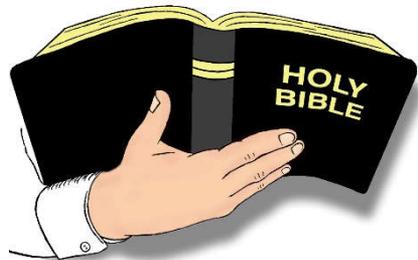
**It is totally true that** Jesus Christ paid the full price for our salvation; there is nothing we can do to earn or help earn our way into Heaven; we are totally saved by faith in Jesus Christ, and by the grace of God, not by our works (*legalism*). Thank you Jesus!

**But some people take** the above truth and incorrectly **conclude** that if we are not saved by our works; then, we do not have to follow and do the Biblical instructions of becoming and being a genuine Christian. This **conclusion** is contrary to much of the Bible. The Bible teaches us that doing the “works” is **not about earning** (*legalism*). Doing the “works” is a product stemming/flowing from **loving, honoring,** and **respecting** God, **by saying “yes”** when he tells us to do them.

**Obedying Christ’s commandments is always** the result of **being** a genuine Christian who wholeheartedly Loves God, and is following the leading of the Holy Spirit

Genuine belief on the **Lord** Jesus Christ  
always causes us to do the works instituted by God.

**We could take** verses that explain we cannot earn or help earn our admission into Heaven, and verses that explain salvation is by grace and faith, not by our “works”; and **conclude** we do not need to do anything but believe. But this is a human **conclusion**, which is contrary to the Bible, because genuine belief causes us to obey God.



**A genuine Christian’s** good works, obedience to God, living righteously, etc., are **a result of being a genuine Christian**, a result of having God dwelling inside us. They are not actions of earning our way to Heaven. Thank God for grace.

The above conclusion is formed by specially selecting Bible verses to point out one Biblical truth, while ignoring other Biblical truths that are in conflict with this conclusion.

**I believe we would have to remove** most of the New Testament from the Bible to believe we can be a genuine Christian who does not obey Christ: who does not do good works; who does not live righteously and morally; etc. Saying we can go to Heaven without genuinely and honestly striving to obey Jesus Christ's commandments is saying we can go to Heaven without being born again, because being genuinely born again always produces obedience to Christ: good works, righteous living, etc. If we do nothing but believe, we do not have the proper kind of belief.

**Some people do not get baptized, because** they do not want to put their faith in their "works" instead of putting their faith in Christ. But we put our faith in Christ by obeying him. If we are declining to do what Christ instructs us to do (*including water baptism*) this reveals there is something wrong with our connections to God. Our genuine love for God will cause us to strive to obey God in all things, including doing the "works" that Christ instructs us to do. We get baptized because Christ commands us to be baptized (*in the great commission*). Baptism is not a part of earning our way into Heaven, it is about loving, obeying, and respecting God by submitting ourselves to follow his instructions.

It is not correct to say "I do not have to do the **Lord's** will, if the **Lord's** will is "works".

**Our obedience or disobedience reveals** if our heart is in God. Not cooperating with Jesus Christ is rebelling against God. Jesus Christ instructs us to repent and to be baptized, so we cooperate. How intensely we strive to obey and cooperate with Jesus Christ reveals how much we love God.

**Cooperating with God is not** work or bondage; it is not a weight around our neck. Jesus Christ's commandments are for our wellbeing: making our life better, cleaner, happier, and more fulfilling.

**We are to love** God with our all. If we love God, we will strive to obey him, even if we call his instructions "works. If we do not strive to obey God, we do not properly love God.

**Our first commandment** (*the most important commandment*)  
**is to recognize that God is the only Lord**  
**and to love God with our all.**

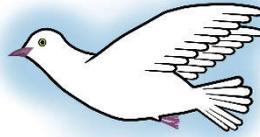
Mark 12:29-30

"29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments *is*, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:  
30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this *is* the first commandment."

**Obedience to Christ reveals our love for him.**

**"If a man love me,  
he will keep my words"**

**"He that loveth me not  
keepeth not my sayings"**



John 14:23-24

"23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.  
24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me."

Are we declining to obey Jesus Christ's instructions to be baptized? Is that loving him, keeping his words?

**We connect to God with our heart**, not with our works. However, if our heart is properly connected to God, our heart will compel us to do the "works".

