

The



Principles  
of the



Doctrine  
of



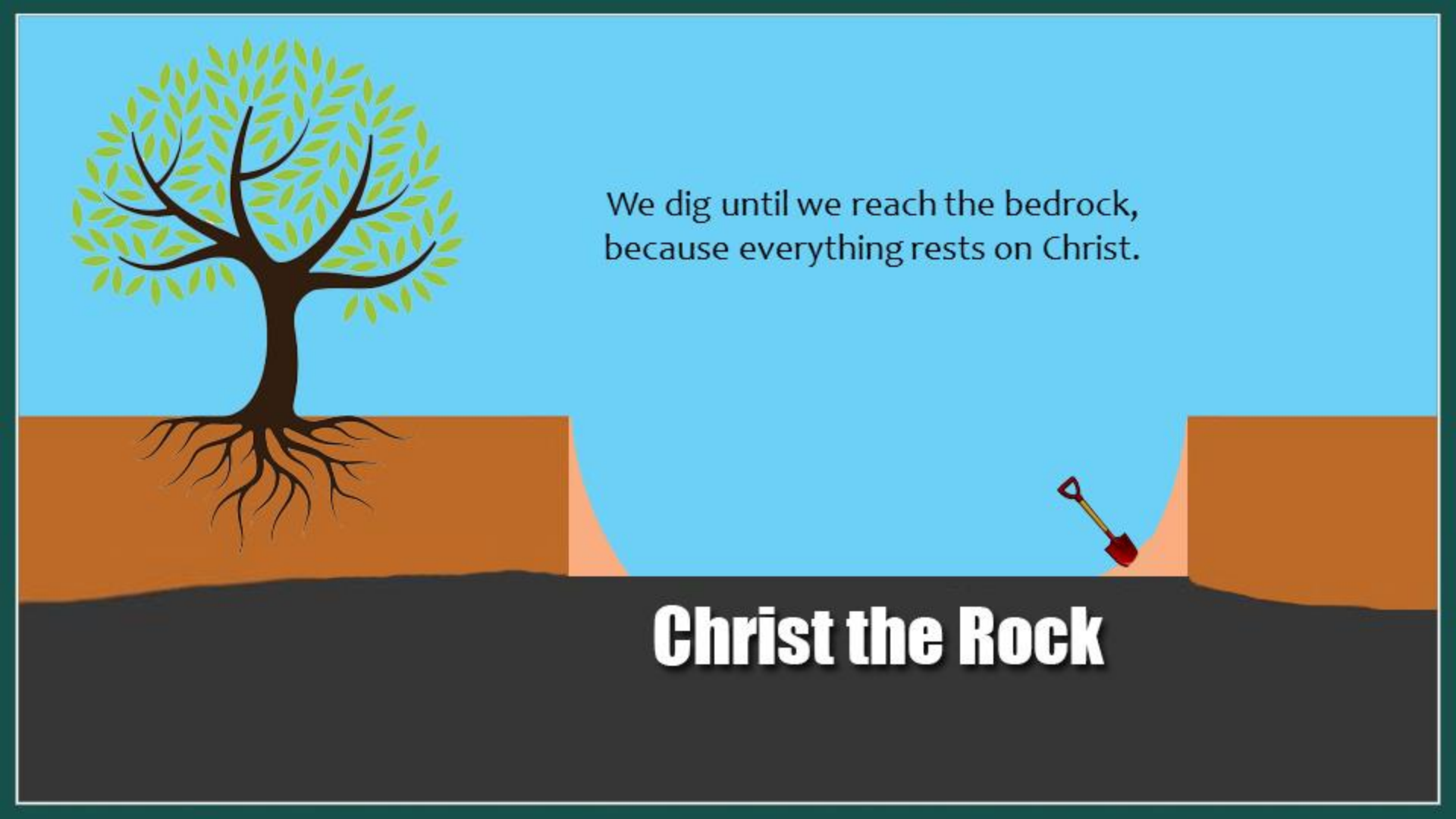
Christ

Lesson 3:

Faith Toward God



We are learning how to build our life  
– our “house” –  
on an unshakable foundation.



