

How Jesus & His 12 Apostles Say We Are Saved



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INTRODUCTION

If you have been around the Christian church for a while, you hear most people say we are saved through FAITH. You don't have to DO anything. Others say we must do good WORKS, good deeds. Which is it?

How are we REALLY SAVED? My first Bible Study, short and simple, was "How to Be Saved and Gain Eternal Life." If you are not sure on how to be saved, you might want to start by reading that. But even after you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, and have been learning more from the Bible, you might again come to the discussion about WORKS versus FAITH.

We hear lots of opinions on this topic. But what did Yeshua (Jesus in English) say?
How did Jesus say are we are really saved?

Let's look first at **ONLY THE WORDS OF YESHUA**, and then we can see what the Twelve Apostles and other people in the Bible say.

Most of my Bible Studies attempt to have EVERY SCRIPTURE IN THE BIBLE on the topic. Some people have complained that it is just TOO MANY Bible verses. But my Bible Studies are to learn the TRUTH about what the Bible says, not what some denomination told me to believe, not what some person told me to believe, but what the Bible really says. I want ALL the scriptures on the topic. I want the scriptures those with opposing beliefs use as their key scriptures, so I can analyze them. I want to know their reason for believing the way they do, and give that a fair hearing. How can we find the "Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth" if we don't have all the data, all the information available? Since my studies are meant to learn what the Bible really says on a topic, I typically use nothing from outside the Bible. Outside sources may or may not be valid. The ONLY place we can read the words of Yeshua (Jesus in English) is from the Bible. So yes, I hope I have found EVERY SCRIPTURE on the topic. If I have missed a scripture, if you find other scriptures that address the question, or if you can in any way help me improve this writing or see a mistake, please contact me and let me know at dan@vigilantvaliant.com.

I have compiled below scriptures I found on this topic. If you like it, if it seems to be thorough and accurate, my other Bible Studies may be found on www.vigilantvaliant.com.

If you wonder why I use The Living God's name, Yahweh, and Our Savior's name, Yeshua, please see my other Bible Study, "Does Jesus Want Christians to Obey the Ten Commandments" in the Introduction, in the section, "THE NAME OF GOD AND HIS MESSIAH" for a short explanation.

I use the King James Version (KJV) only because it was by far the main English translation during my life. While there are other good translations of the Bible, I am using the one I am familiar with, the KJV. Yes, it is old-fashioned English, but it can also be poetic and beautiful. So, all scriptures are quoted from the KJV Bible (King James Version), unless otherwise noted. All scriptures will be indented and in italics. All Bolding, Underlining, Italicizing, (parentheses), highlighting, and [brackets] are done by me for emphasis.

END OF INTRODUCTION

YESHUA'S WORDS ON HOW TO BE SAVED

FAITH

*"10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? 11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. 12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? 13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: 15 **That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.** 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 **He that believeth on him***

is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." (John 3:10-19)

So Yeshua says "whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." So we know we must believe in Yeshua.

"28 Then said they unto him, **What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?** 29 **Jesus answered** and said unto them, **This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**" (John 6:28-29)

Notice above that Yeshua calls believing on Yeshua "the work of Yahweh", so **having faith is a work.**

"35 And **Jesus said** unto them, **I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.** 36 **But I said** unto you, **That ye also have seen me, and believe not.** 37 **All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.** 38 **For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.** 39 **And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.** 40 **And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.**" (John 6:35:40)

"43 **Jesus therefore answered** and said unto them, **Murmur not among yourselves.** 44 **No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.** 45 **It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.** 46 **Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.** 47 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.**" (John 6:43-47)

"25 **Jesus answered** them, **I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.** 26 **But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.** 27 **My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:** 28 **And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.**" (John 10:25-28)

"25 **Jesus said** unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:** 26 **And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"** (John 11:25-26)

"Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**" (John 14:6)

Yeshua says He is **the ONLY way.** So it seems pretty clear. We **MUST BELIEVE** in the Lord Yeshua Hamaschiach, Jesus the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

"19 **Then answered Jesus** and said unto them, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.** 20 **For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.** 21 **For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.** 22 **For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:** 23 **That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.** 24 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**" (John 5:24)

Here Yeshua says we must "believeth on him that sent me", that is Yahweh, God the Father. So we must also have faith **ALSO** in Yahweh, God the Father.