**After we believe the** gospel about Jesus Christ, and desire to follow him with all our heart, we are to join our self to Jesus Christ by repenting and putting on Jesus Christ. How do we put on Christ?

**Putting on** (*joining*) Jesus Christ in faith and baptism can only be accomplished by doing it from the depth of our heart. We do not put on Christ by merely going through the motions, saying the right words, etc. If our heart is not deeply involved in our actions towards God, our actions are in vain.

**Putting on Christ is** joining our self to Christ. We put on Jesus Christ in baptism (*comparing it to putting on a garment*); now we wear Christ in our heart. (*Do a word study for the words “put on” in the verse below. It likens these words to putting on clothes.*)

**“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”**

Galatians 3:26–27

“26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

**Acts 2:38 is our** instructions for exiting the way of the world and putting on Jesus Christ. When Acts 2:38 is genuinely completed, we will be born-again and filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Illustration:** Nancy gave birth to a baby boy, and she asked her doctor, “How can I be a LOVING mother?” So the doctor gave her a list of things LOVING mothers do for their new born babies: change their diapers; feed them every two hours; keep them warm and clean; etc.

A friend told Nancy “Doing all these things does not make you a LOVING mother. A cold-hearted babysitter could do all these things and not love the child at all. Love is a feeling a mother has for her child, not physical movements.”

So the mother did not feed her baby. She left him shivering all day long in a filthy overflowing diaper. She told herself she was a LOVING mother, because she had feelings for the child. She figured doing the things the doctor said fell under the label “works”; and “works” (*physical movements*) is not love; love is having feelings for the child.

Just doing the “works” of providing care for her baby will not make Nancy a LOVING mother. On the other hand, Nancy cannot be a LOVING mother unless her love for her child is driving her to strive to do all the “works” of caring for her baby. It is impossible for her to be a LOVING mother while she is willfully providing unacceptable/inadequate care for her child. If Nancy is a LOVING mother, her love for her baby will compel her to see

that her child has proper care. Genuine love always causes the actions of genuine love.

Likewise: Just doing the “works” (*going through the motions*) of becoming and being a Christian will not make us a genuine Christian. On the other hand, we cannot be a genuine Christian unless our love of God is causing us to strive to do all the “works” of being a genuine Christian”. Continuing to choose not to obey Jesus Christ, including baptism, reveals a heart that is not properly given to God yet. Insufficient love for God can result with us declining to obey God.

A genuine Christian’s love for God  
will cause him to wholeheartedly strive to do  
all the “works” that God wants him to do.

A Lord is someone who tells us what to do. If we are not doing what Jesus Christ tells us to do, how is he our Lord?

**Is Jesus Christ our Lord (*the one we obey*),  
while we are declining to obey him?**

Luke 6:46

“46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”

**Nobody has the** authority to tell people they do not have to obey Jesus Christ’s commands, including baptism.

**We must not** play lawyer and look at the thief on the cross and say it sets a precedent; we do not parallel the thief on the cross: (1) the thief on the cross did not refuse or decline to obey Jesus Christ, but if we say “no” to Jesus Christ’s commandment to be baptized, we are refusing, declining, to obey him; (2) the event of the thief on the cross happened under the dispensation of the Law, and we live under the dispensation of Grace (*The dispensation of the Law ended with Christ’s death on the cross*).

**Some people think** tempting/testing God is having faith. Deliberately putting our self in harm’s way, deliberately jumping off the temple, putting our faith in God to catch us, is called tempting/testing God. Choosing to sin (*choosing not to obey God*) and trusting God to forgive us is tempting/testing God. It is not smart to tempt/test God.

## “Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God”

Matthew 4:5–7

“5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”

**Christ’s commandments are** comparable to parents telling their children to stay away from things that will harm and impair them, and telling them to always do the right things: things that will keep them loving, healthy, and moral. Christ’s commandments are about love, and leading us to Heaven.

**The majority of** Christ’s instructions are about loving God, and loving and caring for each other. Genuine Christians soon discover obeying Christ’s commandments is for their own good/gain. They learn they win, when they obey God.

