

TOPICAL SERMON: HOW TO KNOW YOU ARE SAVED

[2] The title of the sermon: "HOW TO KNOW YOU ARE SAVED."

"Am I Really Saved? Do I Have Everlasting Life?"

- Many people question their very own salvation constantly. Am I really saved?
- Do I really have everlasting life? Am I really going to make it to heaven?
- Am I a good person? Does God love me? Why did I do that if I am saved? Now I'm not sure.
- And so on. False preachers sure don't help the cause either.
- They are constantly getting people to question God's words. Here's what God says:

[3] 1 John 5:10-13 *He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. 11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. 13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.*

- God hath given to us eternal life. He that hath the Son hath life.
- That ye may know that ye have eternal life and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.
- You cannot believe on yourself in any way, shape, or form. You can't believe in your works.
- You must put all your faith IN Jesus Christ and ON Jesus Christ.
- Take any faith that you have on something else and put all your faith ON Jesus Christ.
- Trusting Jesus Christ completely is what saves you. Trusting His words right there is what saves you.

When you believe in the Son of God, you know that He has the power to save you and that He will save you.

- God says so right there. You may know that you have eternal life right now.
- And yes, you have it right now "IF" you believe in the name of the Son of God, Jesus Christ.
- If you trust Him to save you, then you are saved. And that's the end of it.
- This is what God says. If you have faith in God, then you will trust His words. Don't question His words.
- Don't allow someone else to question His words and shake the faith that you have in Jesus Christ.

[4] Genesis 3:1 *Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*

- Satan is always getting people to question God's words. "Did God really say that?"
- "Did God really mean that? Are you sure? Did you hear Him correctly?"
- Satan even tries this with Jesus Christ in Matthew Chapter 4.

[5] Matthew 4:1-4 *Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. 3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. 4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

- Satan tempts Jesus Christ and tries to twist the Scriptures. But Jesus is the Word of God.
- He knows His own words. He knows what they mean. He doesn't get confused. He doesn't question them.
- "It is written." Understand that IT IS WRITTEN down so you know the truth.
- And God's words don't change on you. The men and women who are like Satan are changing words.
- They are changing the meaning of His words. They twist Scriptures and ignore clear Scriptures.

"Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

- WE LIVE BY HIS WORDS. We get everlasting life by His words. We simply trust what He's saying.
- And we believe on the Son of God, Jesus Christ, to save us. And then we're saved. And that's it.
- This is called faith in Jesus Christ. I don't need anything else to go to heaven.
- I simply need faith in Jesus Christ. How do you know you're saved? HOW TO KNOW YOU'RE SAVED.
- I can't tell you. But you can know. God tells you that YOU CAN KNOW. I can't know for you.
- I can't see your faith. I can see your works, but your works do not prove you are saved.

You have all of these false preachers out there who are teaching people WRONG THINGS about salvation.

- Salvation is very easy and simple to understand. False preachers are making this difficult.
- We are saved by God's grace THROUGH FAITH. Nothing else. Salvation is through FAITH ALONE.
- Once you are saved, your works do not prove that you are saved. Works are not a part of salvation.
- Do not be fooled by the works of someone. Do not allow them to deceive you.
- "But he does good works. He must be saved." Really? Is that what God says?
- "But I've seen her do horrible things. She must not be saved." Really? Is that what God says?
- Let me be clear here. This is NOT what God says.

Kindness Does Not Equal Salvation

If someone is kind to you and helps you, this does not mean they are saved.

- This does not mean they are a good person. This does not mean they have everlasting life.
- This does not mean that you can trust them. Many child molesters start out being nice and kind.
- They are just trying to trick and deceive the little children. WAKE UP PEOPLE.

[6] Matthew 4:5-7 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.

- Satan knows the words of the Bible. He quotes the Bible right there.
- "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."
- If someone quotes the words of the Bible to you, are they a good person you should trust?
- If that were true, Jesus Christ would have trusted Satan right there and sinned against God. But He didn't.
- These examples are here for you. TRUST GOD'S WORDS and STOP TRUSTING OTHER WORDS.
- Don't allow someone to twist the meaning of God's words. Jesus put a stop to this.

[7] Matthew 4:8-10 *Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.*

- Now, with that said, God clearly tells us that we may know that we HAVE eternal life.
- And this eternal life is only through Jesus Christ the Son of God.

