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Mark 16:16: “He that believeth **and is baptized** shall be **saved**; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”

Acts 2:38: “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, **and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

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Acts 15:1: “And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be **circumcised** after the manner of Moses, **ye cannot be saved.**”

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1John 1:9: “If we **confess our sins**, He is faithful and just to **forgive us our sins**, and to **cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**”

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Matthew 19:16-17: “And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, **what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?** And He said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, **keep the commandments.**”

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James 2:20,21,24: “But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?...Ye see then how that **by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.**”

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Hebrews 3:14: “For **we are made partakers of Christ**, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast **unto the end.**”

John 15:6: “If a man **abide not in Me**, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and **cast them into the fire**, and they are burned.”

Mark 13:13: “And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but **he that shall endure unto the end**, the same **shall be saved.**”

2 John 9: “Whosoever transgresseth, and **abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God**. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.”

Revelation 3:5: “He that **overcometh**, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; **and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life**, but I will confess his name before my Father.”

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Luke 13:3: “I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent**, ye shall all likewise **perish.**”

Acts 3:19: “**Repent** ye therefore, and be converted, **that your sins may be blotted out.**”

Luke 3:7-8: “Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the **wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance...**”

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Luke 18:18-22: “And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, **what shall I do to inherit eternal life?** And Jesus said unto him...Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother. And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up. Now when Jesus heard these things, He said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: **sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor...**”

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Matthew 6:14,15: “For if **ye forgive** men their trespasses, **your heavenly Father will also forgive you**: But if **ye forgive not** men their trespasses, **neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**”

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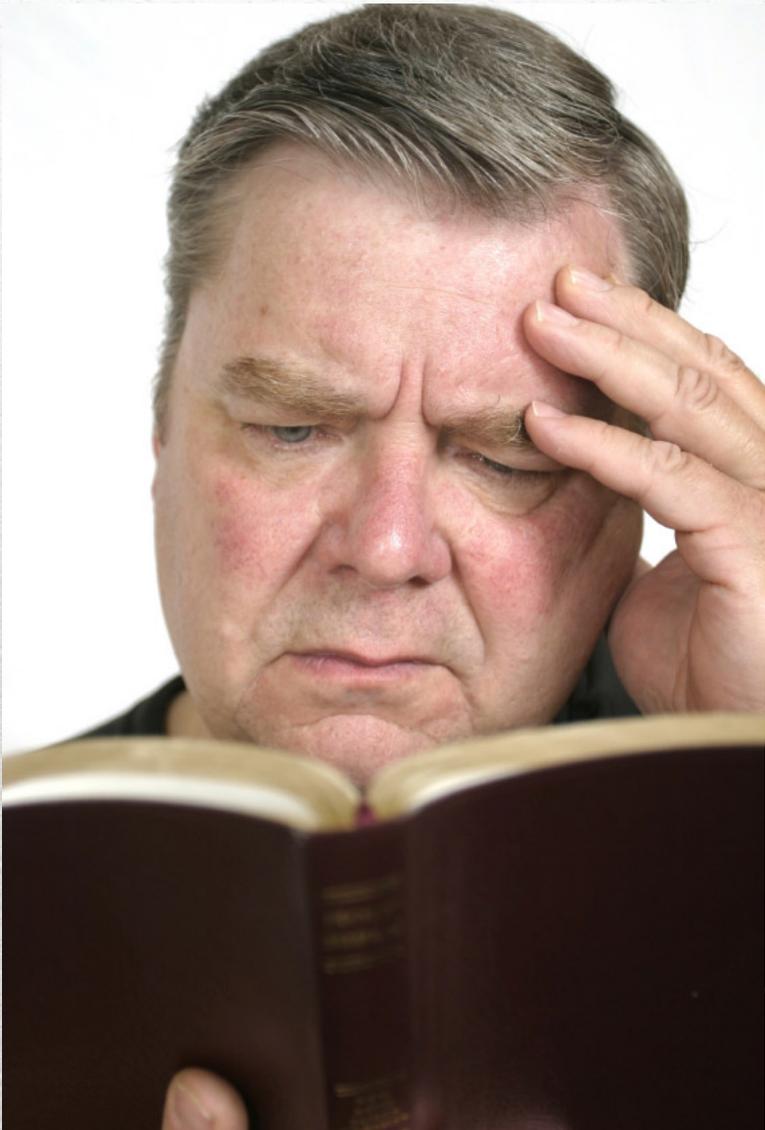
“Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom... For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink...Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me... Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me*” (Matt. 25:35-40).

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“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire...For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink... naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not...Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me*” (Matt. 25:41-45).