**We join Jesus Christ without** being good and righteous, without doing good works, etc. We do not work at being good and righteous so God will accept us; it does not work that way. Rather, we give ourselves completely to Jesus Christ as we are, and he causes us to grow into being good and righteous, as we cooperate with him. Things change when we genuinely join Jesus Christ the Bible way, because God enters us; this is called: being born again; being born of the Spirit of God; receiving the Holy Ghost; etc. God does not just sit inside us; he works at molding us into righteousness.

**Striving to do** good from the bottom of our heart, striving to live a clean decent life, etc., can get God’s attention, and God

might show us the way to Heaven like he did for Cornelius. God heard Cornelius’s prayers, took notice of his good works, and sent St. Peter to instruct him concerning salvation through Jesus Christ. Doing good is never in vain.

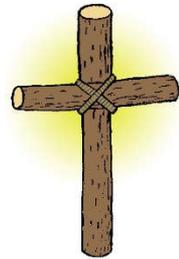


**“he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do”**

*Acts 10:1-6*

- “1 ¶ There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian *band*,  
2 A devout *man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always.  
3 He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.  
4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.  
5 And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter:  
6 He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.”

**We hear about** God’s grace, that Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty (*death*) for our sins, and he did. Christ’s death on the cross created a path for us to exit a life of continually choosing to sin (*defying God*); unto the path of always striving to obey Jesus Christ, growing up the path of God into Godly righteousness. God’s grace is for the people who love God and choose to follow/obey Him; these people will always strive to follow/obey God. How hard we strive to follow/obey God, reveals how much we love God. God’s grace takes us from being condemned, on our way to the eternal lake of fire without hope of a pardon, to being fully pardoned, forgiven, and on our way to Heaven. This is a result of God’s love and compassion for us, by sending his son to die in our place. We reject God by continuing to choose to defy God, which is refusing to repent. Every person needs to repent.

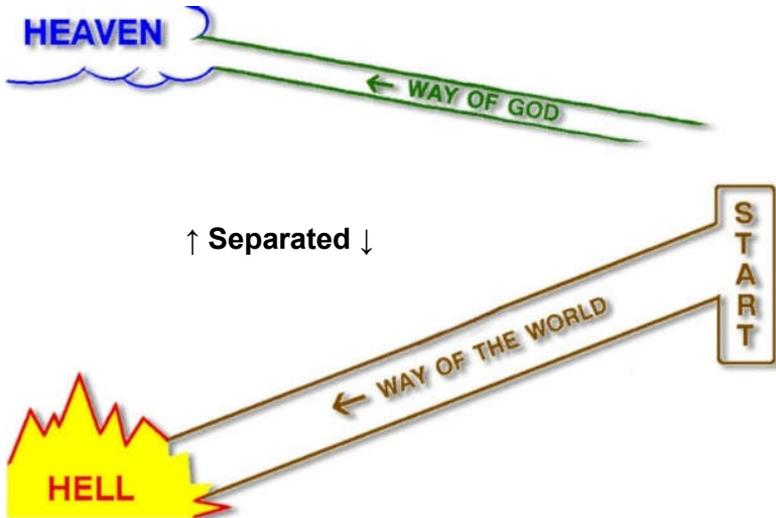


Jesus Christ can forgive us of our sins and free us from sin’s handcuffs (*liberate us from sin controlling us*).

In the next illustrations, **I call** the path which Christ’s death on the cross created for us, **“The Jesus Exit”**. We are not on our way to Heaven unless we get on the “Jesus Exit”; getting on it is where we become born-again.

**Every human being was** born in sin and shaped in iniquity. Due to our sins, we were all doomed to the eternal lake of fire. At one time, every one of us was on “The way of the world” headed to the eternal lake of fire without hope of going to Heaven.

**Sin is not** allowed in Heaven, and every one of us has sinned. The punishment for our sin is death. “The way of God” and “The way of the world” were separated; there was no way, no hope, for us to get onto “The way of God”, and go to Heaven.



**God loves us and** he had compassion on us. He wants us to live with him in Heaven. God has great mercy for us, and gives us grace. God sent his only begotten Son to die in our place, to pay the penalty (*death*) for our sins. With his death, Jesus Christ became our door, our only way into Heaven (*which I call “the Jesus Exit”*).

**God’s grace is what** allows the followers of Jesus Christ to go to Heaven without being 100% perfect. However, God will cause us to be perfect in Heaven. God’s grace also causes us to keep growing upward into Godly righteousness.