[8] John 3:36 *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

[9] John 5:24 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

[10] John 6:47 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.*

- Now, the words you see right there are straight from the mouth of Jesus Christ.
- "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." Would you take those words right there and say:
- "Did God really say that? Did He really mean that I have everlasting life if I only believe in Him?"
- Why in the world would you question your salvation? Would you question Jesus Christ to His face?

The verse you see right there is the 100% truth. It's so simple that it cannot be twisted.

- To have everlasting life there is only one requirement. "HE THAT BELIEVETH ON JESUS CHRIST." That's it.
- So, if you want everlasting life, what MUST you do? Believe ON the Lord Jesus Christ and nothing else.
- You wouldn't say that works are required. You wouldn't say that water baptism is a part of believing.
- A work is not believing. You wouldn't try to add anything else to salvation.
- You wouldn't teach others that they must do this work or that work to be saved.
- You would KNOW that everlasting life only comes through faith in Jesus Christ.
- Faith is not works in any way, shape, or form. BELIEVING IN YOUR MIND is not a work.

Works Of Any Type Do Not Save You

Getting baptized in water is a work. You don't just believe in your mind and then you were baptized in your mind.

- Repenting of sin is a work. This takes work. This takes you doing something.
- This is you trying to stop sinning. This would be you hating sin. Yes, it takes work to do this. God says so.
- Reading your Bible takes work. Praying takes work.
- The moment you go from unbelief to belief is not work. It's a moment up here. It's believing in something.
- You are not saved through any work. It's very simple and easy to be saved. Trust Jesus Christ.
- Trust His words right there.

[11] John 8:36-38 *If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. 37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. 38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.*

- The words of Jesus Christ who is God HAD NO PLACE in the Pharisees.

- "Because my word hath no place in you." If the words of Jesus have no place in you, you are in trouble.
- Jesus tells these people that they have a different father than He has. They are not children of God.

[12] John 8:39-41 *They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. 41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.*

- Abraham trusted in God and then he did what God told him to do. He wasn't saved through the works.
- But he did the works through faith. "Abraham believed and it was counted unto him for righteousness."
- Abraham rejoiced to see Jesus. "Please, my Lord, stay with me. I am so glad to see you."
- Abraham made Jesus a meal and asked Him to please stay in Genesis Chapter 18.
- The Pharisees wouldn't do that work for Jesus Christ. Jesus told them the truth.
- But they wanted to kill Him for telling them the truth. They were in opposition to Jesus.

Let me be clear here. If you want to make sure you're saved, don't oppose Jesus Christ.

- When He says, "Whosoever believeth on me hath everlasting life," that's what He means.
- If you are a child of God, you will hear the words of Jesus Christ and believe them.
- You won't trust the words of someone who says the exact opposite.
- And then you should speak the truth and tell others the truth.
- You wouldn't hate a man for telling you the truth.
- You wouldn't want to kill a man who has done nothing wrong.

[13] John 8:42-44 *Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. 43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*

- You are either a child of God or not. You might be hanging in the middle right now listening to this.
- You aren't rejected by God and a child of the devil, but you aren't saved yet and a child of God.
- Maybe you've believed in yourself and your good works to save you. THEY WON'T SAVE YOU.
- You won't save yourself through your goodness.
- God has the goodness you need, and He will give it to you.

Can You Understand The Words Of Jesus?

Jesus says, "Why do ye not understand my speech? Even because ye cannot hear my word."

- Can you hear and understand the words of Jesus Christ? Can you believe on Him right now?
- If you will believe on Him, then you will be saved. And that's the end of it.
- Jesus tells these children of the devil that they can't understand His words. He's trying.
- He's telling them the truth. BUT THEY WON'T LISTEN.
- If you won't listen to Jesus, then you should be worried.
- If you know someone who won't listen to the words of Jesus Christ, you should be worried about them.
- You should make sure they believe on Jesus Christ before it's too late.

[14] John 8:45-47 *And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. 46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? 47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.*

- All of the false preachers out there want to test the salvation of people when they don't have salvation themselves.
- They want to preach a works based salvation. They want works to be a part of salvation.
- "Well, you can know I am saved because of the great works that I do." That's what they say.
- Did they ever have faith in Jesus Christ? Judas Iscariot did works with the disciples. Were they good?
- No, but the disciples didn't notice. They thought he was good. He fooled them.
- If you want a test of salvation, verse 47 is about the closest test you'll ever find in the Bible.
- If I wanted to test the salvation of someone, I would take a very clear verse in the Bible and read it to someone.

