

# **How Saved Are You?**

**Salvation is not the reward for good works and trying hard:**

**“But God, being [so very] rich in mercy, because of His great and wonderful love with which He loved us, even when we were [spiritually] dead and separated from Him because of our sins, He made us [spiritually] alive together with Christ (for by His grace—His undeserved favor and mercy—you have been saved from God’s judgment). And He raised us up together with Him [when we believed], and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, [because we are] in Christ Jesus, [and He did this] so that in the ages to come He might [clearly] show the immeasurable and unsurpassed riches of His grace in [His] kindness toward us in Christ Jesus [by providing for our redemption]. For it is by grace [God’s remarkable compassion and favor drawing you to Christ] that you**

**have been saved [actually delivered from judgment and given eternal life] through faith. And this [salvation] is not of yourselves [not through your own effort], but it is the [undeserved, gracious] gift of God; not as a result of [your] works [nor your attempts to keep the Law], so that no one will [be able to] boast or take credit in any way [for his salvation].”**

**Ephesians 2:4-9 AMP**

**The Saved don't sit and wait for Heaven, they work out:**

**“So then, my dear ones, just as you have always obeyed [my instructions with enthusiasm], not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation [that is, cultivate it, bring it to full effect, actively pursue spiritual maturity] with awe-inspired fear and trembling [using serious caution and critical self-evaluation to avoid anything that might offend God or discredit the name of Christ].**

**For it is [not your strength, but it is] God who is effectively at work in you, both to will and to work [that is, strengthening, energizing, and creating in you the longing and the ability to fulfill your purpose] for His good pleasure.”**

**Philippians 2:12-13 AMP**

- 1. I was saved, but then I had to decide if I was saved enough to choose to a life of moral purity.**
- 2. I was saved, but then I had to decide if I was saved enough to follow the Holy Spirit, instead of following my own plans and desires for my life.**
- 3. I was saved, but I had to decide whether or not I was saved enough to be God's financial steward.**
- 4. I was saved, but was I really saved enough to bring my Bible to school and make my salvation public knowledge?**

- 5. I was saved, but was I saved to the point where I accepted God's call to be a missionary to the world around me as an ambassador for the Kingdom?**
- 6. I was saved, but was I so saved that I would connect with the local church and lay down my life in service to the Household of Faith?**

**How saved are you?**

**How far did Jesus go so that you could be saved?**

**How much salvation do you need?**

**How much do you want?**

**Here's what I think Jesus is saying to us when we've gotten stuck on being saved just enough that we hope we can sneak by:**

**““I know you inside and out, and find little to my liking. You're not cold, you're not hot—far better to be either cold or hot! You're stale. You're stagnant. You make me want to vomit. You brag, 'I'm rich, I've got it made, I**

**need nothing from anyone,' oblivious that in fact you're a pitiful, blind beggar, threadbare and homeless."**

**Revelation 3:15-17 MSG**