

Romans 3:27-31

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 3:27 We cannot boast of that which we receive through no ability of our own.
- 2) 3:27 God knows human nature and our proclivity to establish our territory by showing what we accomplished. Faith removes my involvement from the redemptive process.
- 3) 3:27-28 Works are important, but they do not accomplish salvation.
- 4) 3:28 The great evil in thinking that man is able to make himself acceptable to God is that it robs God of His rightful glory.
- 5) 3:29-30 That God is one is fundamental theology (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5; 1 Corinthians 8:5-6). Likewise, God is not exclusive to any one nation (Genesis 18:25; Psalm 96:1, 7–8; 97:5; 98:2–3; 100:1; Jeremiah 10:7).
- 6) 3:30 Just as there is only one God, there is only one way of salvation...faith in Jesus.
- 7) 3:31 The Law is the preparation for the way of salvation, but it is not itself the way.

WHAT IS "FAITH THAT SAVES?"

Untrustworthy evidences of saving faith:

- **Morality**—A person can be outwardly moral and not be saved (Matthew 19:16–22).
- **Religious activity**—God repeatedly denounced Israel for outwardly & meticulously following ceremonial ritual, while having no trust in Him or relationship with Him.
- **Active ministry**—Judas was active; he served as treasurer. He considered himself a follower of Christ. (Matthew 7:21–23)

Trustworthy evidences of saving faith:

- **Love for God**—A true child of God, despite failing his heavenly Father, will have a life imprinted by delight in God and His Word (Romans 8:7; Psalm 1:2; Matthew 10:37).

- **Repentance from sin and hatred of it**—A person who genuinely loves God will have an innate hatred of sin (Matthew 6:24; Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:8–9).
- **Prayer**—Every Christian admits he/she does not pray as often and persistently as we should. But in the deepest, most private part of our being, conversation with the Father will be the desire of the heart (Galatians 4:6).
- **Selfless love for other people, especially fellow Christians**—“We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.” 1 John 3:14
- **Separation from the world**—We are in the world but not of it (1 John 2:15–16).
- **Spiritual growth**—The central truth of the parable of the soils (Matthew 13:3–23) is that true believers grow spiritually to varying degrees, because by faith they have received the seed of the gospel.
- **Obedient living**—“By this we know that we have come to know Him [Christ], 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; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him.” 1 John 2:25; 3:10

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