



Christianity Explained

**God's Gift –
Not our works**

Imagine that you have just died, and that God is judging your life. God says to you, "Give Me one good reason why I should accept you into Heaven with Me?"

What would you reply?

The wrong answer: What I have done

God, You should accept me because I have:

- Lived a good life
- Kept the Ten Commandments
- Given to charities
- Been a good citizen
- Been a good parent
- Prayed and read the Bible
- Been to church
- Been baptized ... etc.

Mark 7:20-23

The right answer: What Christ has done

God, You should accept me because of what **Christ** has done for me, and that alone.

Good works do not produce salvation

BUT

Salvation produces good works.

Read Ephesians 2:8-10.

Conclusion:

We have seen that eternal life, forgiveness of sins and a place in God's Kingdom cannot be earned or deserved by us. They have been earned for people by the Son of God, through His death and rising again.

NOT

BUT

WHAT
!
HAVE DONE

WHAT
CHRIST
HAS DONE

So forgiveness and eternal life is the free gift of God to all who will receive that Giver, - that is, Jesus Christ.

Next week we shall discuss how we do this. This is the vital question, WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

At home:

Read the booklet you have been given. Note anything you do not understand and would like to discuss. Also re-read these passages from Mark's Gospel and underline what you think are the most significant words for you:

a) Mark 1:15

c) Mark 9:43-48

b) Mark 8:34-38

d) Mark 10:29-31