

**Q- What is Saving Faith?**  
Eph. 2:8-10

**TT-** The Bible presents four truths of true saving faith.

**1. Faith is a gift from God not earned.**

(1). If faith was a work, then man would be in position to take partial credit for his salvation.

**Acts 11:17**, Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

(2). Sinful man is justified before God by grace thru faith alone in Christ.

We are **not** justified by works, **not** by faith and works, **but** a faith in Christ that works!

**Rom. 3:22**, Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

**2. Faith is the work of God not man.**

(1). He quickens the heart to believe.

It is God's work in a dead heart.

**Eph. 1:1**, And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

(2). Faith is a supernatural work.

**John 1:12-13**, But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: (13) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

**3. Faith involves repentance.**

(1). One must turn from sin and trust in the work of Christ to save from sin and make one righteous

**I Thess. 1:9**, For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

(2). How is repentance related to salvation?

*Repentance is essential to salvation.* Repentance and faith are two sides of the same coin

**Acts 20:21**, Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Repentance means “to have another mind”* There is a change of mind about sin and the Savior that is reflected in a change of conduct (Luke 3:8).

#### **4. Faith is active not passive.**

(1).The faith given by God is evidenced by good works.

**Eph. 2:8-10**, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast. (10) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

**Rom. 3:22**, Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

**James 2:26** For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

**Q- Is there a contradiction between Paul and James?** Paul teaches salvation by faith (Rom. 3:22) and tells how we are saved. James teaches saving faith is demonstrated by works and can be seen (James 2:26).

We are justified before God by faith but justified before men by works.

**Q- What does all this mean?** We are not saved because we attend church, baptized, give, serve, prayer, or even study our Bible. These are by-products or fruit of salvation.

We don't **do** to get saved and maintain salvation. We **do** because we are saved!

We are saved by grace alone, thru faith alone, in Christ alone, but not a faith that is alone.

This is the heart of the gospel that separates Christianity from religion! This is saving faith that will send you to heaven.