**Jesus Christ is our only way into Heaven.**

**“I am the way”**

John 14:6

“6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

**“I am the door”**

**“by me if any man enter in,  
he shall be saved”**

John 10:7-9

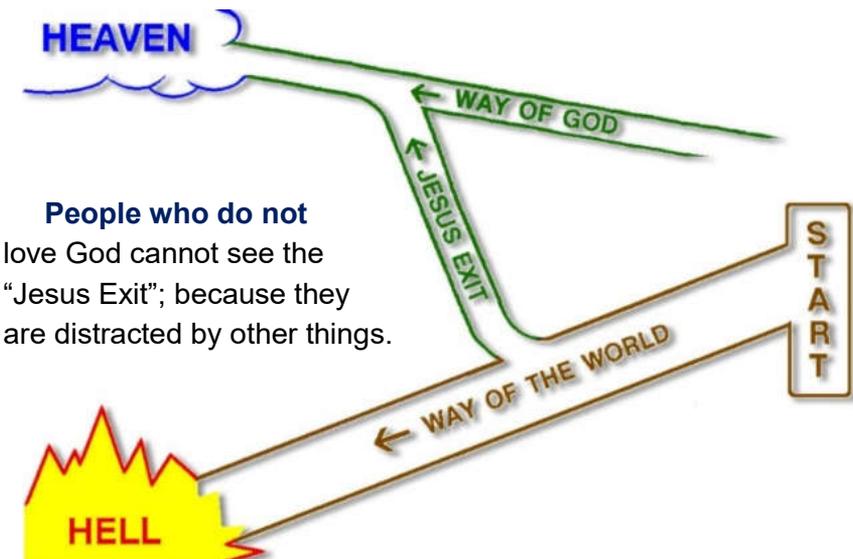
“7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.

9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”

**We cannot obtain partial grace.** We cannot accept God’s grace to forgive our sins, and reject the grace of God that transforms us into Godly living people. We cannot say “NO” to God as his grace is pulling us out of sinful activity. Saying “NO” is rejecting Jesus Christ as our **Lord** (*as the one we obey*).

**Jesus Christ dying on the cross results** with us having a choice: we can take the Jesus Exit and follow/obey Christ up the path into Godly righteousness, all the way to Heaven, or we can go merrily on our way down the way of the world into the eternal lake of fire.



**Our world is liken to** a downward moving escalator, taking people down into the eternal lake of fire. Every one of us need to exit this worldly (*sinful*) downward moving escalator. But most people will stay on “the way of the world” all the way to the eternal lake of fire.

**God’s grace is what made** us a way to exit the way of the world, so we could follow Jesus Christ to Heaven. We did not earn Heaven, nor do we deserve it. We need to be extremely thankful to God, we need to love God with our all.

**Some people believe**, since God is so forgiving, they do not have to be gravely concerned about choosing to continue their sinning, but they are very wrong! Continuing to willfully choose to sin separates them from God. They need to repent: turn and obey God.

**We need a perfect** heart, a perfect desire, to do all of God’s will. A perfect heart causes us to “strive” with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, to do all of God’s will (*loving God, and striving to obey God, are paired together*). But because we are human, we still come up short. The important thing is that we are honestly striving with all our heart to do his will, so God will see we are honestly trying to do our best to obey him.

**A mother’s love for** her child is dead, as long as she has no concern for him.

**Likewise:** Faith without “works” is dead. Why?

Genuine Christian faith always produces the “works”. The lack of the “works” is the results of not having the kind of faith the Bible is talking about. There is no such thing as having genuine Christian faith, while we willfully continue to choose to decline to follow Christ’s instructions. If we choose not to follow Christ’s instructions, our Christian faith is not genuinely alive.



**“is dead, being alone”**

James 2:17–18

“17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.”

**Having faith without** “works” is like a mother saying she is a LOVING mother who declines to care for her child.

**If our definition of** the word “WORKS” is working to earn our way into Heaven, there is nothing we can do to earn, or help earn, our way into Heaven

**If our definition of** the word “WORKS” is doing things, there is no such thing as following Jesus Christ while we keep declining to do the things he tells us to do. Following Jesus Christ, carrying our cross, involves a lot of doing. If our heart is genuinely given to Jesus Christ, we will have an enormous desire /drive to do his will. It will be our heart’s desire, including to follow his instructions to be baptized.

