

#### FAITH

AND

### WORKS





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If were not careful we can misunderstand the relationship between our faith and our works and miss out on what it really means to follow Jesus.

#### Common Misunderstanding #1:

"In order to be saved I must add certain works to my faith."

#### Jehovah's Witness

Faith in Jesus + Obey God's Laws + Belong to the JW

Organization + Loyalty

#### Mormons

Faith in Jesus + Baptism + Confirmation + Good Works + Temple Endowment + Marriage/Family Sealing + Ordination (Men Only)

#### Common Misunderstanding #2:

"Since faith is all that is required to be saved then my works are not important."

32% ID as Christian
20% Actively Practice in NZ
6.4% Actively Practice in NZ

"The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, then walk out the door and deny Him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable."

- Brennen Manning

"Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning."

– Dallas Willard

### We are Saved by Faith Alone

who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup> There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. (John 3:16-18 NLT)

<sup>8</sup> God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. <sup>9</sup> Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. (Ephesians 2:8-9 NLT)

<sup>21</sup> But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. <sup>22</sup> We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. <sup>23</sup> For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. <sup>24</sup> Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. (Romans 3:21-24 NLT)

### What about the Old Testament Law?



<sup>23</sup> Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in protective custody, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed. 24 Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. <sup>25</sup> And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian. (Galatians 3:23-25 NLT)

### We are Saved by Faith Alone

### The Faith That Saves is Not Alone

## Jesus is God Jesus is Savior Jesus is Lord

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<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? <sup>17</sup> So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (James 2:14-17 NLT)

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<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." (Matthew 11:28-29 NLT)



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<sup>23</sup>"All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. <sup>24</sup> Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me. (John 14:23-24 NLT)

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"The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heartbreaking needs, is whether those who...are identified as "Christians" will become disciples—students, apprentices, practitioners—of Jesus Christ, steadily learning from him how to live the life of the Kingdom of the Heavens into every corner of human existence."

- Dallas Willard



# We are Saved by Faith Alone...The Faith That Saves is Not Alone