

FAITH

Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast
Acts 16:31 - Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.

We have talked about a lot in the last few weeks. We have talked about man's sin, God's justice in response to sin, Jesus' perfect life, and Jesus' death and resurrection.

But what is the importance of all of this? Did God just give us the Bible in order to give us a good story? No the whole point of the Bible is to show us exactly what we have talked about. We are sinners, and we need to be saved from God's just punishment for our sins!

So how can we be saved? Acts 16:31 gives us the answer to this question: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved."

Many people will tell you that salvation is something that needs to be worked for, or that it is something you earn by your good behavior. A lot of people believe that if they do more good than they do bad, God will let them into heaven. But the Bible tells us, that "all our righteousness deeds are like filthy rags" in the sight of God. We can't undo our bad by doing more good works.

Ephesians 2:8-9 reinforces this. It tells us "by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

God tells us that we must be saved by having faith in what Christ did on the cross. And the amazing thing is that He will be the one who gives us the faith to believe! This means that our salvation doesn't depend on us and our works, it depends on the works of Jesus!

God doesn't require works, and He doesn't even require a special prayer. All God asks is that we believe on Jesus and what He has done in order to be saved.

Questions:

1. How can we be saved?
 - a. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved!
2. How do we get faith?
 - a. Only God can give us the faith necessary to believe!