For example, I would read Acts 2:31 that clearly says the soul of Jesus Christ was not left in hell.

- This means the soul of Jesus Christ went to hell. I would then ask, "Did the soul of Jesus Christ go to hell?"
- The so-called "great men of god" in the Seminaries would say, "NO, HIS SOUL DID NOT GO TO HELL."
- And I say, "Well, Jesus Christ says His soul did go to hell, and I think He knows better than you."
- Do you trust the words of Jesus Christ or not? TRUST IN HIM is what saves.
- If you won't trust His words, then I have no other conclusion except you are not saved.
- And I could still be wrong because you might have trusted once in your life and now you don't.
- You would still be saved "IF" you put all your trust in Jesus Christ previously.

The Pharisees, or what people would have called the religious people, wouldn't believe Jesus.

- We have all of these very similar people today in the so-called "Christian" churches.
- They are the religious people who think they are good just like the Pharisees.
- They think their so-called "goodness" is getting them into heaven. They think they are good.
- I was one of those people in the past. I know what it's like.
- I wasn't going to make it because I didn't lie to myself. I knew that I wasn't good.
- But the Pharisees wouldn't ever admit that. They thought they were good.
- They thought knew better than Jesus. They thought their works would save them.

Faith Alone Proves Salvation And That's It

People who believe goods works prove their salvation will be fooled. FAITH ALONE proves salvation.

- And you can't see faith. You can only see works. And your eyes will fool you.
- Let me say this again so you don't miss this. YOUR EYES WILL FOOL YOU.

[15] Matthew 23:27 *Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness.*

- The Pharisees looked really good to people. "Wow, look at them. They are so clean and good."
- You think that you see good works. You think that this person must be good.
- You think this person must be saved. Why? YOUR EYES. Your physical eyesight. I wouldn't trust it at all.

- We don't LIVE BY OUR EYESIGHT. We live by the truth that is found in God's words.
- We trust what He says. It's all about faith. It's not by sight. Understand that. NOT BY SIGHT.

[16] 2 Corinthians 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

[17] Romans 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

- If you trusted your eyesight, you would think all of these religious people today are good and saved.
- But they aren't because they SIMPLY will not trust in Jesus Christ.
- We live by faith. Our eye sight does not lead to life. Our eye sight does not lead us the right ways.
- When you think you see faith by works, you don't know that for sure.

For example, I could be standing up here acting like I believe what I'm saying and not actually believe it.

- Only I know within myself if I truly believe on Jesus Christ. I CAN KNOW I HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.
- I can't know that you have it. I can't know that you don't have it. Your works do not prove this to me.
- Why is that? Because salvation is not of works. This means I can't look at your works and know for sure.
- Do not be fooled by false preachers who are teaching something else.
- They will take Scriptures they know nothing about and twist those Scriptures.
- How to know you are saved? The word of God tells you. Trust His words.
- What else tells you that you're saved?

[18] Romans 8:15-17 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

- We haven't received the spirit of bondage again to fear.
- For example, if you fear everything in this world, this spirit isn't from God.
- "The Spirit itself beareth witness WITH OUR SPIRIT, that we are the children of God."
- "Joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him."
- When we stand up for the words of Jesus Christ, we will be persecuted just as He was.

Do You Stand With Jesus Or Go Against Him?

For example, in this corrupted country, if we stand with Jesus and say that homosexuals are an abomination:

- The world will hate us. Jesus wrote the Book of Leviticus.
- And He didn't change His mind about homosexuals. I will stand with Jesus Christ and not with this world.
- Does that mean that all people who are against homosexuals are children of God?
- No, it doesn't. Do not be deceived. Some of these same people believe in aliens that come here secretly.
- Some of these same people believe in a flat earth. The earth is not flat and it's very obvious.
- There are not aliens on Mars that come here secretly and abduct people.

You can know that you're saved by the Spirit that you have within you. This Spirit will guide you.

- This Spirit will be grieved when you do wrong. You will know that you are a child of God.

- There will not be any question about that. HAVE FAITH IN GOD'S WORD.

