

**No. 1—**

It is impossible to get to heaven this way. God says:

*Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

(Romans 3:20)

**No. 2—**

Your very best will never be good enough to justify a ticket to heaven. God says:

*For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.*

(Ecclesiastes 7:20)

**No. 3—**

In God's eyes, one sin is one too many. Breaking *one* commandment is as bad as breaking *all* of them. God says:

*For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*

(James 2:10)

**No. 4—**

The act of becoming a member of a church is a good deed (or 'work'). God says:

*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

(Ephesians 2:8-9)

**No. 5—**

This too is a good deed (or 'work'). Works (no matter how well intentioned) will not save us. God says:

*But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.*

(Romans 4:5)

**No. 6—**

Water baptism is for people who are *already* saved and want to publicly identify themselves as such. The Apostle Paul taught this when he said:

*I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; . . . For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.*

(1 Corinthians 1:14, 17)

**No. 7, 8—**

A persons *will* (including a *decision* or *commitment*) plays no part in bringing about their salvation. God says:

*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

(John 1:12,13)

**No. 9, 10—**

These statements are generally offered as part of the Gospel after quoting Revelation 3:20. However, Revelation 3:20 teaches discipleship for those already saved—not how to become saved. These two statements represent man-made doctrines and are not taught in the Bible. They can't save because they simply can't cover your sins.

*But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*

(Matthew 15:9)

**No. 11—**

This is submission to God's authority and obedience toward Him. This too is a work and is important in discipleship—not salvation. Salvation is by God's grace alone and cannot be mixed with works without nullifying it. Speaking of salvation, God says:

*And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.*

(Romans 11:6)

**No. 12—**

This too is a work. False teachers support this man-made doctrine by quoting disciple-

ship scriptures promising rewards in heaven for obedience by those already saved—not for those seeking salvation (see Matthew 10:32; Luke 12:8, 9). Four versus in Romans 10 are also frequently misinterpreted. Romans 10:9—where "confess" means 'to communicate your understanding.' Romans 10:10—where "unto" indicates a point already reached (in verse 9) and could also be translated as 'concerning.' And Romans 10:12, 13—where "call upon" and "call on" means to 'invoke.' The key to Romans 10 is verse 11—"whosoever believeth." In Jesus' time shepherds wore sheep skins. The 'shepherds' of today's 'flocks' (Christians) are pastors and evangelists. About those pastors and evangelists, God says:

*Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.*

(Matthew 7:15)

About the Christian 'flock' God says:

*The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.*

(Proverbs 14:15)

**No. 13—**

This also is a good deed (or work). Prayer doesn't save because it doesn't pay your sin debt. Only by believing the Gospel—that Christ's death on the cross paid for your sin—can you be saved. God says:

*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood [Not prayer], we shall be saved from wrath through him.*

(Romans 5:8-9)

**No. 14—**

YES! The truth of the matter is that we are both sinners—we both do things wrong.

*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

(1 John 1:8)

Heaven, on the other hand, is perfect. Sinners like ourselves are not allowed into heaven.

*And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

(Revelation 21:27)

The price to be paid for our sin is an everlasting separation from God—in hell!

*Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;*

(2 Thessalonians 1:9)

God knew that He had set the standard of behavior too high for us to *earn* the right to go to heaven. But, because of His love for us, He provided another way. God the Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to live a sin-free life on earth as a man, thereby earning the right to return to heaven. Instead, Christ allowed Himself to be crucified. While on the cross, God the Father then heaped on Christ the penalty for all the sins that would ever be committed by everyone who ever lived—you and me included.

You see, God is a God of love—He wants us to be in heaven with Him. But He is also a God of righteousness, which demands that our sin penalty be paid. Fortunately, it didn't have to be paid by the same person that committed the sins. Rather, God the Son—Jesus Christ—spilled His blood on the cross, died, and went to hell in our place! After three days, He rose from hell and is now seated on the right hand of God the Father. Christ now offers Christ's payment toward our sin debt if we will simply believe the Gospel story (related above). If we will believe (have faith in, trust) the Gospel message, God—who never lies and never breaks His word—promises to apply Christ's payment to cover *our* sin debt. Since we

are then debt free, He allows us into heaven  
—GUARANTEED!

God says:

*For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.* (Mark 10:45)

*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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*  
(John 3:16, 17)

*To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.*  
(Acts 10:43)

*By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.* (Hebrews 10:10)

*And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.* (Luke 7:50)

The key to having eternal life is not found in what we try to earn ourselves, but by having the perfect righteousness that is required given to us as a gift. We receive this life when we believe the Lord Jesus took our sin penalty on Himself and paid for it by His death on the cross. Once received, everlasting life is everlasting—it can't be lost. You can't lose your salvation ever—for any reason!

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath [possesses now] everlasting life.* (John 6:47)

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

*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 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.*  
(John 6:37-39)

*For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.*  
(Hebrews 10:14)

*To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,* (1 Peter 1:4)

Doesn't it make sense to believe the Gospel message and trust Christ for the payment of your sin? Do it now so you can have a guaranteed reservation in heaven?

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.* (John 13:20)

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath [possesses immediately] everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*  
(John 5:24)

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.* (Romans 1:16)

All those who have not believed go to hell, but there are no unbelievers in hell! Rather, it's full of folks who waited *one second* too long to trust Christ.

*Don't be one of those people!*

# Test Your Knowledge of the Gospel

**Instructions:** Check ONLY those items listed below which you believe are necessary to get to heaven.

- 1. Obeying God's laws and commandments.
- 2. Doing your best to live a good life.
- 3. Having done more good deeds than bad deeds.
- 4. Membership in a specified church or denomination.
- 5. Regular church attendance.
- 6. Water baptism.
- 7. Being willing to turn from your sins.
- 8. Making a "decision" or "commitment" for God.
- 9. Inviting Jesus to come into your heart and life.
- 10. Receiving Christ by personal invitation.
- 11. Making Christ your Lord.
- 12. Public profession of faith (altar call, etc.).
- 13. Praying the sinner's prayer.
- 14. Trusting on Christ as your savior.

## Workman Ministries

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

[2 Timothy 2:15]

<http://www.workmanmin.com>