

"Not By Works Of Righteousness which we have done, but according to His Mercy He Saved us, by the washing of Regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by His Grace, we should be made Heirs according to the Hope of Eternal Life." *Titus 3:5-7 KJV*



"And that (faith), NOT of yourselves, it is the GIFT of God. NOT of works, lest any man should boast." Faith of necessity produces obedience to God's Word, because what you believe you do, but it cannot be gained by works. Serving God won't produce one ounce of faith. *"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."* Obedience is the evidence of faith. Many fearfully bury faith in human reason, but faith requires courage. The Word of God is clear; *"But the fearful...shall have their part in the Lake which burneth with fire...which is the Second Death."* Courage is doing what scares you! Obeying God's Word requires the Gift of faith, because through that belief comes the courage to obey God's Word. Fear of rejection kills most faith. *"The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe."* The question is, "Who is your Judge? God or men?" God gives Eternal Life, protects with angels, and meets every need of the obedient! Are you needy? Check your obedience. Deeds won't earn Heaven and pride damns every unbeliever! You can march proudly into Hell or humbly enter Heaven. Pride got Lucifer thrown out of Heaven and a third of the angels with him. Pride keeps believers in bondage to sin. Accepting the Truth that men are sinners, unworthy of God's Mercy and Grace, requires humility! You can't do anything for God, but love, trust, and obey Him. Did your parents explain every rule? Example: "You can't drive the car!" A child might not understand, or even agree with the rule, but obedience is what protects, not understanding. God's Word doesn't have to make sense to you before you obey. God's provision lines the pathway of obedience, not service. *"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."* Obedience is the touchstone of Divine favor. You won't obey if you don't believe. *"Without faith it is impossible to please [God]."* YOU choose God through faith!

Though prideful works cannot give men,
The right of Heav'n to enter in,
God's mercy brings to humbleness,
A faith 'twill transport to His grace. -CGP

Those who humbly rest in Christ's finished work, and faithfully obey His Word, will rule and reign with Christ. *"Blessed and Holy is he that hath part in the First Resurrection: on such the Second Death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him."* Works are quicksand to unbelievers. The harder they try, the faster they sink. You are saved by believing God's Word. Obedience is the lifeboat of faith. Jesus will save you by speaking His Word in your thoughts as you meditate (think) on it. "Jesus saves" is present tense. Believers forget that He is ever saving them. Those who come to Him for mercy; find His mercy. *"Let us therefore come boldly (because we know He loves us) unto the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain Mercy, and find Grace to help in time of need."* If sinking, call for the "Life Guard," Jesus: He's always there! If you believe you don't need God's Word, you'll never be saved!

"But when Jesus heard that, He said unto them, 'They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.'" Matthew 9:12-13 KJV