

Faith
Without
Works

Is
Dead

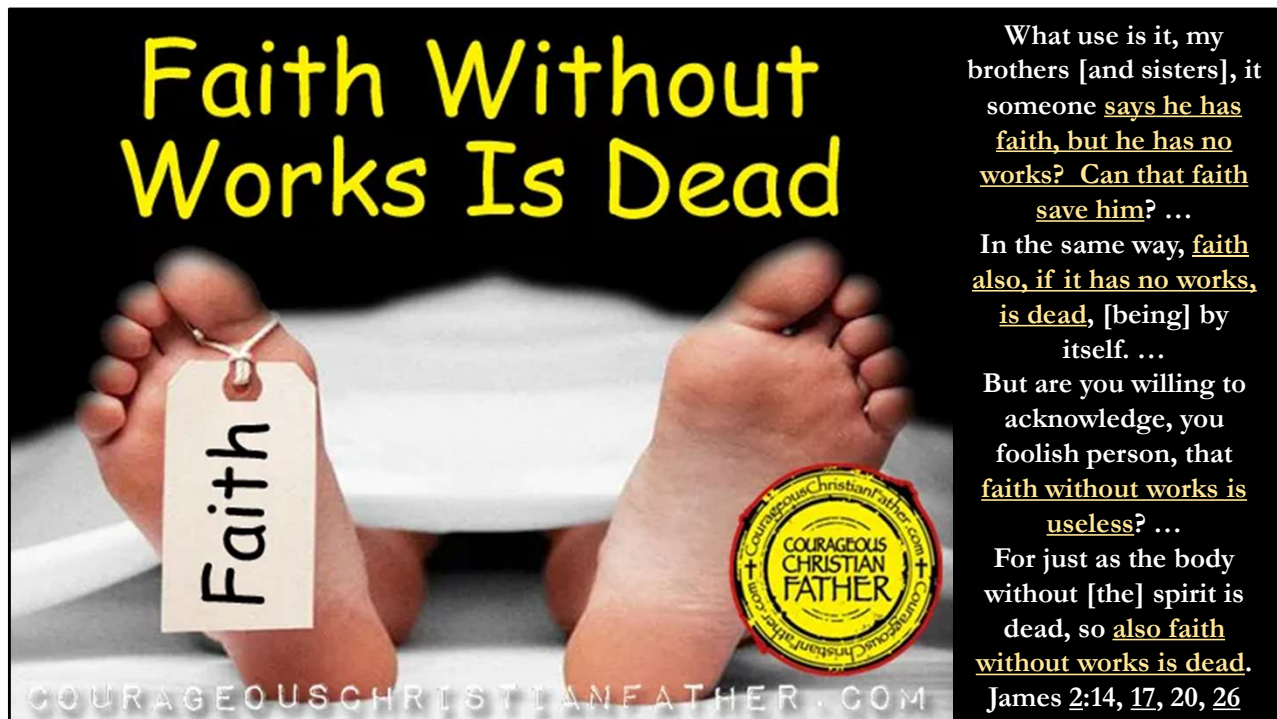
A Study in the Book of James



2:14-26 Does your faith have a pulse?

- “faith also, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.” 2:14, 17, 26 Means what?
- How do we determine Life and/or death? This is important in so many ways but especially here regarding faith? Has anyone ever been declared dead but wasn't? Are preborn babies Alive? If they are, Abortion is murder!
- Oct.31st is what Holiday? Reformation Day!
- What are the 5 “Sola’s of the Reformation”? Besides “Sola Fide”! What does Sola Fide mean and does it contradict Ja.2:17, 24?
- What place does ”works” have in our salvation or our sanctification?
- Everyone has faith, in something! Many have a measure of belief that Jesus is God. But what is “Salvific” faith, faith that saves!! Ja.2:19 addresses “belief” that doesn't save! How would you explain the faith needed to be a true Christian?
- How does Abraham exhibit “saving faith”?
- How many people in the Bible are called a “friend of God”?
- Rahab is also given as a proof of faith, what does this teach us?
- What illustrations do you use to teach salvific faith?

- This text is addressing the many who claim to be Christians but whose lives lack substantive change or abandonment of sin, show obedience to Christ, and are devoid of Love for God! Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! 2Cor.13:5



What use is it, my brothers [and sisters], if someone says he has faith, but he has no works? Can that faith save him? ...
 In the same way, faith also, if it has no works, is dead, [being] by itself. ...
 But are you willing to acknowledge, you foolish person, that faith without works is useless? ...
 For just as the body without [the] spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.
 James 2:14, 17, 20, 26

Stated by many as the key verse of James

[Jas 2:14, 17, 20, 26 NASB20] 14 What use is it, my brothers [and sisters,] if someone **says he has faith, but he has no works?** Can that faith save him? ... 17 In the same way, **faith also, if it has no works, is dead,** [being] by itself. ... 20 But are you willing to acknowledge, you foolish person, that **faith without works is useless?** ... 26 For just as the body without [the] spirit is dead, so also **faith without works is dead.**

This verse is in essence answering the question: You are not truly a saved/born again/regenerated Christian IF.....

Do they have a Pulse?! Where's your heartbeat for Christ?

Please show CNN video, 1st 20 seconds June 13th, 2023

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/business/2023/10/11/archax-robot-japan-cprog-lon-orig-ao.cnn>

<https://globalnews.ca/video/9765688/woman-declared-dead-discovered-alive-in-coffin-during-her-own-wake> at 10 second mark, shows her gasping, I'm not sure we should show this one

So, this brings up some important questions like:

Do we have clear, definitive measures to declare Death? It is extremely rare but happens more than we want to know, even in America
Could she hear what all her friends and family were saying about her from inside the coffin?
Does she get the life insurance \$\$ since she has been declared legally dead?!

Do we have some people in the Bible that **we ALL would've said were Spiritually Dead, when the Bible Says they're Alive! Saved! Samson and Lot!**
Do we have **people in the Bible who seem to be Alive who were Spiritually Dead!!** Yes, Judas and Simon!

Samson lived a life of Promiscuity, 3 Heathen Women, Prostitutes...**seemingly continual and unrepentant fornication, and surrendering his covenant promise/Nazarite vow,** yet Heb.11:32

Lot longed to live in a perverse culture of Sodom and Gomorrah where Homosexuality was so pervasive God burned it to the ground. He then gave I to drunkenness and a **reverse Incestuous abuse** with his grown daughters! **2x!**
2Pet. 2:7

[Heb 11:32 NASB20] 32 And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of **Gideon**, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, Chapter of Hall of faith!