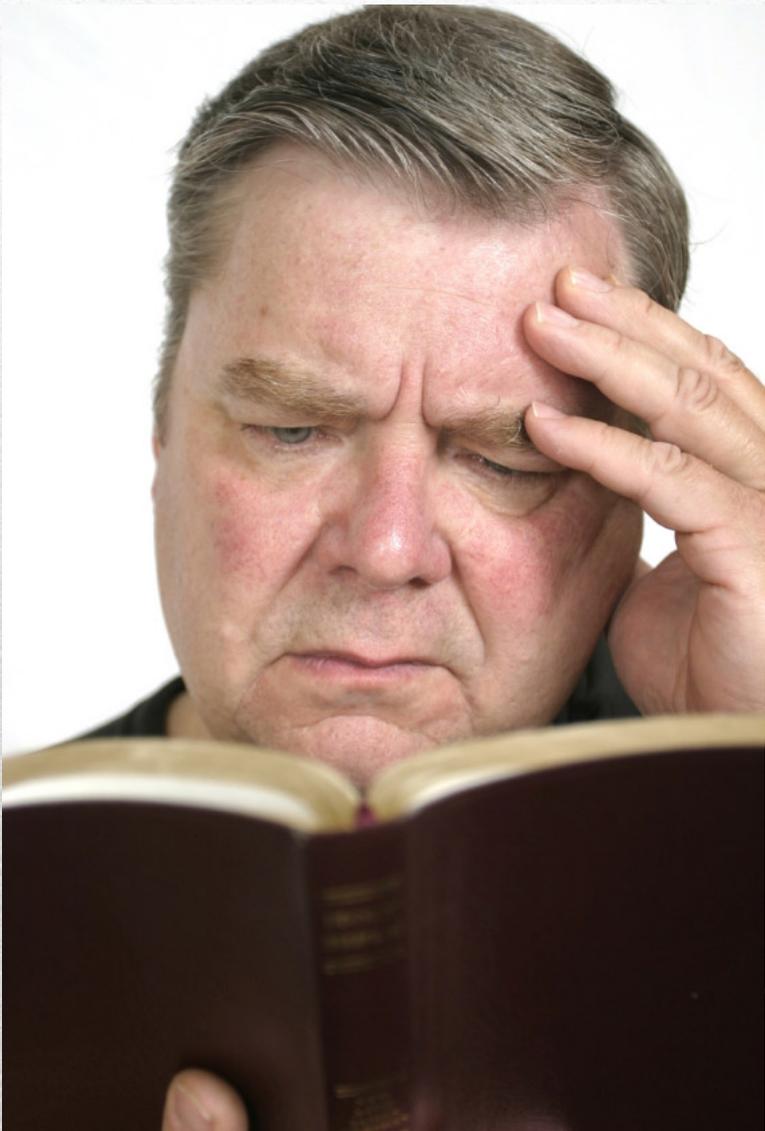


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Wait a minute!
I thought salvation
was by grace through
faith, **not of works!**

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To be saved:

Do I need to repent and be water baptized?

Do I need to practice religious circumcision?

Do I need to confess all my sins continually?

Do I need to keep the commandments of God's holy law?

Do I need to do good works to be justified, and not have faith only?

Do I need to demonstrate fruit in my life that shows repentance?

Do I need to endure, abide in Christ, and overcome unto the end?

Do I need to sell all that I have and give to the poor?

Do I need to forgive others so I will be forgiven?

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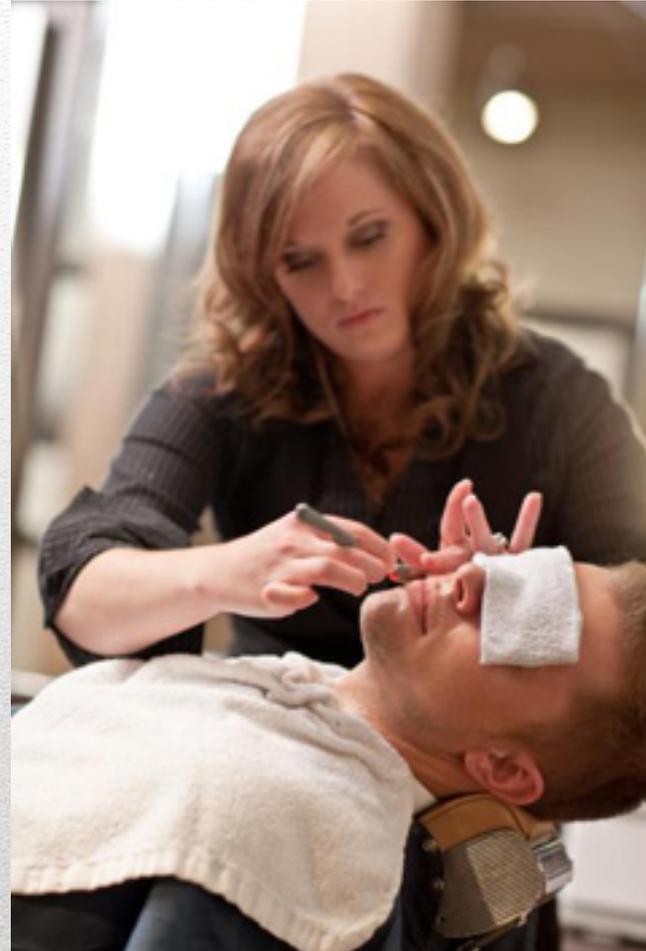
We need to rightly divide the Word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15)!

