

- XVIII. . . .shun completely all 16 "deeds of the flesh" Galatians 5:19-21
- XVII. . . .never have hardness in your heart? Hebrews 3:8
- XVI. . . .never engage in homosexuality? I Corinthians 6:9,10
- XV. . . .never murder in thought [calling a person a "jerk"]? Matt 5:22
- XIV. . . .never engage in mental immorality? Matthew 5:28
- XIII. . . .never cause strife, never "get back" always a peacemaker, Matt 5:3-10
- XII. . . .regularly feed the poor, the prisoner, the sick? Matthew 21:41-46
- XI. . . .live a life of self-denial and total commitment all the time? Matthew 19:28,29
- X. . . .have a heart as tender as a little child? Matthew 18:4,5
- IX. . . .are enduring every trial with joy and patience? No Whining. James 1:2-4,14
- VIII. . . .often visit widows & orphans? James 1:27
- VII. . . .are ridiculously generous with your possessions? I John 3:17
- VI. . . .pride your tongue? James 1:26
- V. . . .are 100% honest? Luke 8:13,14
- IV. . . .are as humble as you think you ought to be? Phil 2:3; Matthew 23:12
- III. . . .keep the 10 Commandments more diligently than the rich man did? Matthew 19:17-21
- II. . . .forgive others "as in exactly the same way" the Lord has forgiven you? Matthew 6:14,15
- I. . . .love your neighbors, enemies, and friends in the same way you love yourself? Matthew 22:36-40

Can you [or I] tell God that you:

[Are you hoping He grades on a curve or a perfect score?]

- XIX. . . .continually practice [only] kindness? Ephesians 4:32
- XX. . . .refuse to harbor a grudge, even for an hour? I John 2:9-11
- XXI. . . .never are lazy? II Thes 3:10-12
- XXII. . . .daily anticipate the Lord's return? Luke 21:36

How many boxes did you check? 
No, you can't admit you keep these laws perfectly.

Neither Kay nor I have been that faithful either. . .

. . .yet we are as sure of eternal life as if we were already there. There are verses in the Bible where God has promised us the forgiveness of all our sins if we're trusting only on Him.

Jesus didn't die for good people. He died for bad people.

If you have ever felt you could lose your salvation, you're probably relying on all those good works. Be assured that only trusting completely in Jesus can give assurance of eternal life

Of course, He wants us to be good! But He doesn't want us to trust in our works. He wants us to depend that God Himself died to pay the entire punishment for all our sin.

Stop relying on how good you have been, and just enjoy being good because He loves you! And let Him smile on your life.

Here are 22 "works" from the Bible. I try to depend on keeping them, I fail— unless God were to grade on a big curve.

God's 22 Question Test

Please read Romans 3:20 through chapter 4:16. Ten of these verses [out of 32] clearly say we are saved without works.

me [as 2:18] that a man is justified by works. God has eyes that can see faith. You and I can only see works.

verse is that you see [as 2:22,24] and show works is dead. Actually, the context of that argument that the Bible says, "Faith without Anthony, an acquaintance of mine, made the working harder or getting better—it's about being mostly faithful or trying your best or If you're relying on holy living, it's not about she depended on Jesus.

depending on her good works even more than without being good. She actually seemed to be instead of trusting in Jesus Christ for her salvation. She felt she couldn't be saved because she was trusting in her good works. Was our guest saved? I think not. Why?

A Little Quiz

. . .and, yes, my wife still does believe "Once-Saved, Always-Saved."

Here are 4 clear verses which explain why we know salvation doesn't require any good works, but certainly a believer should do lots of good works.

"Not [even partly] by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." Titus 3:5

"To him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." Romans 4:5

"These things have I written unto you that believe in the name of the Son of God that ye may **KNOW** that ye have eternal life." I John 5:13

The above verse does not say you can KNOW if you obey. It says you can KNOW if you believe !

"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

Kay & Phil Myers

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I was in the back room when I heard my wife talking to a stranger who had stopped by to invite us to church.

My wife had grown up in a church which taught "Once Saved—Always Saved." The conversation between them continued for a while and eventually came to the matter of being absolutely sure of salvation without any works. Kay explained what she believed and her new friend corrected her and said the Bible taught that no one could have the assurance of salvation without a life of continual good works.

Our neighbor talked about purity, honesty, and forgiving others; then showed Kay the Second Commandment which said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

Kay said she had tried very hard to love our neighbors the way she loved herself but was sure she wasn't as good as God wanted. She asked the lady how she had learned to love people the way Jesus said. Her new friend stammered and said she just tried very hard. Twice more Kay questioned the lady about pleasing God by loving her neighbors and finally said, "Just tell me, do you or don't you love your neighbors as much as you love yourself?"

Our guest stammered angrily, "YOU. . . YOU. . . YOU JUST DON'T KNOW MY NEIGHBORS!"

Once-Saved

Always-Saved

Does the Bible teach that doctrine ?



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Because she was trusting in her good works instead of trusting in Jesus Christ for her salvation. She felt she couldn't be saved without being good. She actually seemed to be depending on her good works even more than she depended on Jesus.

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