

Works That Save

By

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Saved by Works?

- **Some teach:**
 - Do enough good works and you'll be saved – that the good will offset the bad
 - Works have nothing to do with salvation
 - Others teach works are an expression of our faith and necessary for salvation
- ***Confusing? Hard to understand? Yes, because there are different kinds of works in the Bible***

Kinds of works

- **Works of the Flesh (Gal. 5:19-21)**

- Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Kinds of works

- **Works of the Law of Moses (Gal. 2:21)**
 - “I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”

Kinds of works

- **Works of Merit (Rom. 3:27)**

- “Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.”

Kinds of works

- **Boastful Works (Eph. 2:8-9)**
 - “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Kinds of works

- **Works of Obedience (Jas. 2:14-26)**

Are we saved by those works?

- **Not by works of:**
 - The Flesh (Gal. 5:19-21)
 - The Law (Gal. 2:21)
 - Merit (Rom. 3:27)
 - Boastful (Eph. 2:8-9)

No! What then?

- *Works or obedience to God*
(*Jas. 2:14-26*)
 - Paul describes how they were saved in Rom. 6:3-7; 17-18
 - Can we be saved by doing anything less?

Why is it important?

- If we take the salvation by works view, we'll always be frustrated because we'll never feel that we have done enough.

Why is it important?

- On the other hand if we reject Bible teaching that **works express our faith, and are necessary for salvation** then our faith will be imperfect (Jas. 2:22)
 - James illustrates saving faith with Abraham (Jas. 2:21-23; Gen 22)