[19] 1 John 4:12-13 *No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.*

- God dwells in us if we love one another. Loving one another is keeping God's commandments.
- Keeping His commandments are done through faith. And this please God.
- Without faith, it is impossible to please Him. With faith, we can please Him by doing as He asks.
- This is love. And then we know that we dwell in Him and He in us. He has given us of His Spirit.

Do you have a desire to do what is good and right at any time? That's God dwelling within you.

- Would you rather learn His words or watch TV? You have a choice to walk in His Spirit or not.
- If you never have the desire to do that which is right and good, then you have a problem.

[20] Romans 8:23 *And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.*

- Even when you're saved, you're still going to have desires to do wrong.
- This is your flesh warring against your spirit. IT IS A WAR. And you'll know it.
- You'll do things that you don't want to do. But you do them anyway. And you feel bad about it.
- Others will do these same things, and they won't feel bad about it at all. They won't be sorry.
- We will never stop sinning until this body is redeemed. You will know you are in a war each day.

[21] Galatians 5:16-17 *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

- It's not okay to sin, but you won't be able to completely stop sinning in this body.
- It is a war while you have this body. So, if you commit a sin, this doesn't mean you aren't saved.
- Some false preachers will teach this to you, but they don't understand the Scriptures.

[22] Romans 7:18 *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

- There is not a preacher in this world right now that is "BETTER" than Paul.
- There's many who think they are. They will teach that you must be perfect to make it to heaven.
- They will teach that you must live a holy life. You can't live a perfect and holy life IN THIS FLESH.
- You can try and you should but only by faith. You can't do it on your own in this flesh.

Your Flesh Is Not Good

This flesh is all you have on your own, and it's not good. You must walk in the Spirit to be good.

- And then it's God who is good. It's not you. Use His Spirit to stop sinning and be good.
- But you won't do this perfectly and at all times. "In my flesh dwelleth no good thing."
- I want to do good, but how to perform that which is good I find not in my flesh. My body is not good.

- That's why it's dying. I am getting older and dying. My body is dying. And yours is too.
- You aren't getting any better in the flesh because it's dying.

If you think fleshly things, you might think you aren't saved. You might let someone put doubts in your mind.

- I will be very clear right here and right now. NO ONE CAN PUT THOSE DOUBTS IN MY MIND.
- How? As long as I stay in the word of God, my confidence is strong and unshakeable.
- If I get away from the word of God, I can easily be deceived.
- Someone might talk me into thinking I am not saved. Not going to happen any more. STAY WITH HIM.

[23] Romans 7:19-21 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. 20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

- We still have evil present within us because of this flesh.
- If I walk in the flesh, you might not think I am saved.
- If you catch me walking in the flesh, which, by the way, isn't difficult to catch, then you would think I am not saved.
- There is evil within me. MY FLESH IS EVIL. When I walk in the flesh, this is called evil.
- And you aren't better than Paul all you so-called "Christians" who think you're perfect out there.
- You aren't. If you think you have no sin, you deceive yourself. You sin throughout the day.

[24] Romans 7:22-23 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

- Sin is within our flesh. It's obvious. The word of God is only truth.
- When you have the Spirit of God, you delight in the law of God. But you have problems.
- We all have problems. We all mess up. This isn't proof that you aren't saved.
- If messing up means that we aren't saved, there's no one out there who is saved.
- Was Paul a saved man? Of course he was. When he wrote this, he was a saved man.

[25] Romans 7:24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

- This body is death because it has sin within itself. We are wretched in this body.
- We are miserable in this body. I can't wait to get rid of this body when it's my time to go.
- I don't want to go because I love the people who are here so much, and I don't want to leave them.
- God knows this. I love the life He has given me, but I can, for sure, do without this body.
- I would rather be with Jesus Christ, but He has work for me to do, and I'm going to do it.

[26] Romans 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

- Saved people want to serve the law of God. We want to do that which is right.
- But we have trouble sometimes. We don't get it right all the time. We serve the flesh many times.
- For example, your flesh tells you to not come to church and do something more fun.
- Your spirit is telling you to get to church and learn the word of God. Sometimes the flesh wins.

- Sometimes your flesh tells you there's other things more important than church.

Are You Allowing Your Flesh To Win? If So, This Doesn't Mean You Aren't Saved

For example, in the distant past, I would tell myself that I was too tired to go to church.

- That was a long time ago. Now, I'm not going to miss church. Thank God.
- I will preach when I don't feel well. Church is my favorite time now.
- Sometimes my flesh doesn't feel like coming to church, but the Spirit is strong and wins.

