



## THE BIBLE WAY TO HEAVEN

### Realize That God Loves You.

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*  
(John 3:16).

### The Bible Says That All Men Are Sinners.

*“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”*  
(Romans 3:23).

### God’s Word Also Says That Sin Must Be Paid For.

*“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”* (Romans 6:23).

### The Good News Is That Jesus Christ Paid for Your Sins.

*“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”* (Romans 5:8).

### You Must Personally Call on Jesus Christ to Save You.

The Bible Says, *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”* (Romans 10:13).

**COLLEGIANS FOR CHRIST**

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# Are We Justified by Faith or by Works?

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## Memory Verse - Ephesians 2:10

*“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”*

## Study Aim

- To discover the difference between the teachings of Paul and James on being justified by faith and works.
- To learn what James is teaching us concerning the place of good works and their role in our Christian life.
- Read James 2:14-26

## Set the Stage

- The theme of James: The Evidences of a Mature Christian.
  - James is dealing with the difference between false faith and genuine faith.
- Paul deals with our faith **before God** while James deals with our faith **before man**. Paul deals with how we come to Jesus Christ and James deals with how we act after we come to Jesus Christ.
- Their writings do not contradict each other, instead their writings actually compliment each other.

### Take it to the Next Level

#### 1. The Example of Scripture

##### A. The use of justified in Scripture.

- Justify means “to declare righteous.”
  - As relating to God and His law, it means that we are **declared righteous** by God because of what Jesus has done. (Paul)
  - As relating to man, it has the idea to be **perceived as righteous** by what we do. (James)

##### B. The order of faith and works.

- Read Ephesians 2:8-10
- Read Titus 3:8
  - *What is the order given between faith and works? Which comes first? Which is a result of the other?*

#### 2. The Example of the Devils

##### A. Knowing of God.

- The devils know that God exists but this is not enough. There is a difference between “belief in” and “belief of.”
- *Why is “belief of God” or “knowing of God” not enough to save someone?*

##### B. Venturing Trust in God.

- Biblical faith is “ventured trust” in Jesus Christ. It occurs when you “call on” Jesus Christ. (Romans 10:13)

#### 3. The Example of Abraham

##### A. Abraham’s salvation.

- Read Genesis 15:6

##### B. Abraham’s evidence of his salvation.

- Read Genesis 22:1-18
- James is not talking about Abraham’s salvation. He uses an example 25-30 years later in Abraham’s life. He sacrificed Isaac because of his faith.

#### 4. The Example of Rahab

##### A. Rahab’s salvation.

- Read Joshua 2:9-11
- Rahab heard of God and believed in Him before the spies ever came.

##### B. Rahab’s evidence of her salvation.

- James again uses an example that occurred after salvation. She hid the spies because of her faith.

### Take Your Next Step

- What works does your faith produce in your daily life?
- What do people think as they see you? Would they know you are a follower of Jesus by the way you live?

### Taking it Further

- What are works that you consider important to the Christian faith? What can help you to do good works?