**Many Bible verses connect loving God directly to obeying God.**

**If we are not** striving to obey God’s commandments, we do not know God, and we are not properly connected to God yet. And if we say we know him, we are a liar.

**“ hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments”**

**“He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him”**

1 John 2:3-5



“3 ¶ And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.”

We find the Bible referring to the genuine Christians as **“them that obey him”**. Jesus Christ is the author of eternal salvation to all the people who have genuinely accepted him as their **Lord** (as the one they obey).

**“them that obey him”**

Hebrews 5:9

“9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”

**“them that obey him”**

Acts 5:32

“32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and *so is* also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.”

**Every sheep (*every person*) who belongs to Christ follows/obeys him.** John 10:27

“27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:”

**What we do, or do not do, reveals if we belong to God.**

**“whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God”**

1 John 3:10

“10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.”

**Their lack of Godly “works”, declares they do not know God.**

**“They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*”**

Titus 1:16

“16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.”

**“He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God”**

3John 1:11

“11 Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.”

**Everyone who has genuinely accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord does his will, even if it is called “works”.**

**“Not every one that saith”**

**“but he that doeth”**

Matthew 7:21

“21 ¶ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”

**“he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever”**

1 John 2:17

“17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

## **Falsely calling Jesus “Lord” (*the one we obey*)**

Luke 6:46

“46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”

**“He that hath my commandments,  
and keepeth them,  
he it is that loveth me”**

John 14:21

“21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.”

**“If ye keep my commandments,  
ye shall abide in my love”**

*John 15:10*

“10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.”

**“and doeth them not”**

*Matthew 7:26*

“26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:”

**“If ye keep my commandments,  
ye shall abide in my love”**

John 15:10

“10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.”

## **Do we obey God, or yield to sin?**

**“his servants ye are to whom ye obey;  
whether of sin unto death, or of  
obedience unto  
righteousness”**

Romans 6:16

“16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”



**Obedience is not** bondage to laws;  
it is cooperating with God.

**Read Revelation 22:14**

**If people rejected** the counsel of God and acted against themselves by not being baptized with the baptism of John the Baptist, how about people who decline to be baptized into Jesus Christ? Are they rejecting the counsel of God, and acting against themselves?

**“rejected the counsel of God against themselves,  
being not baptized of him”**

Luke 7:29–30

“29 And all the people that heard *him*, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John.

30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.”

**Jesus Christ tells us to repent and be baptized.  
Are we going to obey Him?**

**We accept God’s** grace by repenting and putting on Jesus Christ in water baptism, for the remission of sins. Then, we follow/obey Jesus Christ up the path into Godly righteousness.

**We need to** believe with all our heart that Jesus Christ is truly the Son of God, and accept him as our **Lord** (*as the one we will obey*) and Savior.

**We believe on** the **Lord** Jesus Christ, and we accept him as our **Lord** and Saviour with our heart and mind. Yet the Bible gives us instructions for joining Jesus Christ (*things we are to do*). Everyone who genuinely accepts Christ with their heart and mind will follow these instructions, because we love and respect our **Lord**. Jesus Christ instructs us to repent and be baptized.

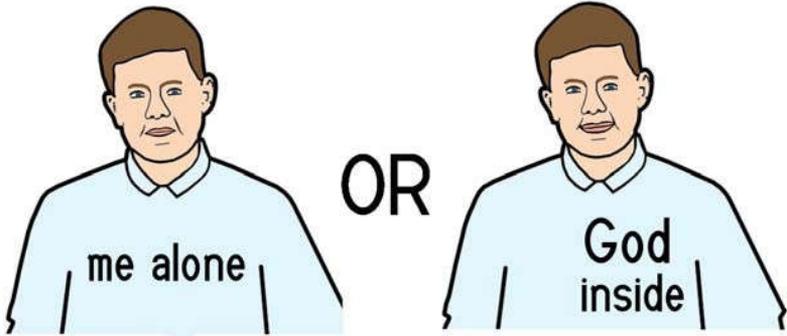
The **first day of the Church** is the day God launched/activated the Church by filling Christ’s followers with the Holy Spirit. On this day, St. Peter put forth the instructions on how to join/enter/put on Jesus Christ (*Acts 2:38*). When we genuinely do these things from the bottom of our heart, God will fill us with the Holy Ghost (*God will fill us with himself*).