Amazing things happen at church, and I don't want to miss it. Prayers are being answered.

- People are learning wisdom from God's words. I am learning wisdom from God's words.
- I don't want to miss out on that NO MATTER WHAT. The Spirit wins. The flesh loses.
- This is how you can know that you're saved. The Spirit should be winning some battles.
- You SHOULD be choosing to walk in the Spirit and not the flesh.

Another example: Sometimes I don't feel like singing at church. This feeling comes from my flesh.

- We all have it at times. I just had a bad day. I might not feel like singing.
- But guess what? I do it anyway. And do you know what happens? The Spirit wins.
- And you can know that you're saved. Singing to God makes things better. His Spirit is joy.
- When we walk in the Spirit, we don't have fear. We have good things.
- Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.

When I walk in the flesh, I lose my temper. I lose the longsuffering that God has.

- I lose the love, joy, peace, and gentleness. I lose the goodness and faith.
- I lose my mouth. I should just shut up and be quiet when I walk in the flesh. Allow the Spirit to win.
- If you have this battle going on within you, then you can know you are saved from faith in Christ.
- And no, it's not easy. Being saved makes the war within very real. It's a fight each day.

Before I was saved, life was easier. I will tell you the truth. I was living how I wanted to live.

- And all I had was the flesh and there was no struggle. But there were very bad things happening.
- But I didn't really care. It was all about me. And as long as I was happy, I didn't care about others.
- That's a horrible place to be. You don't want to be like that. That's the flesh and only the flesh.
- SAVED PEOPLE CAN CHOOSE TO WALK IN THE SPIRIT. Unsaved don't have that choice.
- They first must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be able to choose to walk in the Spirit.

How to know you are saved? What have you learned so far? TWO THINGS:

- 1) You know by faith that you are saved. You know that it is not of works in any way, shape, or form.
- You know that you can't lose salvation through your works. There's nothing you can do to lose salvation.
- Your faith in Jesus Christ has saved you. That's how you know.
- 2) God gives you the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. You choose to walk in the Spirit or the flesh.
- If there's a war going on between your flesh and spirit, there's the proof you need to know you're saved.
- No one can tell you if you are saved or not except yourself. Is the witness within you or not? You'll know.

If someone asks you: "Are you 100% sure you're going to heaven?"

- And you say "I'm not sure," then you might have a problem.
- If you're saved, you should know 100% that you're going to heaven.
- You will say, "OH YES, I KNOW I'M GOING TO HEAVEN!!!"
- I know that is not my goodness that gets me there.
- It is the goodness of Jesus Christ that gets me to heaven. He imputes His righteousness to me.
- He died for me, He was buried for me, His soul went to hell for me, He arose in His body for me.
- Jesus Christ is the Son of God, He loves me, He saved me, He gave me everlasting life that I don't deserve.

You Can Know For Sure That You Are Saved

YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE SAVED. You have everlasting life.

- There is no "WELL, I AM NOT SURE I AM GOOD ENOUGH TO GET TO HEAVEN."
- Your goodness doesn't matter. It's all about faith in Jesus Christ. Salvation is by grace through faith.

[27] Romans 3:25-27 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. 27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

- Saved people will declare HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS. Not ours. I am not righteous in any way, shape, or form.
- He is the justifier of those who believe in Jesus. We can't boast about our greatness.
- The false preachers boast about their greatness all the time. They raise each other up all the time.
- Saved people shouldn't do this. We can't boast because the law of faith takes the boasting away.

Noah didn't get to heaven because he built the ark. Sarah didn't get to heaven by being a good wife to Abraham.

- Moses didn't get to heaven by leading the people to the promised land.
- Job didn't get to heaven by his works.
- Jonah didn't make it to heaven by preaching God's word when he didn't want to.
- Daniel didn't get to heaven by praying when the earthly law told him not to.

Rahab didn't get to heaven by any of the works she did. She got there by faith.

- Peter got there by the faith he had before he denied Jesus Christ.
- Paul got there by the faith he had before he continued to sin in his flesh.
- John the Baptist made it to heaven because he believed on the Son of God.
- BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD WHICH TAKETH AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD.

All of the people in heaven right now got there by faith.