[2Pe 2:7 NASB20] 7 and [if] **He rescued righteous Lot, [who was] oppressed by the perverted conduct of unscrupulous people**

[Jhn 6:66, 70-71 NASB20] 66 As a result of this many of His disciples left, and would no longer walk with Him. ... 70 Jesus answered them, "Did I Myself not choose you, the twelve? And [yet] one of you is a devil." 71 Now He meant **Judas [the son] of Simon Iscariot**; for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray Him.

[Jhn 12:4 NASB20] 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, the one who intended to betray Him, said,

[Jhn 13:2, 11, 18-19, 21-22, 27 NASB20] 2 And during supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, [the son] of Simon, to betray Him, ... 11 For He knew the one who was betraying Him; [it was] for this reason [that] He said, "Not all [of you] are clean." ... 18 "I am not speaking about all of you. I know [the ones] whom I have chosen; but [this is happening] so that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'HE WHO EATS MY BREAD HAS LIFTED UP HIS HEEL AGAINST ME.' 19 "From now on I am telling you before [it] happens, so that when it does happen, you may believe that I am [He.] ... 21 When Jesus had said these things, He became troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Truly, truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me." 22 The disciples [began] looking at one another, at a loss [to know] of which one He was speaking. ... 27 After this, Satan then entered him. Therefore Jesus said to him, "What you are doing, do [it] quickly."

[Jhn 17:12 NIV] 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by

that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

[Mat 26:24 NIV] 24 The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

[Mat 26:54, 56 NIV] 54 But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" ... 56 But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

[Luk 22:22 NIV] 22 The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!"

[Act 2:23 NIV] 23 This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.

[Jhn 17:12 NIV] 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

[Act 1:16-20 NIV] 16 and said, "Brothers and sisters, the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. 17 He was one of our number and shared in our ministry." 18 (With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. 19 Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) 20 "For," said Peter, "it is written in the Book of Psalms: " 'May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,' and, " 'May another take his place of leadership.'

[Act 8:9, 11-13, 18-24 NASB20] 9 Now a man named Simon had previously been practicing magic in the city and astonishing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great; ... 11 And they were paying attention to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic arts. 12 But when they believed Philip as he was preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were being baptized. 13 **Now even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip**, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was [repeatedly] amazed. ... 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could acquire the gift of God with money! 21 **"You have no part or share in this matter, for your heart is not right before God.** 22 "Therefore, repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord [that,] if possible, the intention of your heart will be forgiven you. 23 **"For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of unrighteousness."** 24 But Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me yourselves, so that nothing of what you have said may come upon

me."

What use is it?!

- “someone says he has faith, but he has no works? Can that (*kind of faith, emp.mine*) faith save him?”
 - Context - Does the Bible teach “works” salvation?
 - Diagnostic (what actually is) or Conditional; IF you do ...
 - Ever find a body? **ABC’s of signs of life**
- “faith also, if it has no works, is dead” - 2:17, 26
- “Says” but isn’t a “Doer”? It’s NOT real!

Diagnostic (what actually is) Objective and evidential vs. conditional . used to confirm or rule out conditions and diseases. There are over 110 diagnostic tests and procedures currently in use. Blood tests, Xrays...Pregnancy
or Conditional - Earn it!! Works! Achievement tests. Once you can climb a flight of steps you will be released from Rehab

ABCs

Airway or Animation/movement

Breathing

Circulation - pulse

[Jas 1:23, 25 NASB20] 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ... 25 But one who has looked intently at the perfect law, the [law] of freedom, and has continued [in it,] not having become a forgetful hearer but an active doer, this person will be blessed in what he does.

[Jas 4:11 NASB20] 11 Do not speak against one another, brothers [and sisters.] The one who speaks against a brother [or sister,] or judges his brother [or sister,] speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge [of it.]

If you bought a medicine that made no difference, gave No real results. Would you buy it again? What use is it?

Tit 1:16 ESV They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

We all know AND recognize the Cognitive Dissonance, the absurd contradiction, of people who Claim to be Christian (Christlike) but evidence No interest in Bible reading let alone heeding. No Love for Christ, the lost, the church.... It exposes that you are "Using Christianity, Gods love, Jesus blood to excuse your sin while still pursuing sin!

Assess the ABCs



Look for signs of life, including movement. Scan the chest for signs of breathing. If no signs of life such as breathing (or only gasping breathing) are found, check the pulse.

ABCs

Airway or **Animation/movement**

Breathing

Circulation - pulse

The lady in the coffin was knocking on the inside of the casket -

Animation/movement

She was visibly breathing...



Sometimes you need to know when to call a time of death

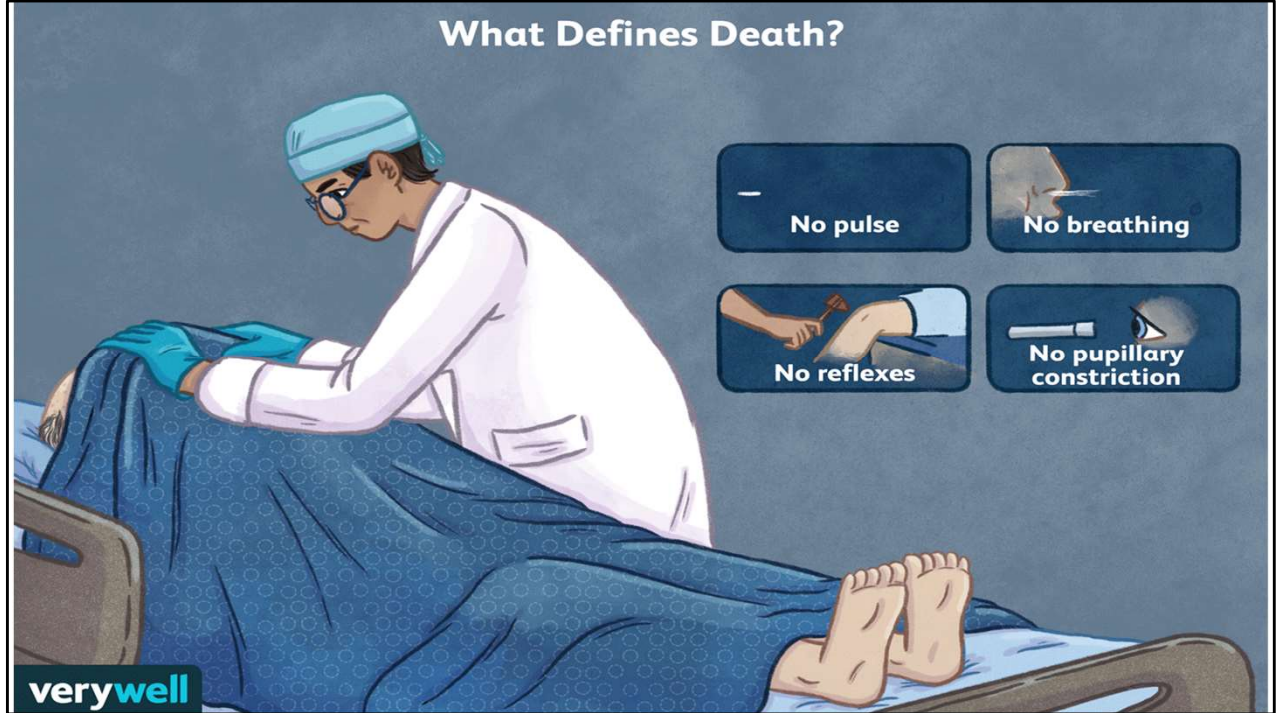
WHO's the dummy here?

