

THE WORD & SPIRIT



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PAST TENSE CHRISTIANITY

*And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough,
and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.
- Luke 9:62*



WORD & SPIRIT IN BRANSON, MO

RANDALL GRIER MINISTRIES

PAST TENSE CHRISTIANITY



For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him. (2 Corinthians 11:4)



On May 1, 2015, the Spirit of God came upon me and revealed that there was a *false gospel* being accepted by many in the church. I called it the "*Past Tense Gospel*." I knew it was a word of warning for anyone that had embraced this doctrine of devils.

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. (Galatians 1:6-7)

The perverted past tense gospel of Christianity is being proclaimed throughout most of the church world. This false doctrine presents only one side of the gospel. The gospel has two sides that must be obeyed to please the Lord Jesus Christ. There is a God-ward side and a man-ward side to the gospel of Christ.

The *Past Tense gospel* declares that Jesus Christ has already done everything and the Christian only believes that, and has nothing to do themselves. It is proclaimed only believe and there is no action or works required of the believer today. This does not agree with the Bible.

It is true that Christ has already saved us and His work is finished but the Christian must implement the Word of God, in their lives, and practice it. Some that believe this even say Jesus has already forgiven the Christian of all sin and no repentance is required when they sin. That is a perversion of the gospel and does not agree with the Bible.

This Began in 2006

Our nation was overrun with this damnable, evil doctrine of the devil in 2006. It came from another nation in book, CD and video form, and it swept across the church of the United States. Sadly, many Christians and ministers believed this lie and promoted it themselves.

Casual Christianity took over in most churches and the respect for and reverential fear of God was lost. Christians began to backslide starting from the pulpit to the last pew. The church moved into darkness and could no longer tell right from wrong. Sin of all types dominated the church of the United States of America. The church, as a whole, was powerless and casual about Christianity. Authority over demonic spirits was forgotten and many doubted that the devil was real.

Satan Takes Over

From 2006, many in the church embraced the false. Social events and parties were called church services. New type, so-called, churches came on the scene where nothing was required to serve God. No commitment, dedication or discipleship to Christ was needed to be a Christian, according to this new doctrine. People liked this idea of going to heaven while throwing a party, nothing required on their part, and living, mostly, like those on their way to hell.

Past Tense Christianity was the new doctrine. Jesus Christ did it all and the believer does nothing was now the message. *Effortless Christianity* became the buzz word of the day. This statement totally disagrees with the New Testament because of a misunderstanding of *faith/works* in the Christian life.

The end results of this belief is that you can live like the devil on earth, and go to heaven when you die. Now, sin has filled the church world and it is no longer the salt of our nation.

Therefore, the nation fell into a cesspool of ungodly acts and the devil has the upper hand. *The devil dominates the political realm, judicial realm, financial realm, social realm, military realm and most of the church world today.* That is not a special revelation, anyone that is honest and sincere would have to admit that this is true.

FAITH HAS WORKS

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. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. (Eph. 2:8-10)

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. (James 2:20)

The great debate in the course of the Christian church is “*faith versus works.*” It was the cause for the reformation, as Martin Luther’s opinion on the matter differed from the Roman Catholic Church. The argument has been around for almost two thousand years, however, since both Paul and James thought it important to write explicitly on it.

The argument is about how a human being becomes justified and saved from his sins in order to go to heaven when he dies. One answer is that we work for our salvation through good deeds, observing sacred rites and traditions, and being obedient to the commandments of the church. The opposing answer (that was started by Martin Luther) is that we attain salvation through faith in God, so long as we believe in what Jesus did and are repentant of our sins, we will be saved.

I believe the Bible proves that both positions are fundamentally wrong, and that the debate as a whole is meaningless. The faith or works for salvation discussion is unnecessary when you read the Bible.