- The door to heaven opened for them ONLY because of their faith in God. That's it.
- There is no other way to heaven. There is no other way to be saved.
- When people think there is some other way, they question whether or not they are saved.
- You can't shake me because I believe on THE ROCK who is the Son of the Almighty God in heaven.
- We do not allow false preachers to twist Scriptures and teach that we can lose salvation.

[28] 1 John 2:18-19 *Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.*

- False preachers, just like this example of the Scriptures, will teach that you can lose salvation.
- They will use this passage as proof that you can lose salvation.
- I actually have to read that over and over again just to realize what they're attempting to twist here.
- Because it's not there, and I don't see it with a clear view of the Scriptures.
- But here's what they teach. They are saying the antichrists were a part of the church.
- And since they were a part of the church they were saved people. WHAT???
- And since they were saved people they lost their salvation by becoming antichrists. WEIRD VIEW.

People Who Left The Church Didn't Lose Salvation As They Weren't Saved

They will say that people who leave the church lost their salvation because they were a part of the church.

- No. Wrong. Judas Iscariot was one of the 12 disciples. This doesn't mean he was a saved man.
- This doesn't mean Judas Iscariot was a child of God and then lost his salvation.
- He was against Jesus the entire time. There are people who creep into churches unawares.

[29] Jude 3-4 *Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. 4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.*

- This is what antichrists will do. They will creep in just as they did in 1 John Chapter 2.
- But they will leave when they see you aren't shaken by the faith that is in Christ Jesus.
- We know we have everlasting life through FAITH in Jesus Christ.
- We know that it is a one-time event. We know 100% for sure that salvation is not of works.
- The Bible clearly says so over and over and over again. There are entire books written for this reason.

The Book of Galatians was written to show us that salvation is not of works.

- The Book of Romans was written to show us that salvation is not of works.
- Works are done through our flesh and there dwelleth no good thing in our flesh.
- We can only do good works by walking in the Spirit and not in the flesh.
- The good works are done through faith. Then you have the James Chapter 2 clowns.
- They will say that you MUST have works. OR you are not saved.
- OR you lost salvation because you didn't do any good works. But let's be clear here.

[30] Ephesians 2:8-10 *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. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

- This passage is clearly talking about salvation. There is no arguing this point.

- "For by grace are ye saved through faith. NOT OF WORKS." Salvation is not of works.
- This means salvation is not of works at ANY POINT. This is before, during, or after.
- Once you are saved by faith, you understand that it's all Jesus Christ who saves. Your works are about you.
- Salvation is not about you. Salvation is not in you. Salvation is in Jesus Christ. NOT YOU.
- The Bible VERY CLEARLY says that salvation is NOT OF WORKS over and over again.
- But, you get these antichrists that will twist James Chapter 2 and say that salvation includes works.

Verse 10 right there explains this even further. "For we are His workmanship."

- We were created in Christ Jesus unto good works. Once we are in Christ Jesus we SHOULD do good works.
- The Bible never says that we MUST do good works to receive the gift of God. This doesn't make any sense.
- You do not work for salvation. Works are not proof of salvation either. You SHOULD do good works.
- When you see someone doing what you think is a "good work," did they do this work in faith?
- How do you know? You can't see their faith. You can only take a guess.
- Which God hath before ordained that we SHOULD walk in good works. WE SHOULD. Not we MUST.
- Again, your works are not proof of your salvation. Don't use works to know that you're saved.
- SALVATION IS NOT OF WORKS.

The Book Of James Is Talking To Saved Believers

The Book of James is talking to already saved believers. He is talking to his brethren who have faith.

- They are already saved with everlasting life. Read the book of James and you'll clearly see this.
- Don't just jump to a verse in James Chapter 2 and twist the verse to say works are proof of salvation.

[31] James 1:2-3 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

- Do you see? He says, "My brethren." He says, "The trying of YOUR FAITH." These people have faith.
- They are saved. Now he's going to teach the saved people that good works are highly important.
- You SHOULD be doing good works in Jesus Christ through faith in Jesus Christ.
- You speak because you believe. You do good works because you believe.
- But the James Chapter 2 clowns believe themselves to be perfect and doing good works all the time.
- Let me be clear here. There is not one person in existence who does good works all the time.

[32] James 2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

- Let's go through this example. Does this verse say that I must have good works to know that I am saved?
- No, it doesn't. Works do not assure you of salvation.
- It's faith alone that assures you of salvation in every case.
- There are no cases in which works assure you of salvation. Let's say that I SAY that I have faith.
- You don't know that I have faith for sure because you can't see my faith.

