

Can you be sure?

Are you afraid?

“ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the son of God so that you may **know** that you have eternal life.” 1John 5:13 (NIV)

“Do not be afraid, Abraham.”



75 years old, Genesis 12:4

“ Look up at the heavens and count the stars...”so shall your offspring be.”

Genesis 15:5

Abram's faith in God's promise.

Against all hope..



100 years old, Genesis 21:5

1. Without weakening...
2. Was strengthened...
3. Fully persuaded...
4. Gave glory to God...
5. God had power to do..

Romans 4:18-22

Abraham in hope believed and ...become the father of many nations.

Justification by Faith

“Consider Abraham: “He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Understand, then, that those who believed are children of Abraham. “The scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.”

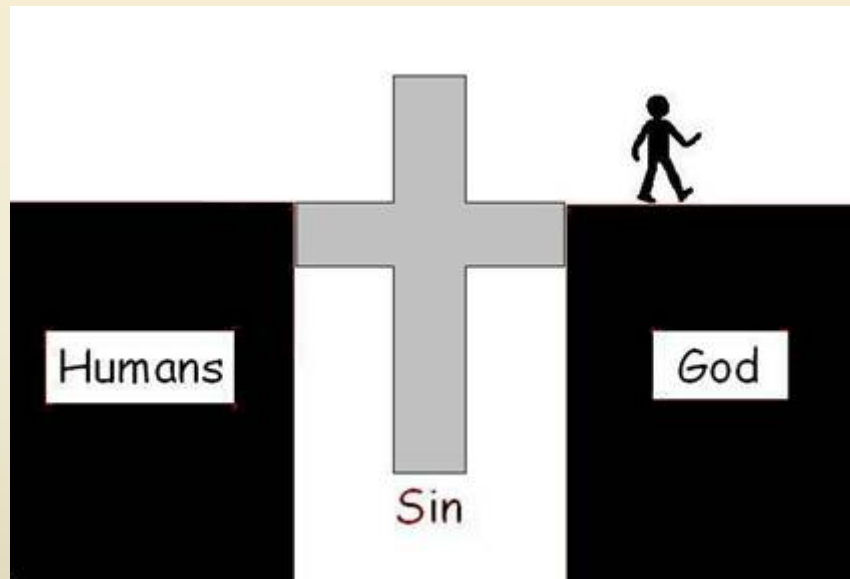
Galatians 3:6-9, Genesis 15:6 & 12:3.

FAITH : the means of our justification.

“For it is by **grace** you have been saved, through **faith**-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8&9

Grace on God's part and faith on ours.

Grace on God's Part



“For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23

Faith on Man's Part



“Do not be afraid any longer; only believe, and she will be made well.”

Luke 8:50

Baptized into Christ



“...we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death so that we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection...we are no longer be slaves to sin-because anyone who has died has been freed from sin” Romans 6:1-7

*“Those who trusted in themselves
that they were righteous.”*



- Prayed about himself:
God, I thank you that I
am not like other men.
- I fast...
- I give....

Luke 18: 9-14

Works of credits and merits

Salvation by Law keeping?

ARROGANCE

1. Who trusted in themselves that they are righteous.
2. “Self-righteous” viewed others with contempt.

FEAR

1. I’ll just have to wait and see what God decided at judgment.
2. I simply cannot know if I have done enough to be saved.
3. I do not know if I am good enough.
4. Christianity is too hard

*“See that a man is justified
by works, and not by faith
alone”*



Some years later, Genesis 22: 1-14

“Abraham reasoned
that God could raise
the dead, and
figuratively speaking,
he did receive Isaac
back from death.”

Hebrews 11:19

*Abraham's faith was made complete
by what he did.*

Justification by Works

“Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, ‘Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteous,’ and he was called God’s friend. You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone. James 2:21-24

*No Condemnation
for those in Christ Jesus.*

“Therefore, there is now **no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life **set me free from the law of sin and death.** For the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.” Romans 8:1-4

Law of Sin and Death



“ And Jehovah God said, ” ...for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”

Genesis 2:17

Christians are freed for freedom



“ It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.”

Galatians 5: 1

*Christians are delivered from
the law of sin and death.*

“But if we walk in the light, as he was in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and **the blood of Jesus his Son purifies us from all sin.**” 1 john 1:7

“No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear Children, do not let anyone lead you astray.” 1 John 3:7 & 8.

The Christian's confidence

“By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in the world. **There is no fear in love;** but perfect love casts out because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love”

1 John 4:17,18

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YES!

TRUST + OBEY = A FAITH THAT SAVES.