



## Easy Beliefs

The Way to Lasting Salvation?



## **God offers you his grace, a gift we don't deserve.**

We have been thinking about a challenge standing in the way of true Christianity and in daily life: the false assurance of salvation. It should be a cause of concern to see many people who believe they are saved consider themselves Christians but lack a solid foundation in their belief. Many think they are forgiven and safe forever based on their church attendance, on something they said, on something they did, or on something they felt in the past. This idea is complicated by cultural narratives, indoctrination and popular sayings that do not come from the Living Truth. The culture in all forms of social media insists that the "individual truth" is the only valid truth, rejecting the reality that the truth is one, it applies to all of us, and truth is what God says and sees. We can all see how the inconsiderate attitudes and acts of selfishness arise from these individualistic "truths" and are applauded as "being brave" or being "real".

### **Satan's Role: Sowing Doubt and Distorting the Truth**

Satan rules this world. Little by little, it sows doubts in our minds that distort reality. The devil makes obedience seem like slavery, makes sin look like freedom, makes lies seem like truths, and truths seem like hate. It takes advantage of our insecurities, lack of knowledge, problems, and emotions to control us. To defend ourselves, we must fill our minds with the readings of the Bible, which is the source of all truth (look for the New International Version (NIV) or the New King James Version (NKJV) which are the most commonly available), by praying earnestly, and questioning every thought and action in the light of God's Word.

## The Urgent Call for Early Repentance

God calls us today with his grace. "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth" (Ecclesiastes 12:1). Let us not harden our hearts, for there is still an opportune time: "Seek the Lord while he is found" (Isaiah 55:6). Let us not ignore his call or despise his correction. If we do, there will come a day of trouble when we seek help without finding it, cry out, and not be heard (Proverbs 1:24-28). Repenting early can influence the reward we receive the day when we stand before Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10).

## The Biblical Warning Against Superficial Trust

Pastor J. MacArthur said that the Bible warns us that not everyone who claims to be saved is really saved. Not all who profess Christ truly belong to Him. Today, many mistakenly believe that just saying that you have faith in Jesus is enough for salvation. Or that going to Church every Sunday gets you in, no questions asked. Remember that there were many "deeply religious" people that rejected Jesus while he was made flesh, made many divine acts and walked among man. Others think that by being a "good" person is enough for salvation. "No one is good—except God alone." (Mark 10:18)

## The Need for Visible Fruit in True Salvation

But the Bible does not support this idea. It teaches that true salvation produces visible results: a changed life, a new heart, and an obedience that shows the character of Christ. Saying words, even if they seem sincere, does not prove that someone has been redeemed. Jesus Himself made it clear in Matthew 7:16: "By their fruits they will know them.". Jesus came to save the wicked, the sinners, the lost and

"...Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything"

James 1:2-4

## *Prayer*

Lord, in your undeserved grace, would you give me the ability to think about trouble very differently than most people do.

Help me to consider it an opportunity for great joy.

As my faith is tested, my endurance to grow and develop, making me perfect and complete in your eyes, needing nothing.

More than this you are King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and may your will be done for ever and ever.



unrighteous (Matthew 9:12-13). We are all sons of Adam and Eve, born with sin in our flesh and in need of salvation. To be saved is to be keenly aware of the sinful nature of thought and action, seek constant repentance, ask for mercy, admit to our sins, and fight to live in the spirit, not in the flesh.

## Spiritual Fruit as Evidence of Transformation

Just as a tree is known by its fruit, a Christian is known by the spiritual results of his life. An apple tree does not bear thorns, nor does a good vine bear bad grapes. A transformed heart does not continually produce the evil desires of the flesh (Galatians 5). Servitude, love for others, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness to scripture, humility, and self-control show a life changed by the Holy Spirit.

## The Breaking with Sin in the New Life

The apostle John said in 1 John 3:9-10 that whoever is born of God does not continue to sin. True salvation regenerates us, breaks the power of sin and directs life toward Christ. James 2:17 says that faith without actions is dead; Saving faith is always accompanied by love, obedience, repentance, and service, which are its fruits. 1 Peter 3:20-21: "...to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ..."

## The Test of Genuine Faith: The Difference Between Saying and Doing

There is a big difference between saying you know Christ and living with Him. Jesus asked in Luke 6:46, "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" Faith without sincere respect, fear of the Lord, and without change is empty; True faith is shown thru the workings of the heart. Many rely on past decisions without showing signs of a new birth in the present: the personal conviction of our own sin, the desire for the Word, the love for righteousness, and sorrow for the sin of others.

## The Gospel: Death to Self, and a Life for Christ. The Inseparability of Salvation with Transformation

The true gospel calls the present self to death, ceasing to live centered on us and to live for Christ. This involves surrendering our will and depending on His grace. This surrender is always linked to a life for Christ, reflecting his values and purpose, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

### Salvation and transformation are inseparable

Genuine faith always brings about a change in heart and life, beyond the temporary passing of words or emotions. Jesus said that His followers would be known by their fruits (Matthew 7:16), natural evidence of a life changed by grace. The gospel calls us to leave selfishness and live for Christ. This surrender results in genuine transformation, for God's salvation profoundly changes the heart and

- John 14:15: "If you love me, keep my commandments."

