

By Faith Alone

Romans 1:16-17

Romans 1:16-17 (NASB)

¹⁶ “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁷ For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘**BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.**’”

If you are too proud to bend your spirit before God, you’ll never get to heaven. You may be a kind, gentle person; you may even be naturally benevolent and charitable. But if your pride keeps you from admitting your need for Christ, then you will not accept His gift of salvation. Many people have missed out on eternal life because their heart was too hard, and they believed they knew better than the God who created them.

There is only one way to reach heaven. Holy God cannot tolerate sin in His presence, and He decreed that the penalty for it is death ([Romans 6:23](#)).

Romans 6:23 (NASB)

²³ “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

And the truth is, all people are sinners ([Romans 3:23](#)).

Romans 3:23 (NASB)

²³ “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

So, to provide a bridge between mankind and Himself, merciful God sent Jesus to die in man’s place. Christ’s sacrifice is all that is necessary for a person to enter into a relationship with God the Father.

The believer does not work or reason his way into heaven. The bridge spanning the gap between each individual and God is crossed only through an act of faith: acknowledging the need for a Savior and accepting Christ’s death on the cross as payment for one’s sins.

Perhaps you’re thinking, *I want only what I deserve*. But no one deserves grace ([Romans 3:23-24](#)).

Romans 3:23-24 (NASB)

²³ “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.”

Maybe you tell yourself, *I want only what I have worked for*. But nobody can earn salvation ([Ephesians 2:8-9](#)).

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NASB)

⁸ “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is the* gift of God;

⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

And yet the heavenly Father wants to give grace and salvation to you and to me, undeserving though we are. The truly wise people of this world are those who have accepted the truth and bent their spirit—and their knees—before the Lord.