REPENTANCE

"From that time **Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent:** for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4:17)

"2 And **Jesus answering** said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? 3 I tell you, Nay: **but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**" (Luke 13:2-3)

"1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; **These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;** 2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and **repent,** and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, **except thou repent.**" (Revelation 2:1-5)

"14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate. 16 **Repent;** or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth." (Revelation 2:14-16)

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and **repent.**" (Revelation 3:19)

Yeshua makes it clear repentance is absolutely required. Without it, we shall perish. This repentance can not just be a casual "I'm sorry." It means being so sorry that we do our very best to change our ways and sin no more.

WORKS

We can't just cherry pick and choose verses we like. Yeshua also said the following. The people in Matthew 25:31-46, included in the verses below, have done good works, but still are said to "work iniquity", which some translations translate as "practice lawlessness." This proves that good works ALONE will not save us, just as James says in the verses in James's section that follows the Apostles' section. We must also not work iniquity, or practice lawlessness.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see **your good works,** and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

"21 **Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.** 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (practice lawlessness)." (Matthew 7:21-23)

"For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then **he shall reward every man according to his works.**" (Matthew 16:27)

"31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 **Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.** 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, **Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.** 41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger,

and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." (Matthew 25:31-46)

In the verses above, Yeshua was talking to people who called Him Lord. **All these are professing Christians. Yet ONLY those who DO GOOD WORKS are saved, and the others condemned.**

While Yeshua says in the verses above that we are saved by faith, the following verses show we must also DO GOOD WORKS.

"22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: 23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him. 24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. 25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. 26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; 27 And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. 28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; **they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.**" (John 5:22-29)

The following verse shows that **FAITH IS A WORK**, but it is one work. As other scriptures show, **WE MUST DO OTHER WORKS.**

"27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed. 28 Then said they unto him, **What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?** 29 Jesus answered and said unto them, **This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**" (John 6:27-29)

Doing good works obviously means also abstaining from bad works. The Ten Commandments command us to both do good works, and to not do bad works. Did Yeshua tell people to obey the Ten Commandments? (Some of the following are included from my study on "Does Jesus Want Christians to Obey the Ten Commandments?")

"16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And **he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.** 18 He saith unto him, Which? **Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?** 21 Jesus said unto him, **If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.** 22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. 23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. 25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? 26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible. 27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? 28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 **And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.** 30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first." (Matthew 19:16-30)

Is there really any way a modern day Christian can read Yeshua's word above, and think they to NOT have to obey the Ten Commandments? Yeshua made the conditional statement, "if thou wilt enter into life" then "Keep the commandments." While the converse of that is not true, "if you keep the commandments, you will enter into life", the Contrapositive IS TRUE, "If you do NOT keep the commandments, you will NOT enter into life." Therefore it is true that

Yeshua is saying that keeping the commandments is ONE OF THE requirements of entering into life (eternal). Note also that He did NOT say "Keep MY commandments", but "Keep THE commandments." I challenge you to find any scripture to support that if this was not "The Ten Commandments", that it at least included them.

*"35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, 36 **Master, which is the great commandment in the law?** 37 **Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.** 38 **This is the first and great commandment.** 39 **And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.** 40 **On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**" (Matthew 22:35-40)*

*"1 **Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,** 2 **Saying The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:** 3 **All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.** 4 **For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.** 5 **But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,** 6 **And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues,** 7 **And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.** 8 **But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.** 9 **And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.** 10 **Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.** 11 **But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.** 12 **And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.**" (Matthew 23:1-12)*

To whom was Yeshua speaking here? To His disciples, Christians, and the "multitude", a mix of people, probably some believing, and some listening to learn more, but not believing yet. Therefore, Yeshua tells His followers to "observe and do" "all therefore whatsoever they bid you observe." Do you think it is at all possible that they did not bid the people to obey the Ten Commandments, the basic directions of Yahweh to mankind? Then Yeshua is saying here, to His disciples, to, at the very least, obey the Ten Commandments.