Some of us have family members and friends who show NO signs of Spiritual Life and yet were trying to credit their words alone as proof of salvation when we should simply recognize they are already spiritually Dead and Need a radical Salvation to be made alive

[Mat 3:10 NASB20] 10 "And the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit is being cut down and thrown into the fire.

[Mat 7:17-19 NASB20] 17 "So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 "Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. [Mat 7:20 NASB20] 20 "So then, you will know them by their fruits.

[Mat 12:33 NASB20] 33 "Either assume the tree [to be] good as well as its fruit good, or assume the tree [to be] bad as well as its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit.



Pulse
Breathing
Movement
Pupils - Eyes!

[Mat 22:37 NASB20] 37 And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'

Jhn 3:5-8 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless someone is born of water and [the] Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.** 6 "That which has been born of the flesh is flesh, and that which has been **born of the Spirit** is spirit. 7 "Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 "**The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it is coming from and where it is going; so is everyone who has been born of the Spirit.**"

[Eze 37:4-6 NASB20] 4 Again He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, 'You dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.' 5 "This is what **the Lord GOD says to these bones: 'Behold, I am going to make breath enter you so that you may come to life.** 6 'And I will attach tendons to you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin, and put breath in you so that you may come to life; and

you will know that I am the LORD.'”

[Rom 2:13 NASB20] 13 for [it is] not the hearers of the Law [who] are righteous before God, but the doers of the Law [who] will be justified.

[Jas 1:22 NASB20] 22 **But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not just hearers who deceive themselves.**

[Mat 5:29 NASB20] 29 "Now if your right eye is causing you to sin, tear it out and throw it away from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your [body,] than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

Mat 6:22-23 "**The eye is the lamp of the body; so then, if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.** 23 "But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

[Mat 7:3-5 NASB20] 3 "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and look, the log is in your own eye? 5 "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye!

[Mat 18:9 NASB20] 9 "And if your eye is causing you to sin, tear it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to enter life with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fiery hell.

[Mat 19:24 NASB20] 24 "And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God."

[Mat 20:15 NASB20] 15 'Is it not lawful for me to do what I want with what is my own? Or is your eye envious because I am generous?'

How to Know If Someone's Really Dead

Time Magazine

2014 Mississippi

Walter Williams woke up in a
body bag on an embalmer's
table

37-Year-Old man in Ohio too



Walter Williams in the hospital in early March. Courtesy of Eddie Heiser

BY JEFFREY KLUGER FEBRUARY 28, 2014 5:15 PM EST

Correction added Feb. 28, 2014

Dead is dead—**except when it isn't**. That's the lesson 78-year old Walter Williams of Holmes County, Miss., learned late Wednesday night when he woke up in a body bag on an embalmer's table, a wee bit more alive than the coroner had declared him to be. Williams, by all accounts, was the victim of bad luck, a sputtering pacemaker and a coroner who maybe hadn't read the How To Know Someone's Really Dead chapter when the rest of the class was studying it.

So how often does this happen and what are the odds that you will ever find

Y
HEALTH
Bed Bugs Are
Problem in
Why
HEALTH
Do You Still
if You Catch
Here's What

Maybe you were thinking it can't happen in USA? Yes it does!

1 in 3million deaths chance in USA per year

So how often does this happen and what are the odds that you will ever find yourself Zip-Locked for freshness when you've still got a bit of life in you?

Pronouncing someone dead has always been an inexact art. The tradition of the wake—or at least a day or two's mourning period before the funeral—began as a way to give a body a fighting chance to show if it was alive. “The point was to make sure the dead guy is indeed a dead guy,” says Thomas Lynch, a funeral director and best-selling author of *The Undertaking: Life Studies From the Dismal Trade*, upon which the TV series *Six Feet Under* was based. “The living have been getting mistaken for the dead for a long time.”

Otherwise grace is no longer grace, Romans 11:6

- Ephesians 2:8-10 - For **by grace you have been saved through faith**; and this [is] **not of yourselves**, [it is] the gift of God; **not a result of works**, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship ...
- Romans 3:28 - For we maintain that **a person is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.**

[Eph 2:8-10 NASB20] 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this [is] not of yourselves, [it is] the gift of God; 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

[Rom 3:20, 27-28 NASB20] 20 because by the works of the Law none of mankind will be justified in His sight; for through the Law [comes] knowledge of sin. ... 27 Where then is boasting? It has been excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. 28 For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

[Rom 4:2 NASB20] 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about; but not before God.

[Rom 9:11, 16 NASB20] 11 for though [the twins] were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to [His] choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls, ... 16 So then, [it does] not [depend] on the [person] who wants [it] nor the one who runs, but on God who has mercy.

