

Solas Faith Alone Ephesians 2:8-9

Central Question: How does one receive the grace of God into their lives?

Clarification: No official Roman Catholic Church dogma would say that people are saved by works. They would say that we are saved by grace, but how they define grace and how you receive that grace really is the issue.

In this view, grace is treated almost as if it's a substance, something that can be dispensed through various avenues and means (the sacraments, etc.) that become the means of saving grace, grace that improves you, perfects you and moves you more and more toward the goal of salvation.

The Reformation was in part a protest against the view that sees justification as a process in which you participate in the life of the church, receiving grace.

What Constitutes True Saving Faith?

"Faith is believing what you know ain't so." Mark Twain

1. _____

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

_____ is not saving faith

2. _____

“but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (John 20:31)

_____ does not guarantee saving faith

3. _____

“You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!” (James 2:19)

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,” (John 1:12)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)

True saving faith is belief in _____

- _____ the gospel is true
- _____ or trust in Christ

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

(Matthew 11:28–29)

What About Repentance?

“and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.” (Mark 1:15)

“testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Acts 20:21)

_____ from sin and _____
_____ Christ are two sides of the same
coin

“To trust in Him means, of course, trying to do all that he says. There would be no sense in saying you trusted in a person if you would not take his advice.”

C.S. Lewis

What About Works?

James 2:17-24

Works are the _____ of our
salvation, not the _____ of our
salvation.

We are saved by faith alone, but a faith
that saves is _____

True faith always produces _____

Two Errors To Avoid:

- _____
- _____

In genuine saving faith, God gives us _____ - freedom from the penalty of sin, the power of sin and ultimately from the very presence of sin.

Making It Personal:

- Have I responded to God's amazing grace with true saving faith?
- What does the fruit of my life say about my relationship with Christ? Does my life give evidence of the transforming power of true saving faith?
- Is there any area of my life where I need to turn from sin and trust in Christ?
- Who can I share these truths with?