**“Repent, and be baptized”**

**“ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost”**

Acts 2:38

“38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”



**We will receive power, when we receive the Holy Ghost.**

**We do not have** what it takes to be truly good and righteous by our self, because we are human beings. We cannot make it to Heaven without God living inside of us.

**Receiving the Holy Ghost is** God as the Holy Spirit entering us to constantly dwell inside of us 24/7: to lead us; to lead us out of sinning; to teach us; to comfort us; to mold us into the ways of God; to give us strength and boldness for doing God's will; etc. Our desires are changed, because God is dwelling inside of us. Sinful things now appear disgusting, and we desire the things that are good, pure, holy, and righteous. With the Holy Spirit dwelling inside of us, our love of God will cause us to wholeheartedly strive (*doing our very best*) to obey Jesus Christ in everything, including doing the "works", because we desire to obey him. We will pray and continually prayerfully read and search the Bible to find and follow Jesus Christ's instructions.

**"ye shall receive power, after"**

*Acts 1:8*

"8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

**"But as many as received him,  
to them gave he power to become the sons of God"**

*John 1:12*

"12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:"

**People are** addicted to sin. The first step in getting well is to admit to our self that we are sick and need help. People who

are addicted to sin, and who do not want to end up being destroyed, need the help which is found only in Jesus Christ. By genuinely joining themselves to Jesus Christ the Bible way, they will be forgiven and be filled with God's Spirit, who will cause them to travel up the road of righteousness, growing out of their sinning.

It is impossible to genuinely believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and continue to live our sinful life as we lived before we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Genuine belief on the Lord Jesus Christ always starts the dominoes falling forward in God.**



**Believing on the Lord** Jesus Christ includes accepting him as our Lord and Saviour > this results with us obeying him > this results with us repenting, being baptized, and receiving the Holy Ghost > this results with us following the leading of God's Spirit up the strait and narrow way of righteousness > this results with us doing good works > and on and on. It is impossible to genuinely believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and stop there. Not proceeding forward in God reveals we have not properly believed on the Lord Jesus Christ yet.

**If we do not want to** carry our cross, we could reason and convince ourselves we do not have to carry it. We could call carrying our cross "works" (*physical movements*), and point out Bible verses that declare we are not saved by our "works". This is incorrect thinking/reasoning. This is an effort to feel at ease while we are declining to do the Lord's will. Throughout this book, I point out Bible verses that declare, if we are not doing the "works" of Jesus Christ, we are not connected to Jesus Christ yet.

## Following is Obeying/Doing/Cooperating

Matthew 10:38

“38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.”

Luke 14:27

“27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.”

**Jesus Christ wants** us to carry our cross: doing our duties as Christians; suffering whatever trials, tribulations, and persecutions that come our way, associated with following and preaching Jesus Christ.

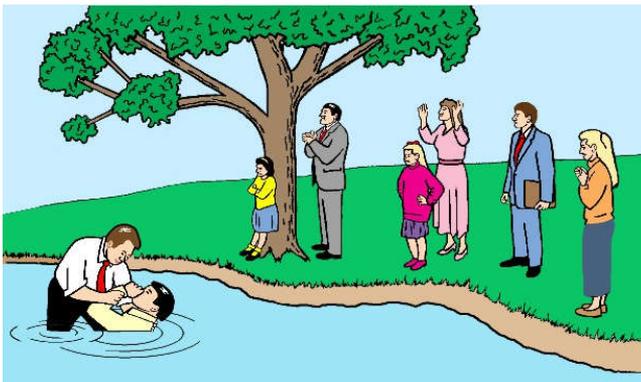
**We can** cooperate with Christ, and carry our cross. Or we can refuse to cooperate, and live a life separated from Jesus Christ. (NOTE: *It is impossible to travel the path of Jesus Christ, carrying our cross, until the Spirit of God is living inside us.*)

**The Bible is** a book of truths (*plural*). Just as we can read words out of context, we can get out of Biblical context by focusing on some Biblical truths, while we choose to ignore others.