I SAY that I have faith. But I won't do any good works for God. Do I really have faith? I could. But I might not.

- If I say I have faith but I won't do anything with that faith, does it profit anyone?
- Is my faith doing anyone else any good if I won't use my faith to do good works?

- Obviously, the answer is no. I won't share the Gospel with anyone. I won't preach God's words.
- I won't pray to God for others. I won't study the Bible to find the truth and then teach it to others.
- I simply sit there and say that I have faith. And I do nothing else.

Do I really have faith if I won't do anything? Only I know if I truly have faith.

- Can faith save me? YES, IT CAN. Being alone, faith can save me. Salvation is through faith. Duh.
- James isn't saying that faith alone can't save you. He doesn't say that. He asks the question.
- If you think that faith alone can't save you, you probably aren't saved.
- If you think James is teaching that you must have works to be saved, you probably aren't saved.

There are times in our life when we aren't doing any good works for God. Sleeping is one of those times.

- When we're working our normal job, at times, we aren't doing good works for God.
- When we sin, we especially aren't doing good works for God. We don't have faith 100% of the time.
- We definitely aren't growing our faith at all times throughout each day. Are you? Please.

[33] James 2:15-16 *If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?*

- There's God's example of faith without works. A brother or sister is naked and needs food.
- You are saved and they are saved. They are a brother or sister. And you don't help them.
- Where is your faith? Where is your good works? Did you profit them at all? Did you help them?
- No, you didn't. Does this mean you aren't saved? NO, IT DOESN'T.
- Does all of God's people do good works all the time? We just learned that Paul sure didn't.

Saved People Don't Always Do Good

He didn't do the things that he wanted to do 100% of the time. He sinned in his flesh. This is not good works.

- Was that good for Paul to do? No, it wasn't. But we are not perfect in this flesh at all times.
- If salvation were based on our works, we would lose salvation every day.
- But thank God salvation is not of works.
- When we won't do good works through faith, we don't profit God.

[34] James 2:17 *Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.*

- Does dead faith save you? YES, faith saves you even if it isn't growing and alive at the time.
- We all have dead faith at times in our life. When we watch football, our faith is dead.
- We aren't doing anything to profit anyone. Does faith stand alone for salvation? YES, IT DOES.
- If you won't do any works with your faith, though, God says your faith is dead. Not good.
- So get out there and do some good works with your faith.

But notice what this Scripture says, and do not miss this.

- "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead." This means faith exists without works.
- But the faith is dead. It's not growing. It's not improving. But it's there. "BEING ALONE."
- This means it is there but it's alone. That's what the Scriptures say.

- For your faith to be alive, growing, and profiting others, you need good works.
- If not, your faith will not grow. Will that faith save you, though? YES IT WILL.
- The tiniest drop of faith will save you.

[35] Luke 17:6 *And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.*

- The tiniest drop of faith is so powerful that it saves you and gives you everlasting life.
- Rooting up a sycamine tree by the root and planting it in the sea is nothing compared to everlasting life.
- The tiniest little drop of faith saves you. Jesus Christ HIMSELF says so over and over again.
- Our faith then grows through good works. Faith grows when you read the Bible.
- Faith grows when you pray. Faith grows when you preach the Gospel. Faith grows when you go to church.
- Faith grows when you ask forgiveness for the things you've done wrong each day.
- Faith grows when you trust in God. THIS IS FAITH.

[36] James 2:18 *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.*

- I say to you: "You have faith, and I have works. Show me your faith without your works."
- How will you do that? How will you show me your faith without your works? You can't.
- I can only show you my faith by my works.
- For example, I am showing you my faith by preaching the truth in God's words.

Some people with the opposing view of these Scriptures will say that I am a false preacher without faith.

- Which one am I? Am I doing a good work, or am I doing an evil work?
- To one person's eyes, I am doing an evil work. To another person's eyes, I am doing a good work.
- My works show you my faith in God's words. If I teach salvation is of works, I do not have faith.
- I've gone in the way of Cain. But I don't preach that in any way, shape, or form. That's not faith.
- So, I am showing you my faith by preaching that FAITH ALONE SAVES you WITHOUT WORKS.

Preaching God's Words Does Not Equal Salvation

When I preach God's words, this does not save me. But my faith is growing.