- 1 Samuel 16:7: "And the Lord said to Samuel, 'Look not at his countenance, nor at the greatness of his stature, for I reject him; for the Lord does not look at what man sees; for man looks at what is before his eyes, but Jehovah looks at the heart.'"

- Matthew 7:21: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

- James 1:22: "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

- Matthew 3:8: "Bring forth fruits worthy of repentance,"

- Hebrews 6:4-6: "For it is impossible that those who were once enlightened and tasted the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and likewise tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and fell back, should again be renewed to repentance, crucifying the Son of God again to themselves and exposing him to reproach."

- Psalm 51:17: "The sacrifices of God are the broken spirit; A contrite and humble heart you will not despise, O God."

- Matthew 7:16-20 (referring to the general principle, similar to verse 16 quoted above): "By their fruits you will know them. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? Thus, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Wherefore ye shall know them by their fruits."

PLCR-MPRC nuestrafe.info



## Sources:

- Ecclesiastes 12:1: "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come, and the years come, when you say, 'I have no pleasure in them;'"

- Isaiah 55:6: "Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near."

- Proverbs 1:24-28: "Because I knocked, and you would not hear, I stretched out my hand, and there was none to listen, but you rejected all my counsel and would not rebuke me, I also will laugh at your calamity, and mock when your fear comes upon you; when thy fear shall come like a whirlwind, and thy calamity shall come like a hurricane; when tribulation and distress come upon you. Then they will call me, and I will not answer; they will seek me in the morning, and they will not find me."

2 Corinthians 5:10: "For we must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive according to what he has done while in the body, whether good or bad."

- Matthew 7:16: "By their fruits you will know them. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles?"

- Galatians 5 (referring to the fruit of the Spirit, specifically verses 22-23): "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

1 John 3:9-10: "Everyone who is born of God does not practice sin, for the seed of God abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God and the children of the devil are revealed: whoever does not do justice, and who does not love his brother, is not of God."

- James 2:17: "So also faith, if it does not have works, is dead in itself."

- Luke 6:46: "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

- Matthew 7:22-23: "Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and in your name do many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me, you who do evil."

- Ephesians 2:1: "And he gave life to you, when you were dead in trespasses and sins,"

2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things passed away; behold, all are made new."

1 John 2:3: "And by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments."

Matthew 3:8: "Produce fruit, then, in keeping with repentance."

- 2 Corinthians 13:5: "Examine yourselves whether you are in the faith; Test yourselves. Or do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you, unless you are reprobate?"

direction of our lives. Where there is true salvation, there will be evidence of a transformed life.

## The Need for the New Birth for Salvation

Where there is no fruit, there is no life. Many who claim to follow Christ have never been born again (Matthew 7:22-23). The new birth is a supernatural act of God that gives spiritual life (Ephesians 2:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17). Without this radical change, there is no salvation.

## The Evidence of Genuine Regeneration: A Comprehensive Change

A true change of the Spirit will transform the way you see the world, the way you speak, the way you present to others, and your thought patterns. The struggle against sin will be constant, because the Spirit lives in our earthly fleshy nature, which tends to be sticky to sin and is destined to death. As you are transformed, you will prioritize the Spirit and be effective in control of the desires of the flesh. You no longer want to be someone of the world, "... because the ruler of this world has been judged." (John 16:11), but someone of Christ, with a new spirit.

## Practical Implications of Regeneration: Humility and Spiritual Focus

With this rebirth, the importance of showing off your body or using your appearance to attract attention will decrease. You will see each person as they are, male or female, rather than as the world influences the way you see them, objects of sin. You will recognize the weakness of human nature and how fleshly desires can damage the soul. You will

stumble, make mistakes, and fail, but with a contrite and repentant heart the Spirit will lift you up, this time with more strength (Psalm 51:17), and your vow is to keep trying, keep fighting with faith on the Lord that his will shall prevail.

## Clarification on the Physical Attraction of Flesh

We think it is important to remember that although the new birth necessarily must change our view on vanity, desire and feelings of physical attraction in a biblical context does not always work against a Spirit-led life. We are all flesh and sin desires flesh, in keeping to the original sin. To grow in Christ, every day you must mature in the Spirit, avoid worldly values and obsessions, and resist the urge for attention-seeking behavior. Furthermore, "If you live according to the flesh, you will die." (Romans 8:13). This also refers to our natural tendency toward sin and that our body will die, while the soul is eternal. There is in no way the implication that every physical aspect or bodily characteristic is necessarily evil. The intent in the way we present ourselves to others must resemble the way the righteous present to their fellow brothers and sisters. To this subject Jesus emphasizes the extreme consequences of causing both one's own sin and leading others into sin in Matthew 18. Physical attraction in the right context is a blessing, such as in marriage. In other contexts, it will lead to sin when it is not restrained and recognized for what it may become: the urge to sin.

