

Us Who Are Being Saved

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Is getting to heaven simple? Does one need to simply believe? Jesus said these words concerning entrance into heaven, “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. “For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it. *(Matthew 7:13–14)

If words mean anything, especially the words of Jesus, the way to heaven is neither simple nor easy. It was Jesus who also said, “*It is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved.*” (Matthew 10:22)

*Hebrews 10:38–39 ³⁸ But My righteous one shall live by faith; And if he **shrinks back** (to turn away, retreat or withdraw) My soul has no pleasure in him. ³⁹ But we are not of those who **shrink back to destruction**, but of **those who have faith to the preserving of the soul**.

So, If words do mean anything, one must not only begin by faith but must finish by faith as well. Therefore, the author of Hebrews reminds us to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ. He is the author and finisher of our faith.

What are the things we must overcome? What are the obstacles that will come our way?

- We must fight a spiritual warfare.
 - To the church Paul writes, “Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.” (Ephesians 6:10–11)
 - Peter writes, “Be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8)
 - James commands us to, “Resist the devil.” (James 4:7)
- We must overcome our self-will.
- We must overcome the desires of our own flesh.
- We must overcome temptations.
- We must endure trials.
- we must suffer persecution.

Peter exclaims that the righteous will scarcely be saved (barely; hardly; with much difficulty).

*[1 Peter 4:18]

One of the apostles asked the Lord, “Who in the world can be saved?” And Jesus answered them by saying. “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God.” Mark 10:26–27 (NLT)

God has and will provide us with all that we need to deliver us and keep us from the evil one.

1. He Gives Us His Grace

His grace saves us and keeps us. By His grace we are saved. Its not by our works. It is by His work in us that we can live a righteous life, that is, we can do what is right and pleasing to God. “*If we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.*” 1 John 1:7

2. We Have The Holy Spirit

Everyone Christ saves receives the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38–39

*John 14:16–17

“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper... He abides with you and will be in you.

(Another) Helper = Paraklesis / Para = alongside of; Advocate / Comforter / Intercessor:

Jesus said, “He abides with you and will be in you.” We have been reconciled to God. He is with us!

Christ saves us; cleanses us; sanctifies us; and He empowers us!

“Greater is He who is in us than he (the devil) who is in the world.”

3. We Have The Word of God

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, guides us into truth which is the word of God. When we learn it and live it we experience the life of God, and we stay out from under sin’s reign. It is the sword of the Spirit. It is the light of life in the midst of a world full of darkness. We must not deceive ourselves by being a hearer only but a doer of His word. Its power comes in practice, not in theory.

*1 John 5:3–4 ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

4. He’s Given Us the Ministry of the Church

To equip us to serve the Lord. To provide us with knowledge of Christ – That we will no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth. (Ephesians 4:12–15)

5. He’s given us the fellowship of the Church.

To everyone who receives Christ, He gives them the right to become a child of God; born into His family; baptized into His church. We rejoice together; we weep together; we watch out for one another; we help one another; we provide strength to each other; Simply put, we love one another with a love that is genuine for it comes from God.

6. Prayer

In Jesus’ name we can enter boldly before the throne of God to have our voice heard. He is a very present help in time of trouble. He is able to do far more than we could ever ask or think.

7. We Have God’s Love

God has demonstrated His love for us in Christ. He loved us while we were still sinners. Jesus died for the unjust. This is love that He first loved us.

*Romans 8:35, 37 ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁷ In all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

Let us to take possession and seize upon what God has made available to us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And God, in His mighty power, will protect and keep us who trust in Him and abide in His grace.