

Got Eternal Life ? Testing 1 2 3 Testing 1 2 3

A popular slogan in our culture today to frame a question asking 'if you have a particular thing' is to ask, "Got whatever?" What about eternal life? Do you have it? Even if you think you do it is wise to heed the words of God that tell us to make SURE of our destiny. We ought to:

- look closely critically methodically, to find out the facts or condition
- carefully question by testing, investigating inspecting scrutinizing.

2 Cor 13:5 **Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.** Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

We get faith by hearing God's word and believing it:

Rom 10:17 So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

God lifted the importance of His WORD even above His NAME:

Psa 138:2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for **thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.**

The scriptures identify Jesus Christ (John 1:17) as the Word of God:

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God.**

John 1:14 And **the Word was made flesh,** and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Jesus is the Source of eternal life. HE is Who the written word is about:

John 5:39-40 **Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

40 And ye (Jews, John 5:18) will not come to me, that ye might have life.

How can we KNOW we have eternal life? We must believe the record, God's WRITTEN word that tells us of Jesus Christ, His Son, Who is the Word:

1 John 5:11-13 And this is the record,
that **God hath given to us eternal life,
and this life is in his Son.**

12 **He that hath the Son hath life;
and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.**

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God;

**that ye may know that ye have eternal life,
and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.**

To 'believe on Jesus' name' is to 'know Him' is to be 'in Him'.

'Mid-Acts' doctrines present true faith in Christ as **available only through**

PAUL. The apostle JOHN wrote the same truths that Paul wrote. But they

won't use John's writings though BOTH apostles wrote God's word:

1 John 5:20 And we know that **the Son of God is come,** (like Gal 4:4)
and hath **given us an understanding,** (like 2 Tim 2:7)
that we may **know him** that is true, (like Phil 3:10)
and **we are in him** that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ.
(like 1 Cor 8:6)

This is the true God, (like 1 Thess 1:9)
and eternal life. (like Rom 6:23)

'Mid-Acts' doctrines ignore many verses because they are 'outside of Paul'.

They refuse to accept the gospel from John. They call it 'another gospel':

John 3:16 For **God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

This is how we know God and Jesus Christ His Son and eternal life:

John 17:3 And **this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**

For your information, the Greek word <aionios> is written 71 times.

In the KJV, it is translated • 'eternal' 42 times

and • 'everlasting' 25 times.

Eternal life is based upon believing on the WORD of God, the SON of God.

JOHN recorded the words where Jesus taught that:

John 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you,
He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

PAUL, "who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious"

(1 Tim 1:13) who was "chief of sinners" (1 Tim 1:15), also wrote it:

Everlasting life is given to those who believe on Jesus Christ:

1 Tim 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first
Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them
which should hereafter **believe on him to life everlasting.**

During the OLD testament in time past God spoke to the nation

Israel at various times in different ways through His prophets.

Heb 1:1-2 **God,** who at sundry times and **in divers manners**
spake **in time past** **unto the fathers** **by the prophets,**

But now **in the NEW testament in these last days** (2 Tim 3:1),

God spoke through Jesus Christ (Rom 15:18, 2 Cor 2:17, 1 Tim 2:7):

2 Hath **in these last days** **spoken** **unto us** **by his Son,** whom
he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

To whom did Jesus speak spiritual words of life?

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing:
the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Who heard Jesus' words of spirit and life? Who would listen?

John 10:27-28 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: (1 Cor 11:1)

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

'Mid-Acts' teachers say that only Israel is God's sheep, and they themselves are NOT God's sheep (though oddly, they call their leaders 'pastors').

Since 'mid-Acts-ers' reject the words of Jesus during His earthly ministry,

boldly proclaiming the 'red letters' in the Bible are not 'TO' them

since they refuse to be identified as God's sheep maybe they're not!

Does God make them what they don't want to be, in spite of themselves?

'Mid-Acts-ers' think they know way more than most 'religious' people.

They feel superior, like they have much better understanding than others.

Now I realize they are ignorant and blind to the truth of God.

They dismiss the words spoken by Jesus Christ and disown His teachings:

Eph 4:17-21 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk,

• **in the vanity of their mind,**

18 • **Having the understanding darkened,**

• being alienated from the life of God

through the ignorance that is in them,

because of the blindness of their heart:

19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness (they do whatever they want), to work all uncleanness with greediness.

20 But ye have not so learned **Christ;**

21 **If so be that ye have heard him,** (if you have heard CHRIST)

and have been taught by him, (if you have been taught by CHRIST)

as the truth is in Jesus: (if you listened and learned the truth in JESUS)

'Mid-Acts-ers' **REFUSE** the words that Jesus spoke:

John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

'Mid-Acts-ers' **AVOID** the prophets whose words Paul quoted

even though Paul himself was a prophet (Acts 13:1, 1 Cor 13:2):

Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble;
and he knoweth them that trust in him.

Only if the words were penned by PAUL will 'mid-Acts-ers' **ACCEPT** them:

2 Tim 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure,
having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his.
And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

If you CLAIM Christ's name then you better AIM to live holy!

'What you DO speaks louder than what you SAY!'

There are people who SAY they know God

but their DEEDS show otherwise:

Titus 1:15-16 Unto the **pure** all things are pure:
but unto them that are **defiled** and **unbelieving** is nothing pure;
but even their mind and conscience is defiled.
16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him,
being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Folks who 'talk the talk' but don't 'walk the walk' are deceived:

1 John 2:3-6 And hereby we do know that we know him,
if we keep his commandments. (1 Cor 14:37)
4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments,
is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected:
hereby know we that we are in him. (2 Cor 5:17)
6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk,
even as he walked.

