

AFFIRMATION OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

Titus 3:8

How do we as believers *affirm* (ratify, establish, to maintain as true) our belief system of faith in Jesus Christ? What is it about Christianity that we can put into words and actions that prove our faith?

CHRISTIAN SALVATION

John 3:16-28; 6:47; Acts 16:31 The sole condition for receiving eternal salvation from hell is faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ who died a substitutionary death on the cross, shed His blood for mankind's sin debt and rose from the dead. No other religion on earth has a salvation message like this one.

Romans 4:5; Galatians 2:16; Titus 3:5 No act of obedience, preceding or following simple faith in Jesus Christ may be added to any part of this faith as a condition for receiving salvation. These conditions include promises to obey the bible, promises to turn away from sin, baptism and submission to the Lordship of Christ.

Ephesians 2:8-9; John 4:10; Revelation 22:17 The saving transaction that takes place between God and the lost sinner is simply the giving and receiving of a free gift from God because of Jesus Christ.

CHRISTIAN FAITH ASSURANCE

John 6:37; I John 5:9-13 The assurance of eternal salvation is based only on the promises that God makes in His word that everyone who puts their trust in Jesus Christ alone possesses eternal life.

John 6:63 Many believers try to become emotional and “feel” something special regarding their position in Jesus Christ. Every person has different emotions, come from different back grounds and have many different experiences in life that cause different feelings and emotions that mean nothing.

Ephesians 2:10; Titus 3:5 Many people think that good works will help them find the assurance they so much desire. However, though we are certainly encouraged to do good works they have nothing to do with our salvation or our assurance of salvation.

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Romans 8:29; Galatians 5:22-25 The ultimate goal of the Holy Spirit's work in the believer's life is to help conform each one into the mature likeness of Jesus Christ in our attitude and actions.

Matthew 5:16; Rom. 6:12-18; Hebrews 5:13-14 Obedience to the word of God, while not necessary for obtaining eternal salvation, is the responsibility of each believer to grow into spiritual maturity.

I Corinthians 3:1-4; 5:1-5; 11:27-30 The bible encourages good works but the bible does not teach that good works will belong to every believer. Many believers fail in following the Holy Spirit's lead.

CHRISTIAN MOTIVATION

Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 2:20 As John the Apostle reminds us “we love Him because He first loved us”, a powerful motivation for living an upright Christian life before the world is to show our gratitude, our great thankfulness to Jesus Christ and God our Father for their great sacrificial love.

James 1:25; Hebrews 12:3-11 Believers are also motivated by the knowledge that God both blesses those that are obedient to His word and He will also discipline those that are disobedient.

I Corinthians 3:7-15; II Corinthians 5:10 Finally every believer should be motivated to good works and faithful service to God because every believer will stand before Jesus Christ and He will judge us according to our Christian life while we had opportunity to serve Him and to show our love.