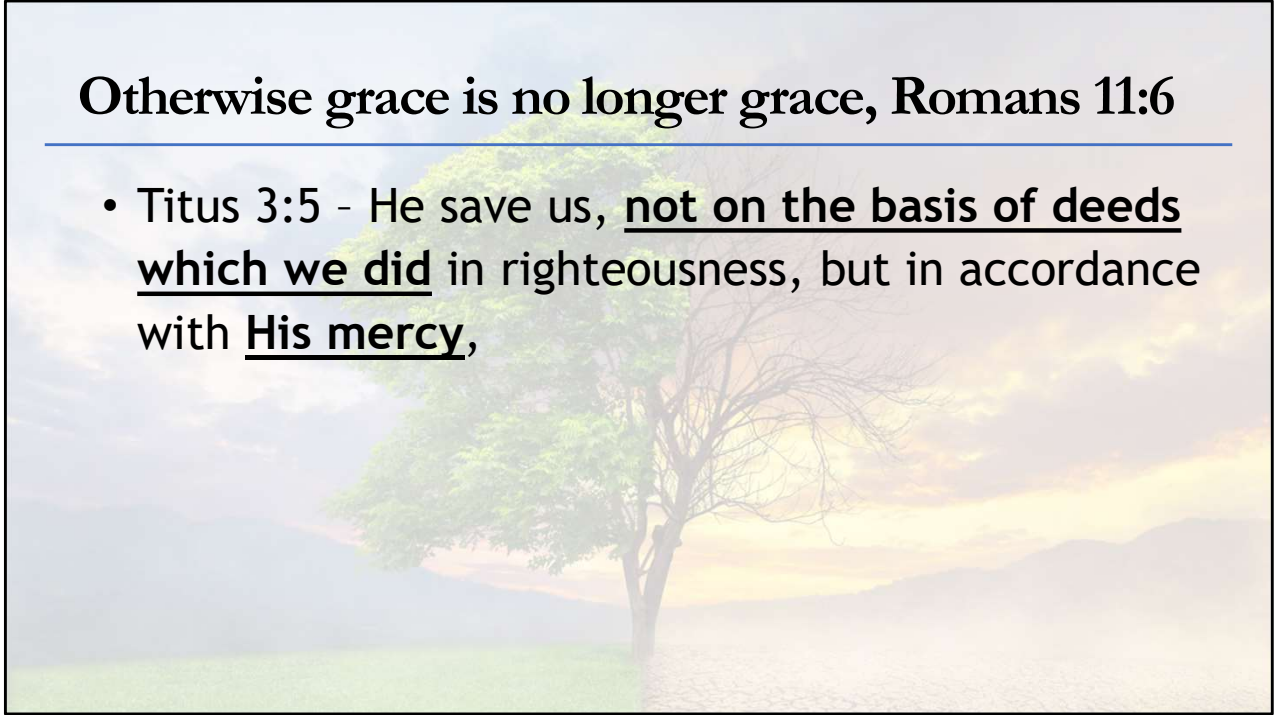
[Rom 11:6 NASB20] 6 **But if [it is] by grace, [it is] no longer on the basis of works, since [otherwise] grace is no longer grace.**

[2Ti 1:9 NASB20] 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to

our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was granted to us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,
[Tit 3:5 NASB20] 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we did in righteousness, but in accordance with His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

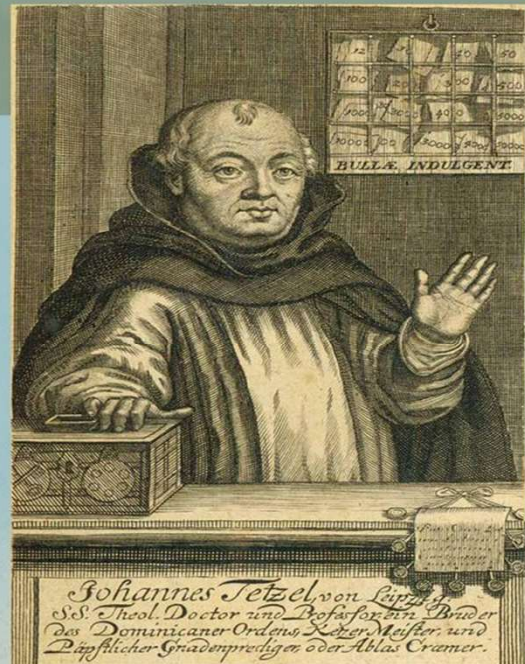
Otherwise grace is no longer grace, Romans 11:6

- Titus 3:5 - He save us, not on the basis of deeds which we did in righteousness, but in accordance with His mercy,



NINETY-FIVE THESES

- Johann Tetzel – sell indulgences to raise money for St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome
- Free the soul of their loved one in purgatory
- “As soon as coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs”



<https://beggarsallreformation.blogspot.com/2012/01/did-tetzel-really-say-as-soon-as-coin.html>

<https://christianhistoryinstitute.org/it-happened-today/10/31>

<https://theconversation.com/the-catholic-view-on-indulgences-and-how-they-work-today-193066#:~:text=Today%2C%20Catholics%20may%20seek%20indulgences,may%20count%20toward%20reduced%20punishment.>

<https://www.simplycatholic.com/what-are-indulgences/>

<https://www.simplycatholic.com/what-are-indulgences/>

[1Pe 1:18-19 NASB20] 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19 but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, [the blood] of Christ.

Is Jesus’ crucifixion, and resurrection enough to pay for our sins and pave the way to Heaven? It is finished!

Then Why does the R.C. church teach you can pray people out of purgatory? Light candles, give \$\$\$

Can that faith save him?

- Is it “Salvific”? Does it save me?
- How many “works” are enough to save me?
- How much faith is enough faith? “Trust me”
- James 2:19 - You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

Christian’s 31% and Muslims 23% and Jews .2% Believe in 1 God - **That’s over 50% of the World believes there is Only 1 God. They do well!**

[Jas 2:10 NASB20] 10 For whoever keeps the whole Law, yet stumbles in one [point,] has become guilty of all.

[Mat 5:18-19 NASB20] 18 "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke of a letter shall pass from the Law, until all is accomplished! 19 "Therefore, whoever nullifies one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others [to do] the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches [them,] he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

[Gal 3:10 NASB20] 10 For all who are of works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written: "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THE THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO DO THEM."

[Mat 5:44, 48 NASB20] 44 "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ... 48 "Therefore you shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

[Heb 12:23 NASB20] 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of [the]

righteous made perfect,

[Jas 3:2 NASB20] 2 For we all stumble in many [ways.] If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to rein in the whole body as well.

[1Pe 5:10 NASB20] 10 After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, [and] establish [you.]

Can that faith save him?