*"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but **my words shall not pass away.**" (Matthew 24:35)*

*"16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. 17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to **observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Matthew 28:16-20)*

The very last words of Yeshua on Earth were to tell the disciples to obey what He commanded.

*"6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. 7 **Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.** 8 **For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men,** as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. 9 And he said unto them, **Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.** 10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: 11 But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free. 12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; 13 **Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition,** which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye." (Mark 7:6-13)*

Yeshua Himself warned against "laying aside the commandment of Yahweh," and to not "reject the commandment of Yahweh." Would He have done that for three years of His earthly ministry, and then thrown them out?

*"17 And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? 18 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God. 19 **Thou knowest the commandments,** Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. 20 And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth. 21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up*

the cross, and follow me. 22 And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions." (Mark 10:17-22)

Yeshua clearly states every one of the six of the Ten Commandments concerning our relationship with men. Do you really believe He did not mention the first section of four about our relationship with Yahweh to indicate that those four do not need to be obeyed?

"28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, **Which is the first commandment of all?** 29 And Jesus answered him, **The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: 30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. 32 And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: 33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. 34 And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question."** (Mark 12:28-34)

Is Yeshua changing the commandments here or summarizing the first four and the last six?

"And why do you call me Lord, Lord, and **do not the things which I say?**" (Luke 6:46)

"28 But he said, Yea rather, **blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.**" (Luke 11:28)

"49 **Jesus answered,** I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me. 50 And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth. 51 Verily, verily, I say unto you, **If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.**" (John 8:49-51)

"15 **If ye love me, keep my commandments.** 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. 20 At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. 21 **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.** 22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. 24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.**" (John 14:15-24)

"7 **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. 12 **This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.**" (John 15:7-14)**

Yeshua says He kept His "Father's commandments." What are those, if they do not at least include the Ten Commandments? When Yeshua says in John 14:5 above, "If ye love me, keep my commandments," was He excluding the Ten Commandments? If so, can you even name the commandments Yeshua was speaking of? **Can you honestly read all the verses above, from the Bible, and think Yeshua does NOT want Christians to keep at least the Ten Commandments?**

"1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; 2 **I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them**

which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and **repent, and do the first works**; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent." (Revelation 2:1-5)

"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." (Revelation 2:9)

"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth." (Revelation 2:13)

"I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first." (Revelation 2:19)

"25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:" (Revelation 2:25-26)

"21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works." (Revelation 2:21-23)

"And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God." (Revelation 3:1-2)

"I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name." (Revelation 3:8)

"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot." (Revelation 3:15)

"12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. 13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and **their works do follow them.**" (Revelation 14:12-13)

"12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works." (Revelation 20:12-13)

WORKS BEAR WITNESS OF WHO WE REALLY ARE

The words of Yeshua below show that our works bear witness to who we really are. Christians are the children of Abraham by adoption through grafting in. If you do not realize that the Bible teaches this, please see my study "Does Jesus Want Christians to Obey the Ten Commandments?" Yeshua said that as Abraham's children, we should do the works Abraham did.

"They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham." (John 8:39)

"But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me." (John 5:36)

"Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me." (John 10:25)

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." (John 14:12)

"37 If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him." (John 10:37-38)

"15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matthew 7:15-20)

"1 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples, 2 Saying The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: 3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. 4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. 5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, 6 And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, 7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi. 8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. 9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. 10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ." (Matthew 23:1-10)

ENDURE TO THE END

Isn't it just plain common sense that if you declare at the beginning that you love someone, but then, through the years, fall away and ignore them or leave them for someone else, that your love was not true enduring love? Ask any person whose spouse has left them for another person. That is all the following verses mean. If we love Yahweh through to our death, then we really truly love Yahweh. Anything less than this is not real, true love.

