

# **What On Earth Are You Doing For Heaven's Sake?**

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## Heb. 2:

This lesson was first put together by Howard McCay back in the 1960's after he heard a college administrator admonish a custodian about his work.

### What are you doing?

Not a friend or neighbor, but you.

#### **Christ told Peter to follow him.**

John 21:20-22, *"Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me."*

#### **Work out your own salvation.**

Phil. 2:12, *"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."*

### What are you doing with your time?

This life is the only time we have to prepare for heaven.

- 2 Cor. 6:1-2, *"We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)"*
- Heb. 3:12-15, *"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation."*

We have the present; we have today. Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow may never come.

## Doing indicates action

### Christians must be actively working for Christ.

- Eccl. 12:13-14, *“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”*
- Matt. 25:34-46, *“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”*
- Titus 2:14, *“Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”*

## Consider our actions.

Hag. 1:5-7, “*Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.*”

## We must keep His commandments.

- 1 John 2:3-4, “*And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*”
- 2 Thess. 1:7-9, “*And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”*

Are we obeying God and keeping His commandments?

**No one has a right to his opinions in religion.**

1 Cor. 14:37, “*If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.*”

## What is the result of our actions?

**Our eternity will be determined by our actions in this life.**

- Matt. 6:24, “*No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*”
- Matt. 6:33, “*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*”
- 1 Tim. 5:8, “*But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*”
- James 2:14-20, “*What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,*

*And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?”*

- Rev. 20:12, “*And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*”

### **We will not make it to heaven by doing nothing.**

- 2 Pet. 3:9, “*The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*”
- Matt. 7:21, “*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*”
- Luke 10:2, “*Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: ...*”
- 2 Tim. 4:2, “*Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*”

## **How to become a Christian**

### **Obey from the heart.**

Rom. 6:17, “*But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.*”

**Believe.** Heb. 11:6, “*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*”

## **Repent.**

- Acts 2:38, “*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*”
- Luke 13:3, “*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*”

## **Confess.**

- Rom. 10:9, “*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*”
- Matt. 10:32, “*Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.*”

## **Be Baptized.**

- Gal. 3:27, “*For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*”
- Acts 2:38, “*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*”

Most religious bodies leave out baptism as a necessary ingredient for salvation. Some religious bodies perform infant baptism, but how can infants first believe, repent, and confess Christ? Sprinkling – baptism? You may call a duck a dog, but that does not make it a dog. The Baptist church sometimes performs baptism, but it is not performed for the remission of sins.

1 Pet. 3:21, “*The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*”

## **Conclusion**

What on earth are you doing for heaven’s sake?











