

Am I saved by faith or good works?

1. Salvation is based upon *faith alone* (Galatians 3:6, 7). But then faith, as it turns out, is something like a two-sided coin.
2. In New Testament, the apostles (especially Paul) make it clear that we do not “earn” our way into heaven by doing good deeds or giving up sinful behaviours.
3. Our only hope is to place all our confidence, faith, and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour who offered Himself up on the cross to redeem us from sin.
4. “For by grace you have been saved through faith,” writes Paul, “and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast” (Ephesians 2:8, 9; see also John 14:7; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5, 6).
5. “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10).
6. Saving faith, then, is not simply a matter of acknowledging something that you accept as true.” After all, “Even the demons believe - and tremble!” (James 2:19).

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7. The New Testament writers agree that faith involves the entire person, body, soul, and spirit.
8. To *believe* is to *embrace* the truth with mind, heart, and will. This means that genuine faith is expressed *both*:
 - a) through our actions (James 2:17, 18) *and*
 - b) by the public declaration of our heartfelt beliefs: "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Romans 10: 8, 9 & 13: ⁸ But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹³ for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."