"18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. 19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. 20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. 21 And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. 22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." (Matthew 10:18-22)

"4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." (Matthew 24:4-14)

10 And the gospel must first be published among all nations. 11 But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost. 12 Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents,

and shall cause them to be put to death. 13 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: **but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.**" (Mark 13:10-13)

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;" (John 8:31)

"1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." (John 15:1-14)

Yeshua says ABIDE nine (9) times in the verses above. Nine times! Definitions of ABIDE in <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/abide> are "1. To remain; continue; stay" and "5. To endure, sustain."

"25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:" (Revelation 2:25-26)

In some of the verses above, it may be pointed out that these are in reference to the end times. However is it speaking only to those very few who will be alive at that time, the end of the world? It is clear from the scriptures the early Christians thought Yeshua was returning very soon. They all lived with that end in sight. How long could they endure? Could they endure 2000 years, or to the end of their lives? I submit this is true of believers who keep their faith to the end of their lives.

Finally, here are words from Yahweh, God the Father Himself, which I place here under the words of Yeshua. Yeshua says He gave us His Father's words. Some may try to say this is ONLY for Israel. You read Yahweh saying these words. See if you think He will give a different judgment today. See if you think Yahweh's idea of justice changes.

"20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. 21 But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. 22 All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live. 23 Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? Saith the Lord God: and not that he should return from his ways, and live? 24 But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die. 25 Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? Are not your ways unequal? 26 When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die. 27 Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. 28 Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die. 29 Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? Are not your ways unequal? 30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. 31 Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye." (Ezekiel 18)

THE APOSTLES' WORDS ON HOW TO BE SAVED

Yeshua chose twelve special men out of His disciples, and designated them as Apostles. He gave them special powers. Four times they are listed in the Bible. Only one has questions about his name, Lebbaeus/Thaddaeus/Jude/Judas son of James. Bartholomew is also called Nathanael. Of these twelve, only Peter, Matthew, and John wrote letters that were included in the canon of the New Testament. As I understand it, Jude the Apostle is not the Jude who wrote the epistle of Jude. So of the Twelve Apostles, we only have a record of what Peter, Matthew, and John wrote on the topic of salvation, and Matthew records the words of others, but few of his own, so mostly we have only the record of Peter and John. How do these compare with what Yeshua says about salvation? [Some may ask about the writings of Paul, but Paul was not one of the original Twelve Apostles. Paul's writings are addressed in the section on "Others Words on How to be Saved."]

*"And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them **he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;**" (Luke 6:13)*

*"14 And **he ordained twelve**, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And **to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:**" (Mark 3:14-15)*

"2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first," (Matthew 10:2-4)

1. Simon, who is called Peter, and
2. Andrew his brother; (*Simon Peter's brother*)
3. James the son of Zebedee, and
4. John his brother;
5. Philip (Not Philip the Evangelist), and
6. Bartholomew (Nathanael);
7. Thomas (which is called Didymus), and
8. Matthew (Levi) the publican; [tax collector] [Mark & Luke call him Levi]
9. James the son of Alphaeus, and
10. Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; [*JUDE/JUDAS son of James from LUKE*]
11. Simon the Canaanite [*the Zealot*], and
12. Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him."
Matthias [chosen by lot after prayer to replace JUDAS ISCARIOT (the traitor) who was dead]

FAITH

*"21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. 22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. 23 And this is his commandment, That **we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ**, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. 24 And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." (1 John 3:21-24)*

*"1 **Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God:** and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. 4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5 **Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?**" (1 John 5:1-5)*

*"These things have I written unto **you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." (1 John 5:13)*

*"1 **Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ**, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to*

his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are **kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: 7 That the **trial of your faith**, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 **Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.**" (1 Peter 1:1-9)

