

August 23, 2021

Rm. 10:9-10, “If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is LORD,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.” (NIV)

This passage is one of the pillars of the understanding of salvation. I fear that many people have a wrong understanding of what it takes to be saved. Many believe that all they needed to do was join a church, or be baptized, or partake of the LORD’s Supper or ‘go forward’ during an invitation time. The problem with this is that none of these things will save you. Why? Because these are all actions or works. **Titus 3:5-6** states: **“He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.” (NIV)** Or again in **Eph. 2:8-9**, **“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.” (NIV)**

If anyone trusts in anything else other than the fact that Jesus is LORD and that He paid for your sins through His death and resurrection, then you have missed the whole reason for what He has done. There must be a repentance (**Jesus is LORD**), meaning He is the way, the truth, and the life. It must be His way and not my way. And there must be faith (**believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead**), meaning that because of your faith in Him, you will live according to what He has done for you. When you truly believe that, you will live and walk by faith, not by sight. When I was eight years old, I heard the Pastor of our church preaching about Hell. It was terrible and I knew that I didn’t want to go there. At the end of the message, he invited anyone who wanted to be saved from Hell, to come forward. I did! He asked me if I wanted to be saved, and I said yes. He prayed for me and then told me I needed to be baptized. Two weeks later, I was submersed in a baptistery. And, for the next six years, I tried my best to do what I thought I was supposed to do to be a good Christian. The only problem was that I was not saved. I had trusted in what I had done, and was doing, to save me. It never would. Thankfully, when I was fourteen, I heard the truth about repentance and choosing to follow Jesus as my LORD. I trusted Him for my salvation. Later, I was scripturally baptized. Is Jesus your LORD?

Dear Father, I pray that no one will miss You because they are trusting in their good works to get them to Heaven. This is a lie perpetrated by the evil one. There is no other way that we must be saved than through Jesus Christ our LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen