

*These Perilous Times*  
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**What Do God's People Believe?**  
**Part X**

Christians of various denominations have their own interpretation of how they are saved! Some have been taught that all you have to do is believe in God and you are saved.

**Notice the words of James**

"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: *the devils also believe, and tremble*"  
James 2:19 {Emphasis provided}

Others believe that by dotting every "I" and crossing every "T" you can be saved.

There are many who believe that by adding up their good deeds, they will somehow cancel out the bad ones?

Does being saved mean that it's okay to do our own thing because we are saved by grace,

not by works and because God loves sinners so much that He will save us regardless of what we do?

What about the book of James? Is it relevant for a 21<sup>st</sup> century remnant people?

**What does this mean for us?**

## **Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

**Seventh-day Adventists Believe...**

### **10. The Experience of Salvation**

*“In infinite love and mercy God made Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, so that **in Him we might be made the righteousness of God.***

*Led by the Holy Spirit, we sense our need, acknowledge our sinfulness, repent of our transgressions, and exercise faith in Jesus as Lord and Christ, as Substitute and Example.*

*This faith which receives salvation comes through the divine power of the Word and is **the gift of God's grace.***

*Through Christ we are justified, adopted as God's sons and daughters, and delivered from the lordship of sin.*

*Through the Spirit we are born again and sanctified; the Spirit renews our minds, writes God's law of love in our hearts and we are given power to live a holy life.*

*Abiding in Him, we become partakers of the divine nature and have the assurance of salvation now and in the judgment.*<sup>1</sup> {II Cor. 5:17-21; John 3:16; Gal. 1:4; 4:4-7; Titus 3:3-7; John 16:8; Gal. 3:13; I Pet. 2:21, 22; Rom.10:17; Luke 17:5; Mark 9:23, 24; Eph. 2:5-10; Rom. 3:21-26; Col. 1:13, 14; Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 3:26; John 3:3-8; I Pet. 1:23; Rom. 12:2; Heb. 8:7-12; Ezek. 36:25-27; II Pet. 1:3, 4; Rom. 8:1-4; 5:6-10., Emphasis provided}.

***"The role of faith and works.** Many wrongly believe that their standing before God depends on their good or bad deeds. Addressing the question of how persons are justified before God, Paul unequivocally stated that he 'suffered the loss of all things... that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness...*

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<sup>1</sup> Seventh-day Adventist Believe, "A Biblical Exposition of Fundamental Beliefs," 2005. pp. 133-137

*but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith'* {Phil. 3:8, 9, Emphasis supplied}.

He pointed to Abraham, who 'believed God, and it was accounted {"credited," NIV} to him for righteousness, {Rom 4:3; Gen. 15:6}.

What kind of faith did Abraham have? The Scriptures reveal by '*faith Abraham obeyed*, when God called, leaving his homeland and traveling, not knowing where he was going' {Heb. 11:8-10; Gen. 12:4; 13:18}. *That he had a genuine, living faith in God was demonstrated by his obedience* {Emphasis supplied}.

The apostle James *warned* about another incorrect understanding of justification by faith—that one can be justified without manifesting corresponding works.

He showed that *genuine faith* cannot exist without works," <sup>2</sup> {Emphasis supplied}.



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<sup>2</sup> Ibid. pp. 133-147.