- Protestant Reformation - 5 Sola's protesting Lies
- Guilt or Grace? Heart or whip? Lazarus or Bernies

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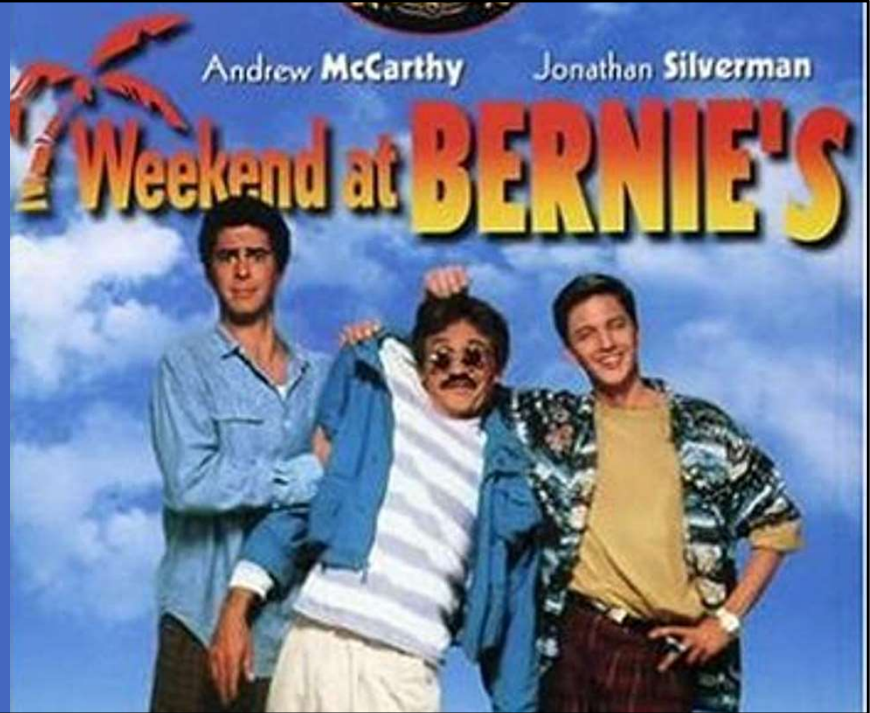
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Weekend at
Bernie's

Sometimes people
present the dead
as Alive!

Eventually, it
won't pass the
smell test!



THE "FIVE SOLAS"

Protestant	Roman Catholic
Scripture alone (<i>sola Scriptura</i>)	Scripture and tradition
Faith alone (<i>sola fide</i>)	Faith and works
Grace alone (<i>sola gratia</i>)	Grace and merit
Christ alone (<i>solus Christus</i>)	Christ, Mary, & intercession of saints
Glory to God alone (<i>soli Deo gloria</i>)	God, saints, and church hierarchy

5 Solas! ALL Protestants! In time became Evangelicals (preachers of the gospel, good news)

You're A Protestant 37% or a Roman Catholic 50%, or an Orthodox 10-12% (Schismatic R.C.) or a cult 1% 2011

IF you **diminish the Holy Scriptures** by exalting the Opinions of Man, including Papal ex cathedra/infallibility or R.C. Church traditions like Indulgences. Lighting candles, Paying Indulgences, paying for your own sins. You cannot be saved!

If you rely on **your works adding to** The Sinless son of Gods perfect work of paying for your sins at the cross, Your ridiculous and arrogant boast discredits the Finished work of Jesus Himself!

IF you believe **God saw something good in you**, even in the future, or in your choice, you cannot be so amazed at His love for you the sinner! Its understandable Love! You deserve to be saved!

To accept **the possibility of other gods is to prostitute your heart** for lies and turns a blind eye to the Glory of our Savior! The Bridegroom of the Church! You shall have No other gods before/beside ME! Jesus fulfilled prophecy! **Trilemma** - to accept the intervention of saints is belittling to Jesus!

To brag of your part in your salvation, apart from the sin you brought to it, is

robbing God, the author and finisher of our faith of the Glory that is His alone!

[Gal 2:19-21 NASB20] 19 "For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live for God. 20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the [life] which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. 21 "I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness [comes] through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

Both Abraham and Rahab's faith was clear

Abraham

- Hebrew / Jew
- Man
- Blessed
- Spoke to God
- Willing to kill Isaac

Rahab

- Canaanite
- Woman
- Cursed people
- Heard about God
- Willing to risk death

Reminds me of John.3 and 4, Nicodemus and Samaritan woman

Abraham

Hebrew/Jew

Man

Blessed

Saw God

Willing to kill Isaac

Rahab

Canaanite

Woman

Cursed people

Heard about God

Willing to risk death

Kevin DeYoung has a good illustration regarding the role faith plays in our salvation. He speaks of walking out on frozen Lake Michigan. The initial step out onto the frozen lake is an act of faith, but it is not his faith that keeps him from falling into freezing water but the thickness of the ice (Kevin DeYoung, *The Good News We Almost Forgot: Rediscovering the Gospel in a 16th Century Catechism*)

[Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2010], 117). So too with us, it is not our faith that saves us, but it is the confidence we have in the work of Jesus that saves us. And that is the gift Paul is talking about in Ephesians 2. There is nothing we do that makes us right with God; it is all a work of God.

[Exo 33:11 NASB20] 11 So the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, just **as a man speaks to his friend**. When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.

[2Ch 20:7 NASB20] 7 "Did You not, our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land from Your people Israel, and give it to the descendants of **Your friend Abraham** forever?

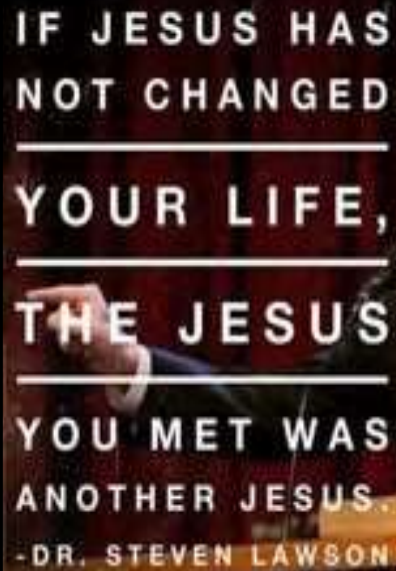
[Job 16:21 NASB20] 21 That one might plead for a man with God As a son of man with his neighbor!

