

# Two sides of the gospel “coin”

“balancing works with faith”




1

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Eph 2:8-10

2

Two US quarters are shown on a dark wooden surface. The quarter on the left is the obverse side, showing the profile of George Washington with the word "LIBERTY" above it and "QUARTER" below. The quarter on the right is the reverse side, showing the eagle with a shield, holding an olive branch and arrows, with "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" and "QUARTER DOLLAR" inscribed.

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4



5



6

1 Tim 2:14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

Titus 3:8 This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works.

7

Acts 26:20 that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.

Acts 10:35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.

8

**Mt 5:16** Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**1 Pet 2:12** ... they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

**Heb 10:24** And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

9

## Our works will follow us into eternity:

**Mt 16:27** ... He will reward each according to his works.

**1 Cor 3:13-15** ... for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. <sup>14</sup> If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

10

**2 Cor 11:15** [Satan's] ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

**Rev 20:12-13** And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. <sup>13</sup> The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

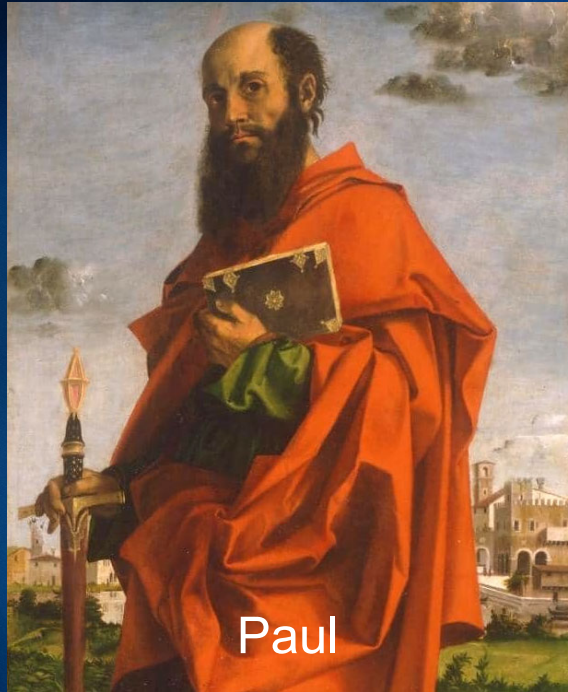
11

**So, is it faith or works?**

12

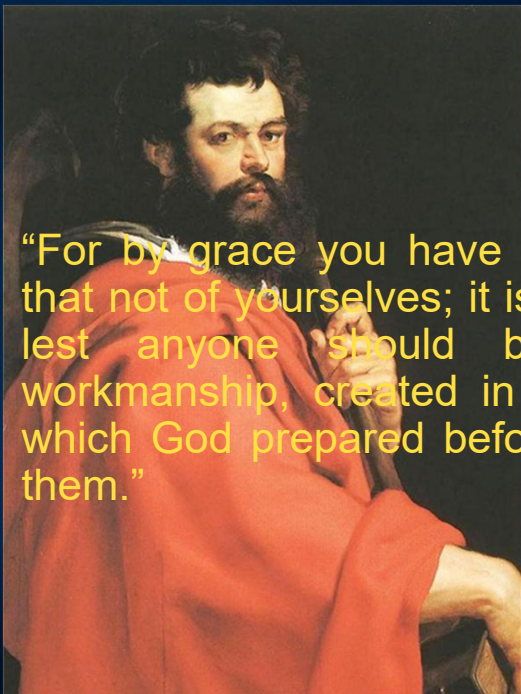


James

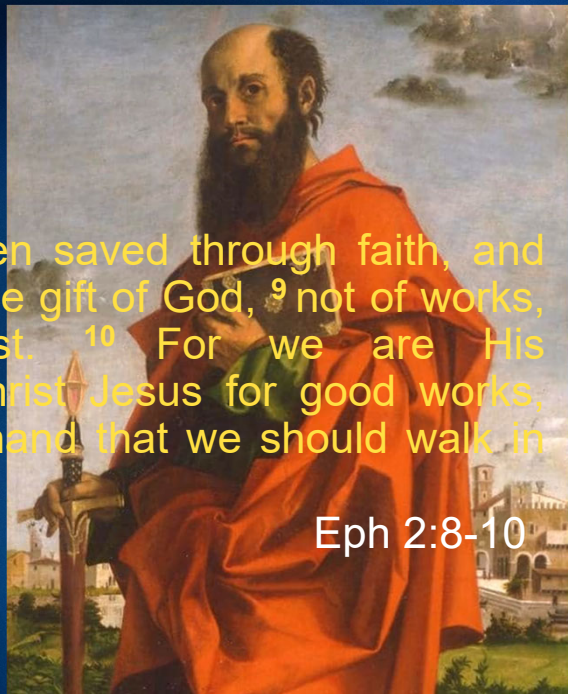


Paul

13



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Eph 2:8-10

14

# 1. Works are not a *prerequisite* for salvation

**Is 64:6** But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;

**Col 1:21** And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works,

**Rom 13:12, Gal 5:11** ... works of darkness

15

**Heb 6:1, 9:14** ... repentance from dead works ... how much more shall the blood of Christ cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