'Mid-Acts-ers' look down on **ANYBODY** who talks about **keeping God's commandments**. They think that is **GRIEVOUS** and putting them under the law. They reject it from JOHN because he is not PAUL:

1 John 5:3 For **this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments**: and his commandments are **not grievous**.

They even refuse God's commandments from JESUS because he is not PAUL. They will NOT follow Jesus in His earthly ministry:

John 14:15 **If ye love me, keep my commandments.**

This issue, **keeping the Lord's commandments**, is an example that 'mid-Acts-ers' won't even follow PAUL when they don't like what he said:

1 Cor 7:19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but **the keeping of the commandments of God**.

Like the way of a fool (Prov 12:15), they do what is right in their own eyes:

LOTS of people who USE the Lord's name are deceived into thinking they're saved - but they're not. **The test is 'Do you DO the will of God'?**

Matt 7:21-23 Not every one that saith unto me, **Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven**; (Matt 4:17, = kingdom of God, Mark 1:14,15) **but he that doeth the will of my Father** which is in heaven.

22 **Many** will say to me **in that day**,
Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name?
and in thy name have cast out devils?
and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**

Salvation is not by works but is it proved by works doing God's will:

James 1:22 But be ye **doers** of the word, and **not hearers only, deceiving your own selves**.

At the judgment there are simply 2 types the sheep and the goats:

Matt 25:32-33 And before him shall be gathered all nations:
and he shall separate them one from another,
as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:
33 And he shall set **the sheep** on his **right** hand,
but **the goats** on the **left**.

In the end there are just 2 groups the blessed or the cursed:

Matt 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his **right** hand, Come, **ye blessed** of my Father, **inherit the kingdom** (the unrighteous will NOT inherit the kingdom - 1 Cor 6:9-10; 15:15; Gal 5:19-21) prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Matt 25:41 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:

There are only 2 ends eternal life in God's kingdom

or everlasting punishment in the lake of fire:

Matt 25:46 And these shall **go away** into **everlasting punishment:**
but the righteous into **life eternal**.

Paul taught the same principles (1 Thess 5:1-11) about when the Lord comes. Glory for the saints, those who know God

or destruction by fire for those who don't know God nor obey Him:

2 Thess 1:7-10 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,
8 In flaming fire taking **vengeance on them that know not God,**
and that **obey not** the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:
9 Who shall be **punished** with **everlasting destruction**
from the presence of the Lord,
and from the glory of his power;
10 When he shall come to be **glorified in his saints,**
and to be admired in all them that believe
(because our testimony among you was believed) **in that day.**

Luke recorded that at Paul's appearance before Governor Felix

the Jews accused him of being

- "a pestilent fellow,
- and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world,
- and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:
- Who also hath gone about to profane the temple:" (Acts 24:5-6)

Paul answered their charges and testified of the final judgment:

Acts 24:14 But this I confess unto thee, that **after the way which they call heresy**, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow,

**that there shall be a resurrection of the dead,
both of the just and unjust.**

Daniel 12:2 recorded this very same event

when the dead (those that sleep in the dust of the earth) shall awake

either to **everlasting life** or to shame and **everlasting contempt**.

John also recorded Jesus' teaching on the resurrection and judgment

for the good to eternal life and the evil to eternal damnation:

John 5:28-29 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming,
in the which **all that are in the graves shall hear his voice**,
29 **And shall come forth;**

- **they that have done good,
unto the resurrection of life;**
- **and they that have done evil,
unto the resurrection of damnation.**

Jesus had just said how to avoid condemnation and death and get life:

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, **He that heareth my word,
and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life,**
and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

How do you walk after the flesh or after the Spirit?

Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus (*Don't stop here, like the 'mid-Acts-ers' do*), who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Did you get that? If you walk after the flesh there is condemnation.

How do you sow to the flesh or to the Spirit?

Gal 6:7-8 **Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.**

8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap **corruption**; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap **life everlasting**.

Did you read that? If you sow to the flesh you reap corruption.

Hearing - believing - doing.

If you don't follow through, you don't get in God's kingdom (Matt 7:21):

Luke 6:47-49 Whosoever cometh to me, and **heareth my sayings, and doeth them,**

I will shew you to whom he is like:

48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for **it was founded upon a rock.** (*That Rock was Christ - 1 Cor 10:4, 3:11; Eph 2:20*)

49 But he that **heareth, and doeth not,**

is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and **the ruin of that house was great.**

God's teaching is consistent. If you don't do - then you don't really believe:

James 1:23-25 For if any be **a hearer of the word, and not a doer,** he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, **and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed** in his deed.

If you claim to have faith, but don't have works then your faith doesn't work literally. It's vain, empty, worthless, dead. It cannot save you:

James 2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? (No! It is dead!)

James 2:17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

James 2:20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, (Paul also taught you can believe the gospel in vain - 1 Cor 15:2) that faith without works is dead?

James 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Jesus also showed the believer's test not to fall away:

John 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews **which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**
32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

How will your sentence be on Judgment Day? Have you obeyed the gospel?

Rom 2:5-10 But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against **the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;**

6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

Here's the righteous group the sheep who will be blessed:

7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, **eternal life:**

Here's the unrighteous group the goats who will be cursed:

8 But unto them that are contentious, and **do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,**

Again, the contrast between the evil and the good:

9 **Tribulation and anguish,** upon every soul of man that **doeth evil,** of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

10 But **glory, honour, and peace,** to every man that **worketh good,** to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:

Will you be saved or condemned with the world (Heb 11:6-7)?

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This is David Dowell saying, "Think about it!"

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