[Isa 41:8 NASB20] 8 "But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, Descendant of **Abraham My friend**,

[Jhn 15:13-15 NASB20] 13 "Greater love has no one than this, that a person will lay down his life for his friends. 14 "**You are My friends if you do what I command you**. 15 "No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, because all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.

[Jas 2:23 NASB20] 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "**AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS,**" and he was called a friend of God.

[Jas 4:4 NASB20] 4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? **Therefore whoever wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.**



IF JESUS HAS
NOT CHANGED
YOUR LIFE,
THE JESUS
YOU MET WAS
ANOTHER JESUS.
-DR. STEVEN LAWSON

Unbroken patterns of SIN

are characteristic of the unregenerate. No matter what a person claims about being a Christian, if he or she continues in sin, it is only a claim and not a reality.

When you became a Christian, the pattern of sin was broken and a new pattern came into existence. Godly desires took over. Does that mean there's no sin in your life? No, because your unredeemed flesh is still there.

But the more you pursue those religious affections, the less you will sin. ... Sin as a life pattern is incompatible with salvation. That's because to experience salvation is to be saved from something, and that something is sin. If a person could continue in sin after being saved from sin, that would mean salvation is ineffective."

JOHN MACARTHUR

"Saved Without a Doubt," p. 92.

reformedspirit.blogspot.com



Does your faith have a pulse?

- He isn't saying "work" harder, but asking are you alive?
- Your works reveal you. Alive / dead
- Do you have saving faith?
 - How is your Heartbeat/pulse?
 - How is your Breathing?
- Faith is riding your friends back across ...

[Act 8:13, 18-23 NASB20] 13 Now even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was [repeatedly] amazed. ...

18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could acquire the gift of God with money! 21 "You have no part or share in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 "Therefore, repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord [that,] if possible, the intention of your heart will be forgiven you. 23 "For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of unrighteousness."

[Deu 6:5 NASB20] 5 "And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

[Mat 22:37 NASB20] 37 And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'

[Psa 42:1 NASB20] 1 For the music director. A Maskil of the sons of Korah. **As the deer pants for the water brooks, So my soul pants for You, God.**

[Psa 42:2 NASB20] 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; When shall I come and appear before God?

Is God the apple of your Eye? **Looking unto Jesus**, Author and finisher...Heb.12

Are you animated for Jesus and His Kingdom? **Doers!** Not hearers only! Ja.1

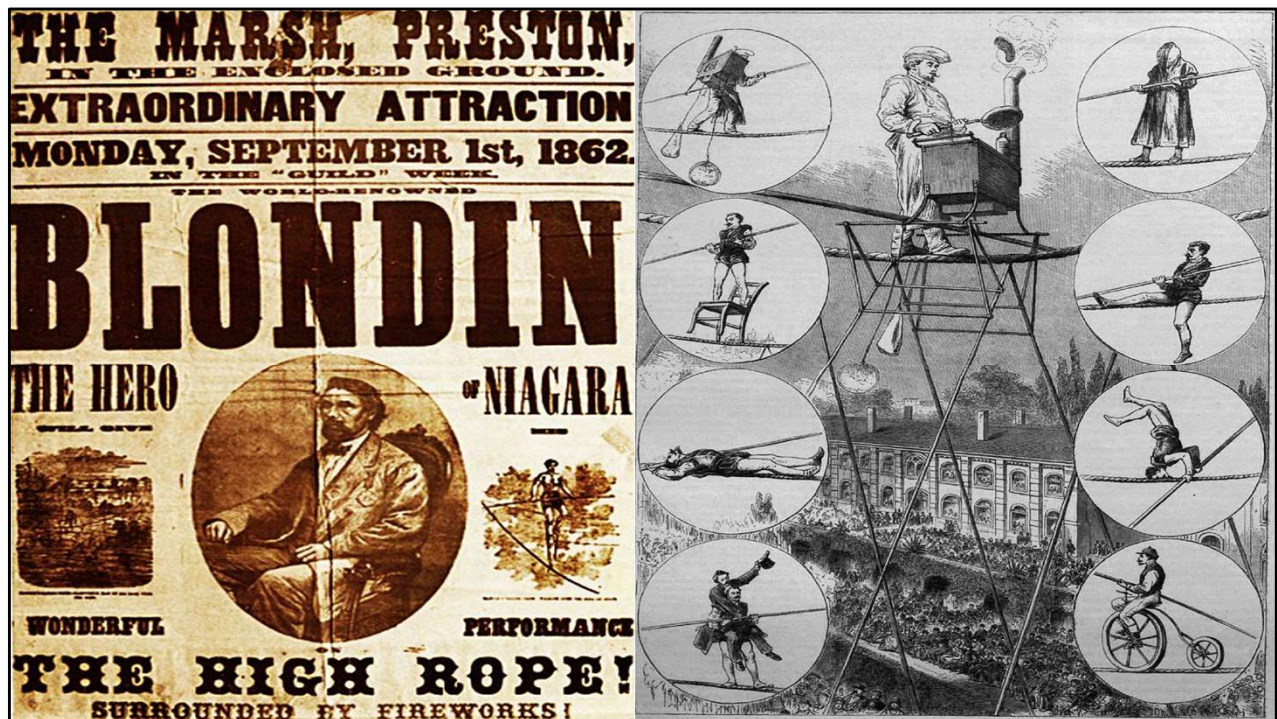
Rhino's and venus flytraps

Rhinos are Herbivores/Vegans...**Venus Flytraps**, Plants are Carnivores!

There are currently around 630 species of carnivorous plant known to science.

Although most meat-eating plants consume insects, larger plants are capable of digesting reptiles and small mammals.

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/carnivorous-plants-meat-eaters-of-the-plant-world.html#:~:text=Carnivorous%20plants%20attract%2C%20trap%20and,digesting%20reptiles%20and%20small%20mammals.>



The Daredevil of Niagara Falls

During the winter of 1858, a 34-year-old French acrobat named Jean François Gravelet, better known as Monsieur Charles Blondin, traveled to Niagara Falls hoping to become the first person to cross the “boiling cataract.”

He always worked without a net, believing that preparing for disaster only made one more likely to occur. A rope 1,300 feet long, two inches in diameter and made entirely of hemp would be the sole thing separating him from the roiling waters below.

Blondin also understood the appeal of the morbid to the masses, and reveled when gamblers began to take bets on whether he would plunge to a watery death. (Most of the smart money said yes.) On the morning of June 30, 1859, about 25,000 thrill-seekers arrived

Vendors hawked everything from lemonade to whiskey, and **Harry Colcord**, **Blondin's manager**, gave tours to the press, explaining the logistics of what the Great Blondin was about to attempt.