**Gal 5:19-21** Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup> envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

16

## 2. Works can *prevent* salvation

**Gal 3:10** For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse;

**Titus 1:16** They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him,

**Rom 4:4** Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

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## 3. Works do not *produce* salvation

**Rom 3:28** Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

**Rom 11:6** And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.

18

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

**2 Tim 1:9** who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

**Titus 3:5** not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

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#### 4. Works do *prove* salvation

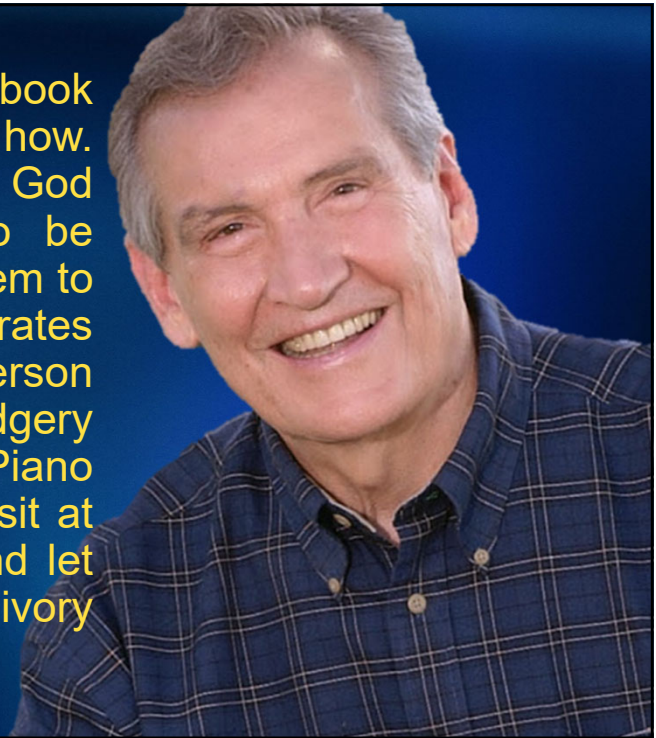
**Mt 7:16-17** You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup> Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

**Js 2:20** But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

**Js 2:18** But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

20

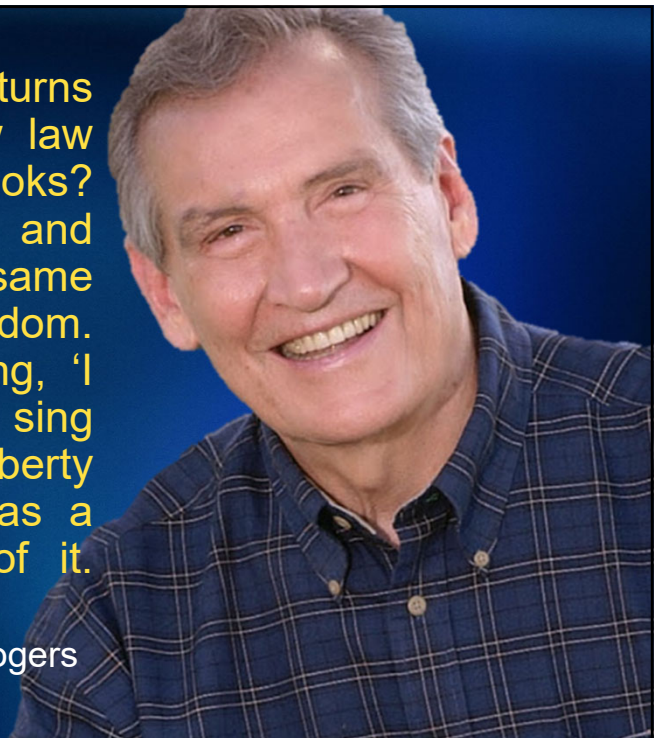
“How does God unite a law book with a song book? I’ll tell you how. With liberty and harmony. God never intended His laws to be burdensome. He meant for them to be a blessing. A piano operates according to laws. When a person masters those laws, the drudgery of learning turns to delight. Piano practice enables a person to sit at the piano in perfect liberty and let the melody dance off the ivory keys.



21

Isn't it marvelous how God turns statutes into songs and how law books can become songbooks? When you learn authority and submit to authority, at that same moment you learn perfect freedom. As Ethel Waters used to sing, ‘I sing because I’m happy. I sing because I’m free....’ There’s liberty in God’s law. Every law has a song written on the back of it. ‘Duty’ will turn to delight.”

Adrian Rogers



22

‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.

Rev 14:13