**Example: Truth one, without truth two, can lead to incorrect conclusions.**

**TRUTH ONE** – We are not saved by our “works”  
Our “works” do not earn or help earn our way into Heaven. Our “works” do not make us worthy enough for Heaven.

**TRUTH TWO** – All genuine Christians strive to obey Jesus Christ’s commandments, and do the “works”.



**“hereby we do know that we know him,  
if we keep his commandments”**

**“He that saith, I know him,  
and keepeth not his commandments,  
is a liar,  
and the truth is not in him”**

*1 John 2:3–5*

“3 ¶ And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.”

**God molds genuine Christians into righteousness.  
We cannot be righteous without God dwelling inside us.**

**“except your righteousness shall exceed”**

*Matthew 5:20*

“20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

**“if the righteous scarcely be saved”**

*1 Peter 4:18*

“ 18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

**Who is our Lord (the one we obey)?  
Jesus Christ or Sin?**

**“his servants ye are to whom ye obey;  
whether of sin unto death, or of  
obedience unto righteousness”**

*Romans 6:16*

“16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”

**“Ye cannot serve God and mammon”**

*Matthew 6:24*

“24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”



**If we would** ask, “What is a normal person?” most people believe a normal person is someone similar to them self. If we would ask, “What is reality?” most people believe reality is what they personally perceive as reality, but we have a world of people who disagree. I am trying to get you to see that “normal” and “reality” is mostly our opinions and our experiences and not solid facts; everyone lives in a different environment and sees things differently. Reality is not something people can decide on; genuine reality only comes **as is**. We take it **as is**, or we reject reality. We cannot change reality, but we can work to learn which things are reality.

**It seems a lot of** people detest God, and bitterly fight and try to make God go away. Some people say that God is not a reality. They ignore the fact that millions, maybe billions, of people attest and affirm to the existence of God.

**People, who do not** want to believe in the existence of God, work hard to explain a reality without God. They cannot accept creation, because that would be declaring that God exists. To explain creation without the existence of God, many people will resort to what is called Darwinian’s **theory** of evolution, and they will relentlessly strive to come up with things to explain away creation by God. They avoid telling things like: the order that the Bible says living things were created is the same order that they say living things evolved. When people show the anti-God crowd things that are contrary to, things that do not fit, the evolution theory, they aggressively push and fight to come up with things to show that God does not exist. I have heard that Darwinian himself recanted his theory due to the fact that animals cannot reproduce outside of their family; example: cats can only reproduce in the cat family. The evolution people push hard and constantly to promote their **one-sided** picture about how living things came into existence. Their side is winning in the fact that evolution has taken over as the predominate thing being taught in schools. But it is a case of winning the battle, and losing the war, because the anti-God people will lose bigtime on Judgement Day. I am only writing a tiny bit about the anti-God movement working to steer people away from reality, because I am writing an article and not an encyclopedia.

**We know that we cannot** accept everything we read or see on the internet as truth. Likewise, we should not automatically accept everything we are taught in schools and elsewhere as truth. A lot of things I was taught in school has been shown to be incorrect, years later. We must not accept that everything our teachers teach us is totally correct, partly because they do not know everything, partly because their teachings are bias, and partly because a lot of them teach what they **are told and paid** to teach. Not all teachers believe what they are teaching; rather, they teach what they are required to teach, if they want to keep their job \$\$\$.

**Human intellectual reasoning can be** used to steer and mold an understanding into an understanding that we prefer. We must not use our human intellectual reasoning to bend genuine reality into a desired (*false*) reality. Once the understanding of genuine reality is altered, the understanding is a corrupted/made-up/false reality.

**As we hear** new things, we store this information inside our memory banks. The problem is that not everything we were told is true, not everything in our memory banks is correct, not everything we believe is correct. If we are not careful, we or our teachers can use human intellectual reasoning to steer and mold an understanding in the direction we, or our teachers, want it to go. Human intellectual reasoning and beliefs cannot be trusted as totally unflawed. We need to keep analyzing our memory banks, to weed out the things which are incorrect.

**Many people are** anti-God, because God and the Bible condemn some of the things they are doing, and some of the things they want to do. Just talking about these things makes them feel uneasy, so they repel God and the Bible. They do not accept that the things God condemns are things that will end up destroying them.

*Matthew 15:8-9*

“8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me.”



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