- My faith doesn't have to reach some imaginary level to be saved.
- My faith doesn't have to reach 100 degrees on the thermometer scale for me to be saved.
- I just need a little drop to be saved. And that's that. Now it's time for me to get to work for God.
- If I won't do any good works for God, I am still saved because I had faith.

[37] James 2:19-21 *Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?*

- Believing that there is one God doesn't save you. Believing ON Jesus Christ does save you.
- The devils don't trust in Jesus Christ to save them because they can't be saved.
- They are not flesh and blood. They are spirits. Jesus came in the flesh to save us in our flesh.

- And there's much more to verse 19, and I've done an entire sermon on that.

Abraham our father was justified by works when he offered Isaac his son upon the altar.

- Let's say we were reading the Bible and we weren't sure that Abraham was saved.
- He didn't do everything God said to do perfectly. He laughed at God at one point.
- He didn't get up and leave his father as instructed. He took his father with him.
- His father worshipped false gods. The Bible says so. But he stayed with his father until he died.
- And then he did what God told him to do. He wasn't perfect. You might question if he was saved or not.

But, when you read about his work with being willing to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, you see his great faith.

- Do you have faith that great to do the same thing? When we see Abraham do this, we see his faith.
- This justifies Abraham in front of our eyes, and we are sure he has faith without fear.
- When Stephen was murdered and didn't back down, we see his great faith without fear.
- Stephen is justified to our eyes. The works don't justify you before God. FAITH DOES.

[38] James 2:22 *Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?*

- The Bible never says that you must have perfect faith to be saved.
- "Thy faith hath made the whole." False preachers will teach you need a specific type of faith to be saved.
- They have no clue what they are talking about. Grow your faith through works.
- But once you have faith, you are saved. ANY AMOUNT OF FAITH = SAVING FAITH.

[39] Luke 7:50 *And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.*

- Jesus Christ NEVER says that your works will save you.

[40] James 2:23 *And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.*

- Abraham believed God FIRST. Then, he did the works.
- When Abraham believed God, the righteousness was imputed unto him.
- He wasn't saved after he did the works. He was saved after he believed in God.
- He believed in the promise that God made him. This is when Abraham was saved.

Saying That You Have Faith Doesn't Justify You Before Men

[41] James 2:24-26 *Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. 25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*

- Saying that you have faith does not justify you before men. This is what the example of Rahab does here.
- God is teaching you exactly what He means. You are justified by works in front of man.
- This is why Rahab wasn't killed that day by the children of Israel. Her works saved her in front of man.
- But she only did that work because she had faith in God. The faith is what ACTUALLY saved her.

If my spirit left my body, would my body still be here? Yes, but it sure wouldn't be doing much.

- I wouldn't be helping you. "Hey Josh, can you come help us today?" I wouldn't be of much help.
- My body is still there BUT dead. Not profiting you in any way.
- So faith without works is dead also because it's not profiting anyone. That's all James Chapter 2 means.
- James Chapter 2 is NOT teaching that works are required for salvation.
- Works do not prove salvation. You do not know you are saved by the works you do.

[42] Romans 4:1-3 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? 2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. 3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

[43] Romans 4:4-7 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. 5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. 6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, 7 Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

- James Chapter 2 does not contradict Romans Chapter 4.
- If what these false preachers were teaching about James Chapter 2 was true:
- Then Romans Chapter 4 would clearly contradict James Chapter 2. But they don't.
- James Chapter 2 is simply teaching you that good works are important because your faith is growing.
- That's what you want. But you MUST understand that you aren't saved by works.

How To Know You Are Saved

In conclusion, how do you know you are saved? How do you know you have everlasting life?

- The answer is very simple. HAVE FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. Do you? Do you trust Him with all that you have?
- Do you believe His words? Whosoever believeth in Him HATH everlasting life. That's it.
- Then, you receive the indwelling of the Holy Spirit that guides you if you allow.
- There will be a war going on between good and evil; between the spirit and the flesh.

When you sin, this doesn't mean you've lost salvation or that you aren't saved. Understand that.

- I hope this sermon has helped you how to know you are saved. Just have faith in Jesus Christ.
- Put it all on Him. Salvation is through Him and by Him alone. Nothing else and no one else including you.
- God says that you can KNOW that you HAVE everlasting life through the Son of God.
- Believe what He says and that's that. This is faith in God. This is trust in God. Do that, and you are saved.

Let's pray.