Shortly before 5 p.m., Blondin took his position on the American side, dressed in pink tights bedecked with spangles. The lowering sun made him appear as if clothed in light. He wore fine leather shoes with soft soles and brandished a balancing pole made of ash, 26 feet long and weighing nearly 50 pounds. Slowly, calmly, he started to walk. “His gait,” one man noted, “was very like the walk of

some barnyard cock.”. While the band played “Home, Sweet Home,” Blondin reached Canada. One man helped pull him ashore and exclaimed, “I wouldn’t look at anything like that again for a million dollars.” Children clung to their mothers’ legs; women peeked from behind their parasols. Several onlookers fainted. About a third of the way across, Blondin shocked the crowd by sitting down on his cable and calling for the Maid of the Mist, the famed tourist vessel, to anchor momentarily beneath him. He cast down a line and hauled up a bottle of wine. He drank and started off again, breaking into a run after he passed the sagging center

Mark Twain later dismissed Blondin as “that adventurous ass.”

On July 15, with President Millard Fillmore in attendance, Blondin walked backward to Canada and returned to the U.S. pushing a wheelbarrow. Two weeks later, he somersaulted and backflipped his way across, occasionally pausing to dangle from the cable by one hand.

Shortly after that he made another crossing, and, after a brief rest, appeared on the Canadian end of the cable with Harry Colcord clinging to his back.

Blondin gave his manager the following instructions: “Look up, Harry... you are no longer Colcord, you are Blondin. Until I clear this place be a part of me, mind, body, and soul. If I sway, sway with me. Do not attempt to do any balancing yourself. If you do we will both go to our death.”

A few of the guy ropes snapped along the way, but they made it.

By the time he gave his final performance, in 1896, it was estimated that Blondin had crossed Niagara Falls 300 times

He crossed at night, a locomotive headlight affixed to either each of the cable. He crossed with his body in shackles. He crossed carrying a table and chair, stopping in the middle to try to sit down and prop up his legs. The chair tumbled into the water. Blondin nearly followed but regained his composure. He sat down on the cable and ate a piece of cake, washed down with champagne. In his most famous exploit, he carried a stove and utensils on his back, walked to the center of the cable, started a fire and cooked an omelet. When it was ready, he lowered the breakfast to passengers on deck of the Maid of the Mist.

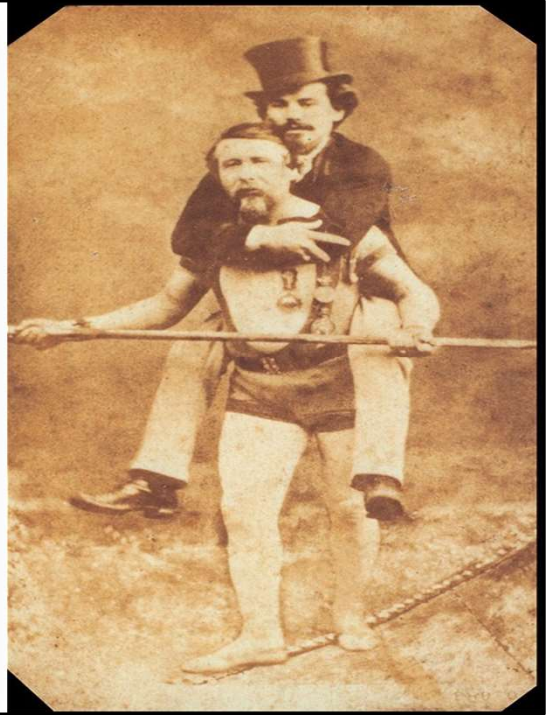
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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbXGkeS_8Bk Not Blondin but



<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-daredevil-of-niagara-falls-110492884/>



Test yourselves

- 2 Corinthians 13:5 - Test yourselves [to see] if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize [this about] yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you -- unless indeed you fail the test?

Jhn 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

1Co 4:1-5 This is the way [any] person is to regard us: as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy. 3 But to me it is an insignificant matter that I would be examined by you, or by [any] human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. 4 For I am not aware of anything against myself; however I am not vindicated by this, but the one who examines me is the Lord. 5 Therefore do not go on passing judgment before [the] time, [but wait] until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of [human] hearts; and then praise will come to each person from God.

[2Co 13:5-6 NASB20] 5 Test yourselves [to see] if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize [this about] yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you--unless indeed you fail the test? 6 But I expect that you will realize that we ourselves do not fail the test.

[Psa 26:2 NASB20] 2 Examine me, LORD, and put me to the test; Refine my mind and my heart.

[Psa 119:59 NASB20] 59 I considered my ways And turned my feet to Your testimonies.

[Psa 139:23-24 NASB20] 23 Search me, God, and know my heart; Put me to the test and know my anxious thoughts; 24 And see if there is [any] hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.

[Lam 3:40 NASB20] 40 Let's examine and search out our ways, And let's return to the LORD.

[Hag 1:5, 7 NASB20] 5 Now then, the LORD of armies says this: "Consider your ways! ... 7 The LORD of armies says this: "Consider your ways!

[1Co 11:28, 31 NASB20] 28 But a person must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ... 31 But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged.

[Jhn 14:15, 21 NASB20] 15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ... 21 "The one who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him."

[Jhn 14:21-24 NASB20] 21 "The one who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him." 22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, what has happened that You are going to reveal Yourself to us and not to the world?" 23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will follow My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make [Our] dwelling with him. 24 "The one who does not love Me does not follow My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

[1Jo 2:3-5 NASB20] 3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; 5 but whoever follows His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him:

[1Jo 5:2-3 NASB20] 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and follow His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

Test yourselves

- 1 John 2:3-4 - By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him



Do you have Faith?

10 Fascinating Facts About Lunch Atop A Skyscraper

The Great Depression

The sight of 11 Rockefeller Center construction workers casually eating lunch across a beam hanging 850 feet in the air was a hopeful look at life in the '30s. printed in the New York Herald-Tribune on October 2, 1932, and it's been one of the most well-recognized pieces of photography ever since



Creating A Living Faith

Going to Heaven?