We dig until we reach the bedrock,  
because everything rests on Christ.

**Christ the Rock**



Then we build our foundation,  
THE PRINCIPLES OF THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST  
upon that rock, layer upon layer,  
precept upon precept.

**Christ the Rock**



We start with repentance from dead works,  
knowing that our works cannot save us.

REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

**Christ the Rock**



Upon this truth, we place our faith in God,  
knowing that what we *cannot* do, God can.

FAITH TOWARD GOD  
REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

**Christ the Rock**



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This lesson is presented in 4 parts:

FAITH TOWARD GOD  
REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

**Christ the Rock**



REPENT AND  
BELIEVE





REPENT AND  
BELIEVE



STAND UPON  
THE ROCK



REPENT AND  
BELIEVE



STAND UPON  
THE ROCK



WHERE WILL YOU  
PUT YOUR FAITH?



REPENT AND  
BELIEVE



STAND UPON  
THE ROCK



WHERE WILL YOU  
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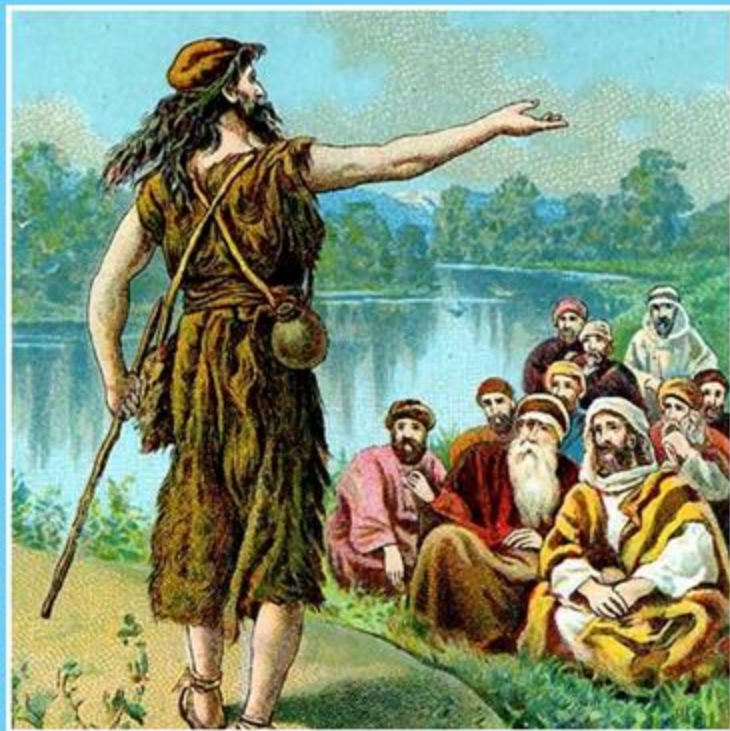


WHOSOEVER  
BELIEVES IN HIM



## Part One

REPENT AND  
BELIEVE



John the Baptist prepared men and women for the Lord's first coming by calling them to repentance:

### Matthew 3:1-3

- <sup>1</sup> In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
- <sup>2</sup> And saying,  
**Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**
- <sup>3</sup> For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias [Isaiah], saying,  
The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.



Just as John prepared men to receive the Lord, repentance prepares our heart to put our faith in God.

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REPENT AND  
BELIEVE

Jesus introduced the step *after* repentance.  
We need to repent and believe the gospel.

**Mark 1:14-15**

- <sup>14</sup> Now after that John was put in prison,  
Jesus came into Galilee,  
preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,  
<sup>15</sup> And saying,  
The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is  
at hand:  
repent ye, and believe the gospel.



REPENT AND  
BELIEVE

This was the message of the early church.

**Acts 20:21**

<sup>21</sup> Testifying both to the Jews,  
and also to the Greeks,  
repentance toward God,  
and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.





