

Upside Down Love: The Guilty in Heaven

Performance

What WILL you tell God if you die, and He asks why He should let you into His Heaven? The Bible makes it clear that we can't do good deeds to get to Heaven. It just isn't possible. The Bible says, "Heaven, is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it." (Ep 2:9) It says that salvation cannot be earned by your "desire or effort." (Romans 9:16) Your sins are not more powerful than God's forgiveness.

The Final Upside-Down

t is this fact—that you can't get to Heaven by doing good things—that should make you realize how amazing God really is. . He loves everyone equally – every sinner among us – so He took our punishment and asks us to trust Him. Instead of us trying to earn Heaven by doing good things, we can rest in God's forgiveness. In short, God isn't looking at your actions to see how good you are. God is looking at your heart.

Should You Continue to Sin

Sometimes, when people hear that God is more interested in our hearts than our actions, they get uncomfortable.

- God **doesn't** want people who just SAY they trust Him.
- God wants to have a relationship with those who ACTUALLY trust Him in their hearts.

If you trust God, you will follow God. Really, it is that simple. A heart that loves God and believes what Jesus said, will start doing the things Jesus said to do. You don't do them to earn your way to Heaven, you do them because you trust God's promises.

Upside- Down Love

E ach step of the way, Jesus showed us that His way of doing things is different than our way of doing things. He brought us the truth that we should be humble followers of Him, trusting that He will take our sins, and do His good works while we are in this life. He brought us the greatest love ever known; that of God willing to sacrifice Himself so we can have life with Him. That is, in the end, an AMAZING upside-down love.