WORD & SPIRIT

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Faith Without Works

It is impossible to have faith without works. James 2:17 states that “faith, if it hath not works, is dead.” *It is not just that having faith without works won't get you to heaven, but that a faith without works is dead, the faith becomes meaningless.* The man who declares he has faith but does not follow Christ's commandments is a liar because there is no such thing as a true faith that has not works.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.
(1 John 2:4-6)

Works Without Faith

Also, it is impossible to have works without faith. All good works can be traced back to faith in something. Christians who advocate a works only based salvation have some sort of conception and belief in God. *There is no such thing as works without faith, just as there is no such thing as a faith that is without works.*

The faith versus works argument arose from a misinterpreted understanding of what faith and belief means. When Jesus said “believe on me to be saved”, he was not simply saying if you *mentally* agree with me being your Lord you are heaven-bound. *If you can live like the devil and go to heaven, Satan will be there.*

If you truly believe/have faith in something, your lifestyle will reflect that truth in every area. If someone truly believes that Jesus Christ is the son of God, they live according to His teachings. The faith versus works debate is meaningless because the two words mean the same thing. *James correctly stated “shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.” (James 2:18)*

Randall Grier

I was driving to commit a robbery on my third escape from prison in 1982. Suddenly, I was aware I was on my way to hell, and believed that Jesus Christ was my saviour. I was born again and turned myself into the police officers, admitting I was guilty for all crimes I had committed. My lifestyle changed immediately because of my faith/belief. I quit lying, robbing, cheating, fornicating, cussing, smoking, taking drugs, tattooing my body and all sin because I knew it was wrong in my recreated, born again human spirit.

My life demonstrates my faith/belief in Christ by my works. I did not do the works to bring about my salvation. The works came after my salvation because His righteousness produced them in me. I could not live right prior to me being born again, even though I tried many times.

The truth is, if you are born again you do not want to live like the world or the devil. You desire to live like Jesus Christ The Son Of God.

What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:21-23)

Ted The First Degree Murderer

Ted and another guy were convicted of first degree murder for killing a girl then chopping her body to pieces with an ax. I met Ted in prison after I was a born again Christian. He was hopeless, and a first degree sinner on his way to hell. His lifestyle proved it too. I told him how Jesus Christ died for his sins and he could be forgiven and have eternal life. He laughed at me each time I would witness to him over the months.

One day, Ted walked into the prison chapel and accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord. The other Christian convicts would not accept his confession of Jesus Christ as his saviour and said so. He acted too much like the devil, in his past, so they thought he was playing a con game on us all.

We Christian convicts argued over the fact of whether he was really saved or not. I really didn't know what to say but I told them that Ted had obeyed the Bible and it was true. They said he didn't look saved to them and he didn't seem to have a spiritual experience. The discussion went on for quite a while, and got heated at times.

I kept saying, "I know he is saved!" They would say, "How do you know?" I didn't have any natural way that I could think of to prove it, and I admitted it to them.

Finally, one of my uneducated, simple Christian friends said, "I know how we can tell if Ted got born again." We all exclaimed, "How!?" He said, "The Bible will prove whether he is born again or not!" He was a genius! Instead of guessing, he went to the source. He opened his Bible and began to read the following scriptures. (*Matthew 3:7-8, Matthew 7:18-21, Mark 7:20-23, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 2:8-10, James 2:18-26, 1 John 3:8*)

He said, "*If Ted is born again, he will act like it right away and we will see a difference in the way he acts, because the Bible says so.*" We talked about it and we knew that all of us acted different the moment we were born again and the Bible proved out our experience. In other words, Ted's behavior would change and he would not act like a sinner, if he was born again. Christians do not behave like sinners, or disobey the Bible.

The Christian convicts told me to go to the cell block and see what Ted was doing and come back and tell them. I didn't want to because I thought Ted would think I was doubting his confession of Jesus. Reluctantly, I went.

When I got to Ted's cellblock he had a pile of papers and stuff on his bed. He saw me and smiled. He said, "I am throwing away my pornographic magazines, witchcraft books, tattoo needles, drugs, homemade prison knife and my cigarettes because I know the Lord doesn't want me to do those things anymore." No one told him to, he just knew to do it because he was born again. He wasn't cussing and yelling at others like he used to either. He was a different man! His works did not save him. The works or actions came as a result of his faith in Jesus Christ. Faith/works is the same thing, not two different things. *The Christian life is present tense, not past tense. If you believe in Christ you will not, presently, live like a sinner or disobey the Bible.*

WORD & SPIRIT

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