"4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.** 8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: 11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**" (2 Peter 1:4-11)

REPENTANCE

"**Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**" (Acts 2:38)

"12 And when **Peter saw it, he answered** unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? Or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? 13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. 14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; 15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses. 16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. 17 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers. 18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled. 19 **Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.**" (Acts 3:12-19)

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that **all should come to repentance.**" (2 Peter 3:9)

"5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." (1 John 1:5-10)

WORKS

"And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons **judgeth according to every man's work**, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:" (1 Peter 1:17)

"Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, **they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.**" (1 Peter 2:12)

*"5 And beside this, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: 11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."** (2 Peter 1:5-11)*

In the following verse, John the Apostle, John the Revelator, says it from the opposite view, if we do NOT do good works, we are not of God.

*"In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: **whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.**" (1 John 3:10)*

*"21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. 22 And whatsoever we ask, **we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. 23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. 24 And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.**" (1 John 3:21-24)*

*"1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. **2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:** and his commandments are not grievous. 4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:1-5)*

ENDURE TO THE END

Yahweh, The Living God, The Almighty God, will not turn away from us, but we can turn away from Him. The Christian life is not a walk in the park. There will be trials and tribulations. This tests our love and faith. Peter says, "receiving the END of your faith." Certainly this indicates we must not lose that faith along the way, but end our lives believing and obeying Yeshua.

*"3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 **Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: 7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.**" (1 Peter 1:3-9)*

AN ANGEL'S WORDS ON HOW TO BE SAVED

Since we do have some words on salvation from an angel of God in heaven, we will include those in this study.

FAITH

These quotes have faith and works in the same verses, but I include both headings. How clear this is that those who are saved had BOTH faith AND works.

WORKS

In the book of Revelation by John the Apostle, an angel of Yahweh announces or tells John that the saved are those who do the WORKS when they “keep the commandments of Yahweh” AND have the FAITH of Yeshua.

*"17 And the dragon was wrath with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, **which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**" (Revelation 12:17)*

These following verses are spoken by an angle of Yahweh in Heaven during the Revelation to John the Apostle.

*6 And I saw **another angel fly in the midst of heaven**, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 7 **Saying** with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. 8 And there followed another angel, saying, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city**, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. 9 **And the third angel followed them, saying** with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. 12 Here is the patience of the saints: **here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.** 13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and **their works do follow them.**" (Revelation 14:6-13)*

The angel is clearly saying these saved “keep the commandments of Yahweh”, and also have kept the “faith of Yeshua.” Do not miss that it says their WORKS follow them.

JOHN THE BAPTIST’S WORDS ON HOW TO BE SAVED

Yeshua had glowing words for John the Baptist, so let’s hear John’s words about salvation also.

*"1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities. 2 Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 3 And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? 4 **Jesus answered and said** unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: 5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me. 7 And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? 8 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. 10 For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. 11 **Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist:** notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come. 15 He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." (Matthew 11:1-15)*

FAITH

While this is in the gospel of the Apostle John, the Revelator, the John speaking is John the Baptist.

*27 **John answered and said**, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. 28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him. 29 He that hath*

*the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease. 31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all. 32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony. 33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. 34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. 35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. 36 **He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**" (John 3:27:36)*

REPENTANCE

To repent is not just feeling bad about our sin. It involves a **deliberate decision to turn from our sin** and live the way Our Father, Yahweh, wants us to live.

*"1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**" (Matthew 3:1-2)*

*"11 I [John] **indeed baptize you with water unto repentance.** But he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (Matthew 3:11-12)*

WORKS

John uses the words "fruits" here as works.

*"7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 **Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:** 9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. 10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." (Matthew 3:7-10)*

JAMES WORDS ON HOW TO BE SAVED

(THE BROTHER OF YESHUA AND BISHOP OF JERUSALEM)

The bishop of Jerusalem, the brother of Yeshua, the writer of the Epistle of James, the head of the first Apostolic Council in Jerusalem, let's hear what James says about salvation.