- INSTRUCTIONS: Check below what you think is necessary to get you to heaven.
- 1 Obeying God's laws and commandments
 - 2 Gifts to charity
 - 3 Doing your best
 - 4 Living a good life
 - 5 Being helpful to others
 - 6 Trying to obey the Golden Rule
 - 7 Tithing, or giving money to the church
 - 8 Church membership
 - 9 Regular church attendance
 - 10 Prayers
 - 11 Fasting
 - 12 Water baptism
 - 13 Holy Communion
 - 14 Born of Christian parents
 - 15 Confirmation
 - 16 Penances
 - 17 Extreme unction
- NOW proceed to the next page and find out if YOU are going to heaven.

FOREWORD BY
JIM CYMBALA
SENIOR PASTOR OF THE BROOKLYN TABERNACLE

FROM YOUR HEAD TO YOUR HEART

THE CHANGE YOU LONG FOR IS JUST 18 INCHES AWAY

MARIA DURSO

**Will You Miss
Heaven By
18 Inches?**

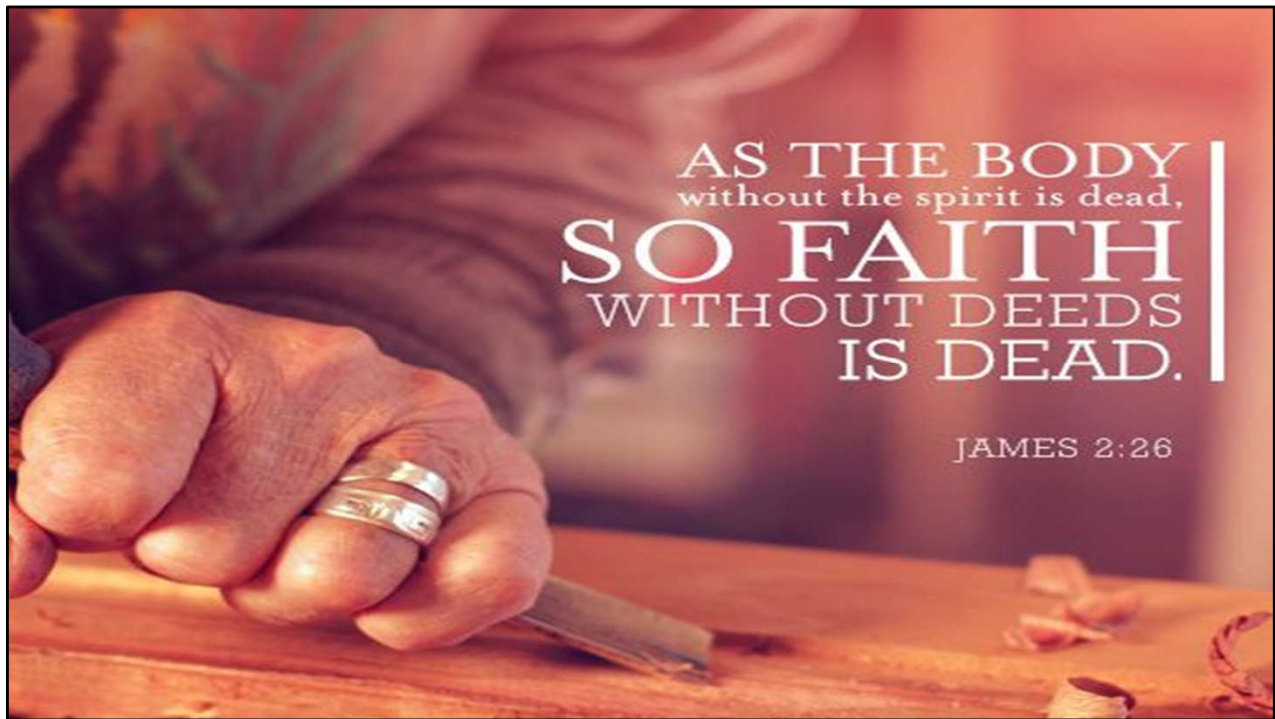


HOW CLOSE
CAN YOU GET
TO JESUS YET
STILL GO TO
HELL?









AS THE BODY
without the spirit is dead,
SO FAITH
WITHOUT DEEDS
IS DEAD.

JAMES 2:26





Love one another. As I have loved you... -Jesus



John 13:34

A close-up photograph of a hand pouring a thick, yellowish soup from a metal ladle into a dark metal bowl held by another hand. The background is a dark, textured wooden surface. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

AMAZING FACTS

If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.


James 2:15-17



**'YOU ARE EITHER A CHRISTIAN
OR YOU ARE NOT A CHRISTIAN;
YOU CANNOT BE PARTLY A
CHRISTIAN. YOU ARE EITHER
DEAD OR ALIVE; YOU
ARE EITHER BORN
OR NOT BORN?'**

- D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

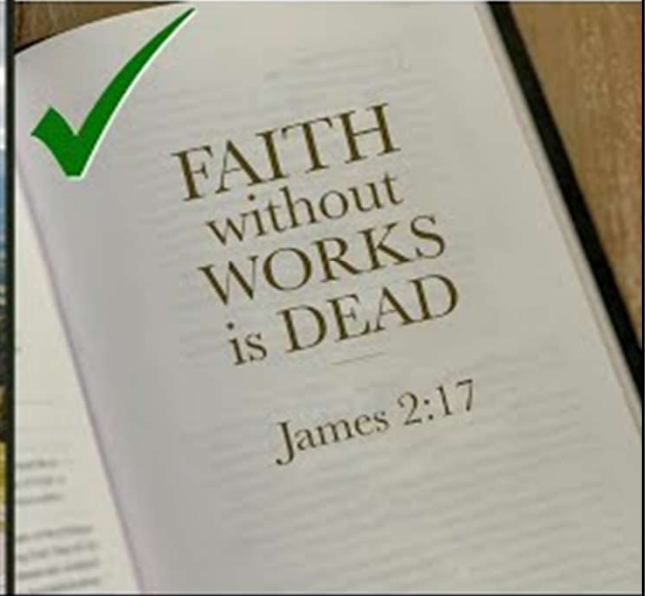


 **BANNER
of TRUTH**

WE BELIEVE...



JAMES SAYS...





ROCK VALLEY
CHURCH



FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD

TIME OF PRAYER AND MEDITATION

JAMES 2:14

THE 5 SOLAS



CONFESSING FAITH WITH
THE HISTORIC CHURCH



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Woman declared dead discovered alive in coffin during her own wake

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Woman declared dead discovered alive in coffin during her own wake