We don't need to wonder, doubt, or be weighed down in life thinking that I have to endure to the end, or confess my sins constantly, or forgive others to be forgiven, I don't have to worry about having fruits in my life showing my repentance, I don't have to keep and live by the law, I don't have to prove my faith by my works to be saved.

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What is written directly to us tells us that “I am saved by grace, through faith, in Christ, not of works.” Salvation is a free gift.





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“Obedience of faith” (Romans 16:26)

3 And when he appointed him a day, there came many to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

¹ Luke 24. 17. 8
² ch. 19. 8
³ m. ch. 4. 21
⁴ Eph. 6. 19
⁵ See on ch. 26. 6. 22

God, and which concern Christ, with all confidence, man forbidding him.

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE ROMANS

CHAPTER I

PAUL, a servant of Jesus Christ, ^bcalled to be an apostle, ^dseparated unto the gospel of God, ²(Which he had promised afore ^eby his prophets in the holy scriptures.)

Concerning his Son Jesus

^a Gal. 4. 4

^b 1 Tim. 1. 11
^c Acts 13. 23
¹ Gr.

^d determined
^e Acts 9. 15
^f Heb. 9. 14
^g Acts 26. 6
^h Gal. 3. 8
ⁱ Eph. 3. 8
² Or. ^{in the} obedience of faith

Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;
⁴ And ^edeclared¹ to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness by the resurrection from the dead:
⁵ By whom ^hwe have received grace and apostleship,

gospel (gosp'pel),
cially, the news of t
by Jesus Christ.
the New Testame

A gospel of faith
plus works
through Israel
is the earthly
prophetic program's
message.

A gospel of faith
plus nothing
is the
heavenly
mystery program's
message.

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God never changes. But God's dealings with men have changed over time. This includes salvation and the terms of acceptance with God.

The Ages and Dispensations



The Dispensation of Conscience



From the account of Abel, during the dispensation of Conscience, we find that at first blood sacrifices were necessary for acceptance with God.

Hebrews 11:4 states: “By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts...” (cf. Gen. 4:3-5).

The Dispensation of Promise



Many years later with Abraham, during the dispensation of Promise, circumcision was required by God, in order to come under the covenant made with Abraham.

Genesis 17:10 says, “This is My covenant, which ye shall keep, between Me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.”

And the importance of obeying God’s requirements is shown as God stated that an uncircumcised man was guilty of breaking the covenant and that soul would be cut off from the people (Gen. 17:14).

Now both blood sacrifices and circumcision were required for acceptance with God.

The Dispensation of Law



The Law was then added, and during the dispensation of the Law, obedience to the Mosaic Law was strictly demanded for acceptance with God (Rom. 10:5).

Deuteronomy 27:26: “Cursed be he that confirmeth [performs] not all the words of this law to do them.”

God revealed that those who were placed under it were responsible to keep all 613 commandments, and to bring the proper blood sacrifices when they broke the law.

Now blood sacrifices, circumcision, and keeping the law were required for acceptance with God.

The Dispensation of Law



Then later again, still during the dispensation of the Law, as the kingdom drew close and Christ's earthly ministry began, the "gospel of the kingdom" (Matt. 4:23) was proclaimed.

And in preparation for the kingdom, "baptism of repentance for the remission of sins" (Mark 1:4) and belief in Jesus as Israel's Messiah/King was required (John 20:31).

Now blood sacrifices, circumcision, keeping the law, and the gospel of the kingdom: repentance, water baptism and belief in Christ as Messiah were required for acceptance with God!

The Dispensation of Law



The “Gospel of the Kingdom” required Israel to:

Repent of their idolatry, and their breaking of God’s covenant of the Law, as a nation and individually.

Be water baptized because they were a “kingdom of priests,” and to be initiated into the priesthood under the law, they needed to be washed with water (Ex. 29:4).

