

Faith And Works

One of the great current religious debates concerns the matter of faith and works. Denominationalists say that baptism cannot be essential to salvation because baptism is a "work," and we are not saved by works. A verse given for proof is Romans 4:3: "*For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*" They conclude that faith alone is needed to make one righteous.

The problem with this assumption is that it neglects other verses in the Bible. For instance, Jesus said in John 6:29, "*This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.*" If Jesus called faith a "work," will the denominationalist say that faith cannot save? Absolutely not! Yet they are caught in a hopeless contradiction. They say works cannot save, but Jesus said faith (which they say is the only thing that can save) is a work!

Furthermore, James 2:24 says, "*Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.*" What does the Bible refer to as a "work"? A "work" is simply an action or deed which man believes will save him. The Bible says this will not save. But the "works" ordained by God will save! Baptism is a "work" of God because it is commanded by God (Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21).

So what will you believe? Will you believe denominational teaching or will you believe the Bible? Contact us if you would like to learn more about what the Bible says about salvation and how it can be truly obtained.

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