In our first quote of James, it is stated in a reverse way. He is saying "Have faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, BUT not with respect to persons, or fairly, not judging on a person's economic or social status.

FAITH

*"1 My brethren, **have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.** 2 For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; 3 And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:" (James 2:1-3)*

*"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: **the devils also believe, and tremble.**" (James 2:19)*

That makes it clear that just believing Yahweh exists is not what is meant by Believing in the Son of God for salvation. The devils had no question that Yeshua existed or that He had power over them.

REPENTANCE

While James does not use the word repent here, his overall point is to repent, which means not just confess but to change our ways. Submitting ourselves to Yahweh and resisting the devil seems to me to qualify as repentance.

*"6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. 7 **Submit yourselves therefore to God.** Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. 9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. 10 **Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.**" (James 4:6-10)*

WORKS

*"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a **doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.**" (James 1:25)*

*"14 What doth it profit, my brethren, **though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?** 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? 17 Even so **faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.** 18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. 19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. 20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that **faith without works is dead?** 21 **Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?** 22 **Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?** 23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. 24 **Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.** 25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? 26 **For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.**" (James 2:14-26)*

*"Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him **shew out of a good conversation his works** with meekness of wisdom." (James 3:13)*

Really, James 2:24 above is the sum total of it all. James, the brother of Yeshua, the first bishop of Jerusalem, here directly says that we are "NOT SAVED BY FAITH ONLY." There must be something else, and luckily, James tells us exactly what that is, "by works a man is justified." James makes clear that these works are done BECAUSE of faith He is not saying WORKS WITHOUT FAITH, but WORKS AS PROOF OF FAITH. Many other scriptures affirm this.

ENDURE TO THE END

*"Blessed is the **man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.**" (James 1:12)*

*"7 **Be patient** therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. **Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.** 8 **Be ye also patient;** stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. 9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door. 10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. 11 Behold, **we count them happy which endure.** Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." (James 5:7-11)*

OTHER'S WORDS ON HOW TO BE SAVED

FAITH

If you are not careful, you can get the idea Paul and James are arguing about being saved by faith OR by works. No such dichotomy really exists if you read all the pertinent scriptures. A dear friend pointed out to me that Paul is talking to Hebrews, Israelites who have been taught to obey the Law of Moses and they will be judged by their WORKS. So Paul is stressing WORKS WON'T SAVE YOU! James was trying to clarify to Christians, particularly Gentile Christians, who may have taken Paul to mean works were not necessary, that WORKS ARE VERY NECESSARY, but you are NOT SAVED by your works. However all humans will be REWARDED for their works. Our good works are stored up as treasures in Heaven.

*"21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 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: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 **Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:** 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and **the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.** 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. 27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay: but **by the law of faith.** 28 **Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith** without the deeds of the law. 29 Is he the God of the Jews only? Is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: 30 Seeing it is one **God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.** 31 Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law."* (Romans 3:21-31)

*"Therefore **being justified by faith,** we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2 By whom also **we have access by faith into this grace** wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."* (Romans 5:1-2)

*"16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**"* (Romans 10:16-17)

*"Moreover **it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**"* (1 Corinthians 4:2)

*"Knowing that a man is not **justified** by the works of the law, but **by the faith of Jesus Christ,** even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that **we might be justified by the faith of Christ,** and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." (Galatians 2:16)*

*"7 Know ye therefore that **they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.** 8 And the scripture, foreseeing that **God would justify the heathen through faith,** preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. 9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." (Galatians 3:7-9)*

*"For **ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.**"* (Galatians 3:26)

*" 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.8 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." (Ephesians 2:7-10)*

A "gift" is not a payment for anything. A gift is freely given.

