

Romans 3:29-30 *Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. ²⁹ Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also*

Matthew 25:35-40 *for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ ³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? ³⁸ **When did we see You a stranger** and take You in, or naked and clothe You? ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, **inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.**’*

Romans 10:12 *For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.*

Galatians 3:28 *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

Luke 10:25-37 *And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?” ²⁷ So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’ ” ²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.” ²⁹ But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ Then Jesus answered and said: “A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. ³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, “Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’ ³⁶ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?” ³⁷ And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”*

- Is it possible to earn Heaven (Eternal Life)?
- Jesus said to the expert on the Old Testament Law, "Do this, and you will live."
- Yes, 100% perfection gets you into Heaven! However, mess up one thought, one word, one deed, and you forfeit heaven. Omit words and deeds that should have been done and you also forfeit Heaven!

"Is it possible to earn Heaven?" is a trick question. No one will or can succeed at this. That is why we **must rely on Jesus Christ for our salvation!** Our works may be good, but they cannot get us into Heaven.

James 2:10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

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

- Seek first to understand before seeking to be understood.
- For the gospel, we must (1) listen and (2) engage those who are our neighbors.

1 Corinthians 9:19-23 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; ²⁰ and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; ²¹ to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; ²² to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. ²³ Now this I do for the gospel's sake

Ephesians 4:15 Speak the **truth in love**...

We can be Biblically accurate and personally insensitive.

Soul Searching Questions We Need to Ask Ourselves:

- Do I really want to know who my neighbor is?
- Is my focus on expressing my opinion or on advancing the gospel?
- Am I willing to engage with someone who I know has viewpoints that are opposite of mine?

It matters to God what we think about others!

It matters to God how we treat others!

What Does The Bible Teach About Salvation?

God has rescued us through Christ (**John 3:17**). Specifically, it was Jesus' death on the cross and subsequent resurrection that achieved our salvation (**Romans 5:10; Ephesians 1:7**). Scripture is clear that salvation is the gracious, undeserved gift of God (**Ephesians 2:5, 8**) and is only available through faith in Jesus Christ (**Acts 4:12**).

How do we receive salvation? We are saved through *faith* by first *hearing* the gospel, which is the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection (**Ephesians 1:13**). Then, we must *believe* and fully trust the Lord Jesus (**Romans 1:16**). This belief involves repentance, which is a change of mind about sin and Christ (**Acts 3:19**) and calling on the name of the Lord (**Romans 10:9-10, 13**).

A definition of the Christian doctrine of salvation would be, "The deliverance, by the grace of God, from eternal punishment for sin which is granted to those who accept by faith God's conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus." Salvation is available through Jesus alone (**John 14:6**) and is dependent on God alone for provision, assurance, and security.

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