Believe that Jesus was who He claimed to be: He was the Messiah of Israel, their King who would rule over them in the Kingdom, and God’s own Son (John 20:31).

The Dispensation of Law

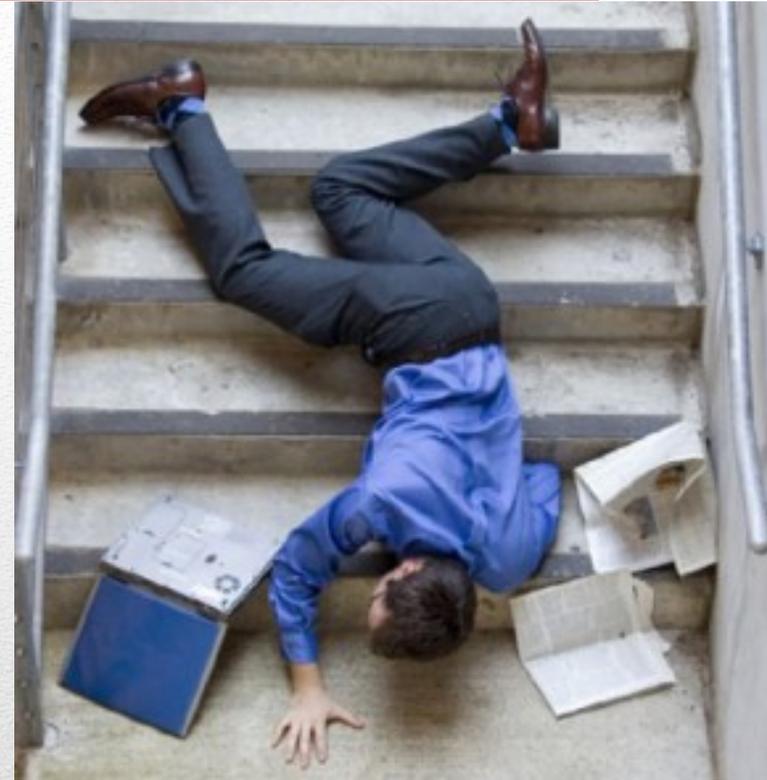


The Gospel of the Kingdom also involves the teachings in the Gospels and Hebrew Epistles of:

- The confession of sins for salvation.
- Forgive others in order to be forgiven.
- To sell all that they had and give to the poor.
- To demonstrate fruits of repentance.
- To endure, abide in Christ, and overcome unto the end.

And it declared an earthly hope!

After Israel's rejection of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, **Israel fell**, and has been temporarily set aside today.



Romans 11:11-12: "I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall [i.e., beyond recovery]? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles...Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?"

The Dispensation of Grace

After God temporarily set Israel aside He ushered in a new dispensation which had been hid in the mind of God: “the dispensation of grace.”

And God’s terms of acceptance have changed once again.

The gospel revealed by Jesus Christ from heaven to the Apostle Paul for this dispensation is “the gospel of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24). It is the **only** gospel for today.

This gospel tells us that we are saved by grace and grace alone, through faith, not of works (Eph. 2:8,9).



The gospel of the kingdom is not for us today.

Keeping the law is not for us today.

Water baptism is not for us today.

Religious circumcision is not for us today.

Bringing blood sacrifices is not for us today.

The confession of sins for salvation is not for us today.

To forgive others in order to be forgiven is not for us today.

To sell all that we have and give to the poor is not for us today.

To demonstrate fruits of repentance is not for us today.

To endure, abide in Christ, and overcome unto the end

is not for us today.



Salvation is 100% grace,
100% Christ.



Salvation is 0% us.

The Dispensation of Grace

Today salvation is:
“Not by works of
righteousness
which we have done,
but according
to [God’s] mercy
He saved us”
(Titus 3:5).



The Dispensation of Grace

Today, salvation comes “To him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness” (Rom. 4:5).



The Dispensation of Grace

Today, salvation is:
“For by grace are ye
saved through faith;
and that not of
yourselves: it is the
gift of God: Not of
works, lest any man
should boast” (Eph.
2:8,9).



The Dispensation of Grace

Today, salvation is to simply believe that “Christ died for our sins...was buried...and rose again the third day” (1 Cor. 15:3,4).



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cially, the news of
by Jesus Christ.
the New Testame

“What must I do to be saved?” (Acts 16:30).

Just like what Paul said to the Philippian jailor:
Do absolutely nothing, just believe.

***“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ
and thou shalt be saved” (Acts 16:31).***

Just believe the gospel, the good news that Christ died
for your sins personally, that was buried and that
He rose again the third day (I Cor. 15:3,4).
