



June 18, 2006 (Vol. 6)

## TRUTH - The Way God Sees It (6)

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6. "There is nothing you can do in connection with your salvation." While it is certainly true that we are not saved by perfect works, it is true that God requires works in connection with our salvation. Many do not understand this, not because it is a hard subject, nor because the Bible is unclear - but because of human religious traditions. This is the whole point of this series - man-made doctrines hinder the Truth, they divide people, they do not help people follow Christ.

"Where then is the glorying? It is excluded. By what manner of law? of works? Nay; but by a **law of faith**. We reckon therefore that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. Or is God the God of Jews only? is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yea, of Gentiles also:" (Rom. 3:27-29)

(1) Man cannot glory, because he has not earned salvation.

(2) What KIND of law excludes human boasting? A law of perfect works? No. "**A law of faith**"!

(3) This is what it means to be "justified by faith" - a LAW of faith. So says the context!

(4) What do "works of the law" refer to here? ALL works? Obviously not, or else the LAW of faith is also excluded. What then? The Jewish law, the one that distinguished between the Jews & Gentiles! That one required perfect

works and no one (except Christ) lived that way!

So, are ALL works excluded? No. For faith is a "**work** of God" (John 6:29) and baptism is when people's sins are blotted out "through faith in the **working** of God" (Col. 2:12, 14). And Abraham, the father of faith that Justifies (Rom. 4:3) had "**steps**" of faith (4:12). Thus, James 2 refers to active, living & obedient faith as "**saving**" and "**justifying**" and "**reckoned as righteousness**" (2:14-26)!

Works of faith, trust & **submission** to God does **NOT** mean man has room to boast. **Nor** does it mean we **EARN** salvation! The very fact that it is obedience "**of faith**" should end the quibbling by showing that this is **dependence upon God**, not our imperfect, fallible & weak selves.

Do? Why yes, there is much to do - "**by faith**" (Heb. 11). And without faith (as defined by the Bible), it is impossible to be well pleasing unto God (Heb. 11:6). Is your faith Biblical?

### COMMON ABBREVIATIONS

When I saw this list I know what I did. I looked for some that I had wondered about for a while! They may be common, but that does not mean everyone knows what they mean.

I know I use some of these. Commentaries, interlinears, articles, etc use these from time to time. If you are like me, you may want to save this list!

A.D. - "Anno Domini", in the year of our Lord.

B.C. - Before Christ.

C.E. - Common Era (same as A.D.).

B.C.E. - Before the Common Era (Same as B.C.).

Gr. - Greek language.

Heb. - Hebrew language.

Sept. or LXX - Septuagint (O.T. in Greek).

O.T. - Old Testament.

N.T. - New Testament.

KJV - King James Version.

AV - Authorized Version (Same as the KJV).

ASV - American Standard Version.

RV - Revised Version (English 1881-1885).

RSV - Revised Standard Version (1946-1952).

ca. - "Circa", about.  
 vol. - Volume.  
 yr. - Year.  
 n.d. - No date.  
 v. or ver. - Verse.  
 vv. or vs. - Verses.  
 p. - Page.  
 pp. - Pages  
 cf. - Confer, compare, see.  
 cp. - Compare, see.  
 ch. - Chapter.  
 chs. - Chapters.  
 e.g. - "Exempli gratia", for example.  
 f. - And the following page or verse.  
 ff. - And the following pages or verses.  
 fig. - Figure or figuratively.  
 ibid. - "Ibidem", in the same place cited before.  
 loc. cit. - "Loco citato", in the place cited.  
 op. cit. - "Opere citato", in the work cited.  
 i.e. - That is, in other words.

**Doris Williams, Wayne Williams** (Doris' son), **Horace Jones** (Doris William's brother), **Ruth Williams** (Betty England's niece), **Robert England** (at home again), **Ocia Bell-Jones & Charlie Jones** (Mother & brother to Doris Williams); **Sheila Eller & Laken Eller**.

**Those in Iraq: Jason Zelenak** (Alisa Fletcher's brother), **Cary Matheny**.

**We Invite You To All Our Services!**

Sunday Bible Study	9 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10 am
Sunday Evening Worship	6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7 pm

Christ is not sweet,  
 till sin is made bitter.

"The full soul loatheth an  
 honeycomb; but to the  
 hungry soul every bitter thing  
 is sweet." (Prov. 27:7).

**THINGS TO REMEMBER**

- **Door to Door** - every Tuesday at 6pm.
- **Men's & Ladies Classes** - Tues, June 13 @ 7 pm.
- **Home Bible Study** – Sat., June 24.
- **Business Meeting** – Sun. June 25 @ 5pm.
- **Gospel Meeting** - Ron Roberts, Oct.15-20, 2006.

**PRAY FOR**

**Mag Bumbalough, Greg Capps, Sabrina Capps, Thelma Cunningham, Donald Eller, Holly Jernigan** (Joyce Gardner's niece, surgery 6-15-06), **John Ross Key** (Mary Cox's son), **Marci Miller** (Alisa Fletcher's mother), **Monie Petty, Dave Poteet, Rose Taylor,**

***North Sparta church of Christ***

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