Ezekiel said, “Turn from your evil ways.”  
But to turn *AWAY* from sin, you must  
know what to turn *TOWARD*.



God will make the choices clear:

**Jeremiah 21:8b**

<sup>8</sup> ... Thus saith the LORD;  
Behold, I set before you the way of life,  
and the way of death.



The first principle of the doctrine of Christ  
– REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS –  
rejects what is false.

No one can make himself good enough to  
deserve everlasting life.



The second – FAITH TOWARD GOD –  
believes what is true.

In order to be saved, man must believe  
on the Savior.

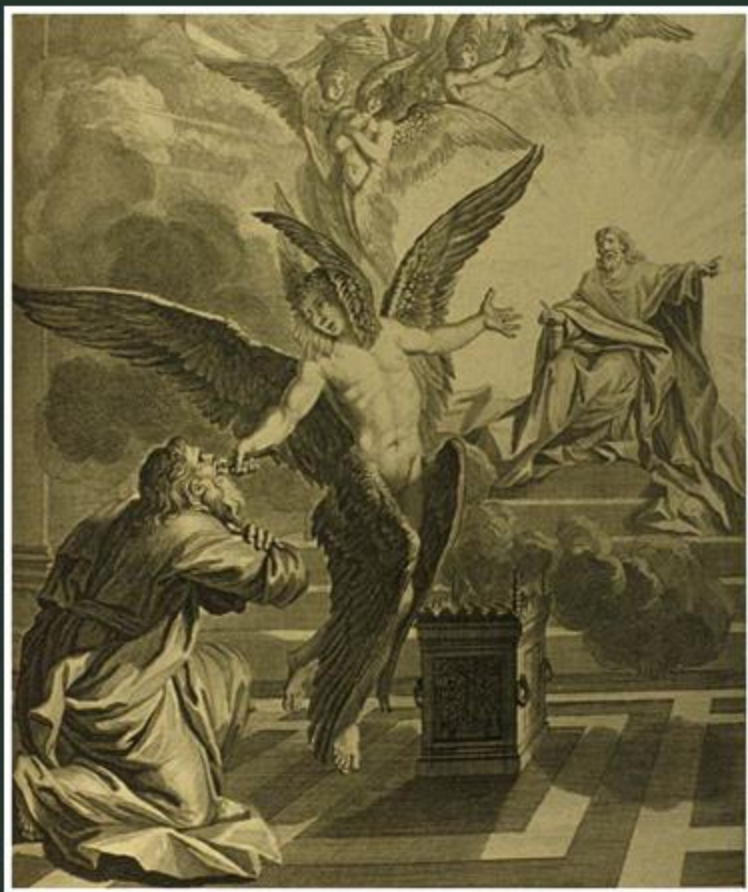




REPENT AND  
BELIEVE



STAND UPON  
THE ROCK



Through a revelation of his goodness,  
God shows us our sinful condition.  
We are filled with godly sorrow and  
moved to repentance.

**Isaiah 6:5**

- <sup>5</sup> Then said I, *Woe is me!* for I am undone;  
because I *am* a man of unclean lips,  
and I dwell in the midst of a people of  
unclean lips:  
for mine eyes have seen the King,  
the LORD of hosts.



But how do we dare to approach God after he has shown us we are not worthy to stand in his presence?

Remember God's warning to Moses on Sinai:

**Exodus 33:20**

<sup>20</sup> And he said,  
Thou canst not see my face:  
for there shall no man see me, and live.