*"17 That **Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;** that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God."* (Ephesians 3:17-19)

*"Above all, **taking the shield of faith,** wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." (Ephesians 6:16)*

"8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:" (Philippians 3:8-9)

REPENTANCE

"29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. 30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; **but now commandeth all men every where to repent:** 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead." (Acts 17:29-31)

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

"But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, **that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.**" (Acts 26:20)

"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that **the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?**" (Romans 2:4)

"For **godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation** not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." (2 Corinthians 7:10)

"24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if **God peradventure will give them repentance** to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will" (2 Timothy 2:24-26)

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the **foundation of repentance** from dead works, and of faith toward God," (Hebrews 6:1)

WORKS

"Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: **this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.**" (Acts 9:36)

"But glory, honour, and peace, **to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:**" (Romans 2:10)

Paul says that though we are saved by faith through grace, nevertheless, we should do good works for a reward.

"13 **Every man's work shall be made manifest:** for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 **If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.** 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (1 Corinthians 3:13-15)

"Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; **whose end shall be according to their works.**" (2 Corinthians 11:15)

Paul is not saying good works are not necessary for justification to salvation. However do not miss that in many other scriptures Paul says believers are rewarded for their works.

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." (Galatians 2:16)

Paul makes it clear we are saved by faith, but do good works as an act of obedience. We should live as is right for the children of God.

*"That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, **being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;**" (Colossians 1:10)*

*"16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, 17 Comfort your hearts, **and stablish you in every good word and work.**" (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)*

*"9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) **with good works.**" (1 Timothy 2:9-11)*

*"17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 **That they do good, that they be rich in good works,** ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." (1 Timothy 6:17-19)*

*"20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and **prepared unto every good work.** 22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." (2 Timothy 2:20-22)*

*"16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, **thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**" (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

*"6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. 7 In all things **shewing thyself a pattern of good works:** in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, 8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you." (Titus 2:6-8)*

*"13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, **zealous of good works.** 15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." (Titus 2:13-15)*

*"1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, 2 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. 3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. 4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, 5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; 6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; 7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, **that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works.** These things are good and profitable unto men." (Titus 3:1-8)*

*"13 Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them. 14 And let our's also **learn to maintain good works** for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful. 15 All that are with me salute thee. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen." (Titus 3:13-15)*

*"For God is not unrighteous **to forget your work and labour of love,** which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." (Hebrews 6:10)*

"23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) 24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and **to good works:**" (Hebrews 10:23-24)

"20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 **Make you perfect in every good work to do his will,** working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-22)

ENDURE TO THE END

Paul, who was Saul of Tarsus, though not one of The Twelve Apostles, wrote some letters to Christians shortly after Yeshua's resurrection. He also states that to be saved, you must ENDURE to the end.

"16 For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches 17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; 18 Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. 19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. 20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: **21 For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. 22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. 23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again. 24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?" (Romans 11:16-24)**

"21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprieveable in his sight: **23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel,** which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;" (Colossians 1:21-23)

"Thou therefore **endure hardness,** as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." (2 Timothy 2:3)

"10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. 11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence **to the full assurance of hope unto the end:** 12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises" (Hebrews 6:10-12)

WHAT ABOUT BAPTISM?

"Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, **and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**" (Acts 2:38)

"15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 **He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;** but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:15-16)

"15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 **He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;** but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:15-16)

"18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Matthew 28:18-20)

"32 And there were also two other, malefactors, led with him to be put to death. 33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. 34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

*And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. 35 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God. 36 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, 37 And saying, If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself. 38 And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, This Is The King Of The Jews. 39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. 40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. 42 **And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. 43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.**" (Luke 23:32-43)*

There is no indication that this thief who was crucified with Yeshua had been baptized. Therefore, baptism must not be a requirement of salvation. Yahweh can save whom He will. But we see from the verses above, baptism is expected as an act of obedience.

SO HOW ARE WE ARE REALLY SAVED?

From all the words above of Yeshua, the Twelve Apostles, a holy angel, John the Baptist, and James, let's put it all together. To be saved, we must do the following.