## The Manifestation of the Spirit in Daily Life

This profound change is a sign that the work of the Spirit is real in your life. The character qualities that the Holy Spirit produces in the life of a believer gradually become evident as we walk in submission to Him. It's not something we achieve through sheer willpower, but

## Conclusion:

### A Warning About the Danger of False Security

If your life does not show fruit, if your heart does not desire holiness, if obeying Christ is optional and you sin habitually or unconsciously, then your soul may be in eternal danger. It is not enough to say "Lord, Lord"; the question is, does He know you? Do not rely on traditions, rites, fads in Christendom, professional motivators posing as pastors nor emotions; examine your own heart in the light of the Bible. Repent, believe, admit your sinful nature and give yourself completely to Christ.

*The life that awaits us in eternity is too long for us to be wrong.*



## The Call to Self-Examination: Ensuring Genuine Faith

It is crucial to examine ourselves to make sure that our faith is true and produces results. We must ask ourselves if we really believe in the gospel and if our lives prove it. Is there evidence of spiritual change and true repentance? Do you scrutinize the word of man against the word of God in the Bible? Do you accept God's will when it is contrary to your expectations? Do you live under God's sovereignty? accepting that "...the secret things belong to God, while the things revealed belong to us and our children forever, so we can follow His laws..." (Deuteronomy 29:29).

### The Fruit of the Spirit as an Indicator of Genuine Faith

A key sign of genuine faith is the fruits of the Spirit (Matthew 7:16-20). Lack of love, joy, peace, etc., can indicate superficial faith. Also, the absence of repentance and the continuous struggle with sin. We must look at why we follow Christ.

### The Importance of Adhering to the Truth of Scripture

True faith also involves following the truth of the Bible. Self-examination seeks to ensure that we truly believe and obey Christ. It is an opportunity to grow in our relationship with Him and seek His grace. Salvation is a supernatural change.

rather a natural outflow of the Spirit's work within us. Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophecy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully (Romans 12:6-8)". "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. (Ephesians 4:11-12)"

### The Importance of a Transformed Heart and a Desire for Holiness

Today, many rely on past choices but without having a new life: they have never hated sin, did not know or loved the Word, or desired holiness (1 John 2:3). The new birth produces a new heart, a new will, a new mind, and a new feeling. Paul encourages us in 2 Corinthians 13:5 to examine ourselves to see if we really believe. False security leads to destruction. The true gospel, the sound doctrine based on Scripture, requires repentance, submission, and transformation with God.

### Obedience as a Test of a Regenerated Heart

Obedying the Word is the test of a heart transformed by the grace of Jesus. External religion without true change is useless. John 14:15 says, "If you love me, keep my commandments." Obedience comes from a heart transformed by gratitude, a total trust in God and his Godly love, and not by obligation, societal rule, pressure or cultural expectations.

## The Inner Nature of True Obedience

True obedience begins in the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). It is not only what you see on the outside, but also the motivations and desires. Jesus warned in Matthew 7:21 that only the one who does the Father's will, will enter the kingdom. Obedience shows that our faith is real (James 1:22). It does not justify sin or change the commandments for convenience.

## Obedience as a Result of Grace and Submission to Christ

Obedience is the result of grace, the proof of true change, a life submissive to Christ (Matthew 7:21-23). Many who believe they are saved will be deceived. To say that one believes without truly obeying is not enough. The key is to do the Father's will, showing a change in heart, mind, and actions. Submit like you submit to your first love, love like you loved that first time. Obey like your own life depends on it.

## The Danger of Relying on Self-Effort and Superficial Faith

Those who rely on their own efforts to be justified, or on showing “convenience” or on-demand faith are deceived. The call is to examine ourselves: are we living according to God's will, submitting to the lordship of Jesus? Without obedience and without knowing Christ personally, we run the risk of being deceived at the peril of losing your soul to hell in the final judgment.

## The Deception of Easy Belief: Salvation Without Transformation

"Easy belief" is deceived by giving importance to a superficial belief without repentance, transformation, or obedience. It promises easy, feel-good salvation without real condemnation of sin, real change in one's heart, and leading many to believe that they are right with God without being transformed. True salvation involves an ongoing process of change and repentance (Matthew 3:8).

## Easy Belief and Contempt of Repentance

Easy believe-ism weakens repentance, which is essential to the gospel. Many who accept it live against God. It promotes a false assurance of salvation ("once saved, always saved," and "God sees the heart") without evidence of a spiritual change (Hebrews 6:4-6). True faith is a living relationship with Jesus marked by repentance, obedience, and results. True belief is not satisfied with the self-justification of sin, feeling good about “white lies”, pep-talk, acceptance of sin “because it's what everyone does”, or “choose to do it now and make up with God later” attitude.

## The Serious Consequences of Easy Believing

The consequences of easy believing are serious (Matthew 7:23). To combat it, we must proclaim the true gospel that emphasizes faith, repentance, and obedience to Christ. Only a transformative and genuine relationship with Jesus gives assurance of salvation (2 Corinthians 13:5).