Have FAITH in Yeshua,	John 3:10-19 and many more above.
Have FAITH in Yahweh the Father,	John 5:24
REPENT of our sins	Matthew 3:1-2, Matthew 3:7-12
Be BAPTIZED (for obedience, not required)	Acts 2:38, Mark 16:15-16
Do good WORKS. Faith without works is dead	James 2:14-26, Matthew 7:21-23, Matthew 25:31-46
Keep the COMMANDMENTS/Works	Revelation 14:6-13
ENDURE to the end of our lives (Essential)	Mark 13:10-13

BEYOND SALVATION

SCARCELY SAVED

(The Thief on the Cross.)

Peter says the righteous can "scarcely be saved." Possibly he is talking about salvation with very FEW WORKS saved up as TREASURES IN HEAVEN.

*"15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. 16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. 17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 18 **And if the righteous scarcely be saved,** where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? 19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator." (1 Peter 4:15-19)*

An example might be the thief on the cross. Can a person be saved at the last second of their life, without time to do any works or be baptized, if they truly believe and repent? The thief on the cross seems to prove that is true. Some will be saved, as though by the skin of their teeth. But the scriptures above show that FAITH IS one WORK.

*"39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. 40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. 42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. 43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, **Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.**" (Luke 23:39-43)*

So this thief was saved by Yeshua at the last moments of his life when he did the work of Faith in Yeshua. But he had no time or opportunity for other works. He had no chance to store up other treasures in heaven. The Bible is clear there are different rewards in heaven, the treasure we have stored up there by doing good works.

TREASURES IN HEAVEN

But the Bible continually tells us to store up TREASURES IN HEAVEN. Every example the Bible gives of storing up treasure, is by doing good works, one of which is suffering for the Kingdom of Heaven.

*"11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: **for great is your reward in heaven:** for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." (Matthew 5:11-13)*

*"1 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: **otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.** 2 Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: 4 **That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.** 5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matthew 6:1-6)*

*"19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,** where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matthew 6:19-21)*

*"38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. 40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. 41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, **he shall in no wise lose his reward.**" (Matthew 10:38-42)*

*"For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then **he shall reward every man** according to his works." (Matthew 16:27)*

*"Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and **thou shalt have treasure in heaven:** and come and follow me." (Matthew 19:21)*

*"Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and **thou shalt have treasure in heaven:** and come, take up the cross, and follow me." (Mark 10:21)*

"For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward." (Mark 9:41)

*"22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. 23 Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, **your reward is great in heaven:** for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets." (Luke 6:22-23)*

*"33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a **treasure in the heavens** that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. 34 **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**" (Luke 12:33-34)*

*"Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and **thou shalt have treasure in heaven:** and come, follow me." (Luke 18:22)*

*"And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and **I will give unto every one of you according to your works.**" (Revelation 2:23)*

*"12 And, behold, I come quickly; and **my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.** 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. 14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." (Revelation 22:12-14)*

I hope you find this to be a clear and thorough presentation of the teachings of Yeshua and His 12 Apostles regarding salvation. If you are not a believer, I encourage you to study and pray, because the decision you make about whether to believe Yeshua's teachings will be the most important decision of your life. If you have questions, concerns, or corrections, please contact me at dan@vigilantvaliant.com.

FINAL THOUGHT

In the science fiction movie E.T., the extraterrestrial is finally going home, he says to the little girl who has been one of his friends, "Be good!" This fictional creature of high intelligence chose these words as his parting reminder to his little friend. Yahweh has done the same for us.

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Micah 6:8)

CONCLUSION

So what have the scriptures told us? Each of us must make up our own mind. It seems to me, that faith and works must go hand in hand. We must believe that Yeshua is the Messiah, repent of our sins, be baptized, do good works, obey the commandments, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God to the end of our lives.

May Yahweh, The Living God Our Father, and Our Savior, Yeshua the Messiah, guide our hearts and our minds, and lead us to the truth, and to salvation.

Dan