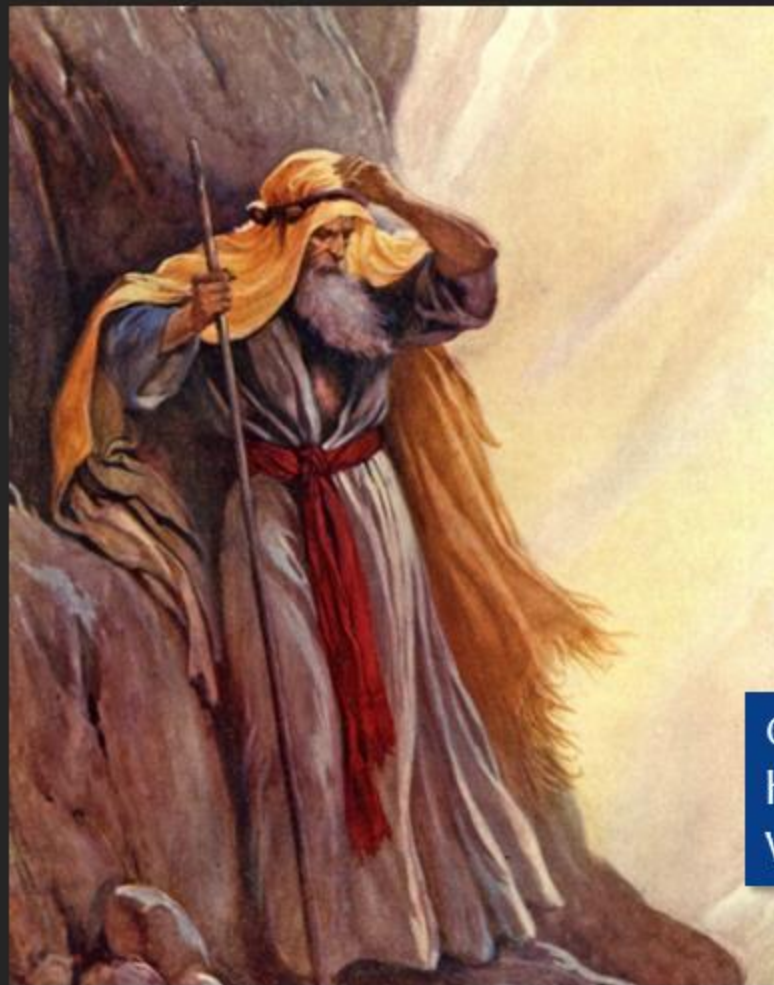
How can we survive an encounter with the most high God?

**Exodus 33:21**

<sup>21</sup> And the LORD said,  
Behold, *there is a place by me,*  
and thou shalt stand upon a rock:





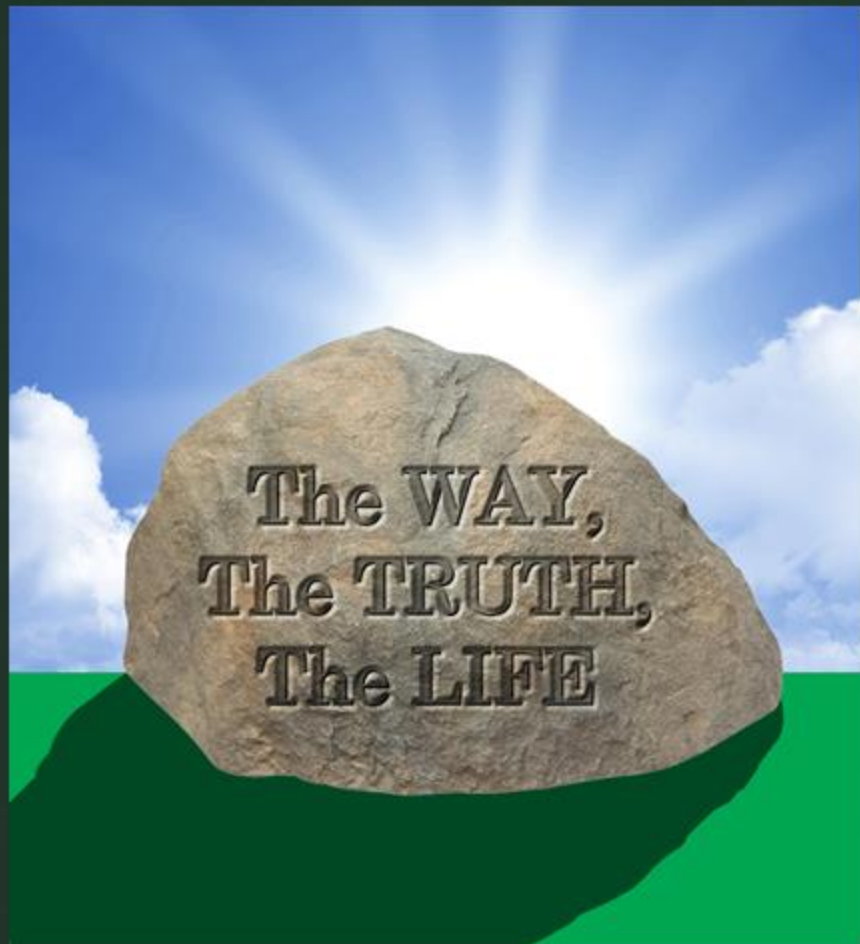


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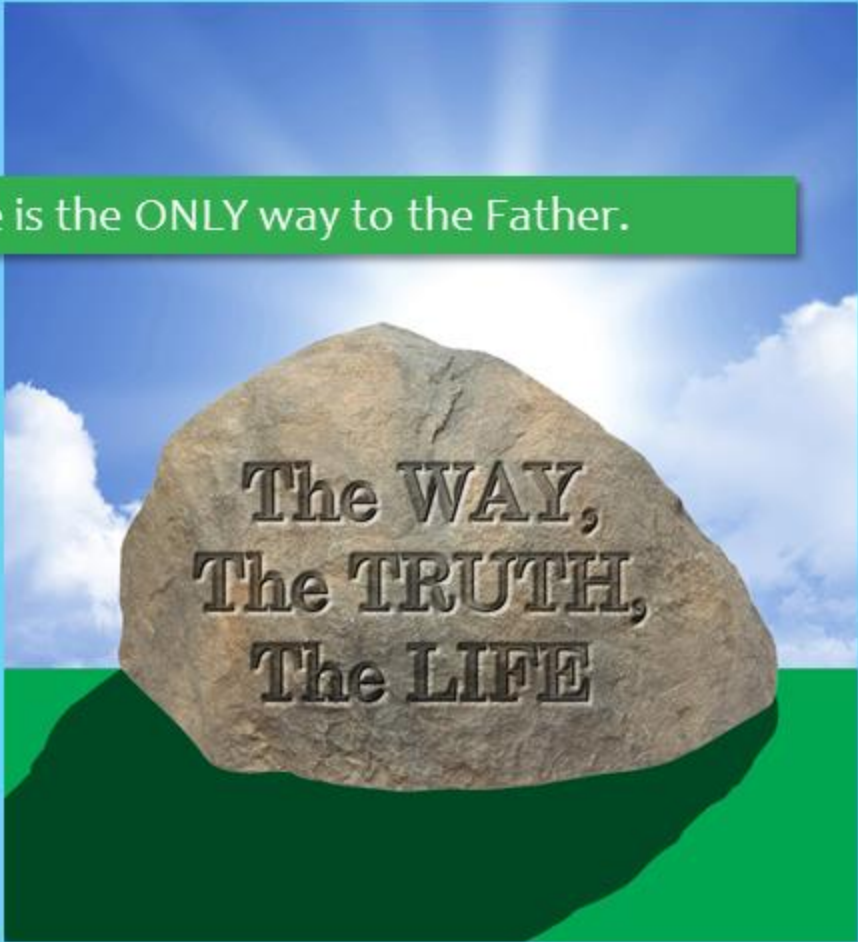
<sup>21</sup> And the LORD said,  
Behold, *there is a place by me,*  
and thou shalt stand upon a rock:

On a place by God – at his own right hand in the heavenly places – is Christ our Lord, Jesus our Rock. We stand on in HIS work, and his work alone.



You and I can stand before God when  
we stand on the Rock of Ages.

He is the ONLY way to the Father.

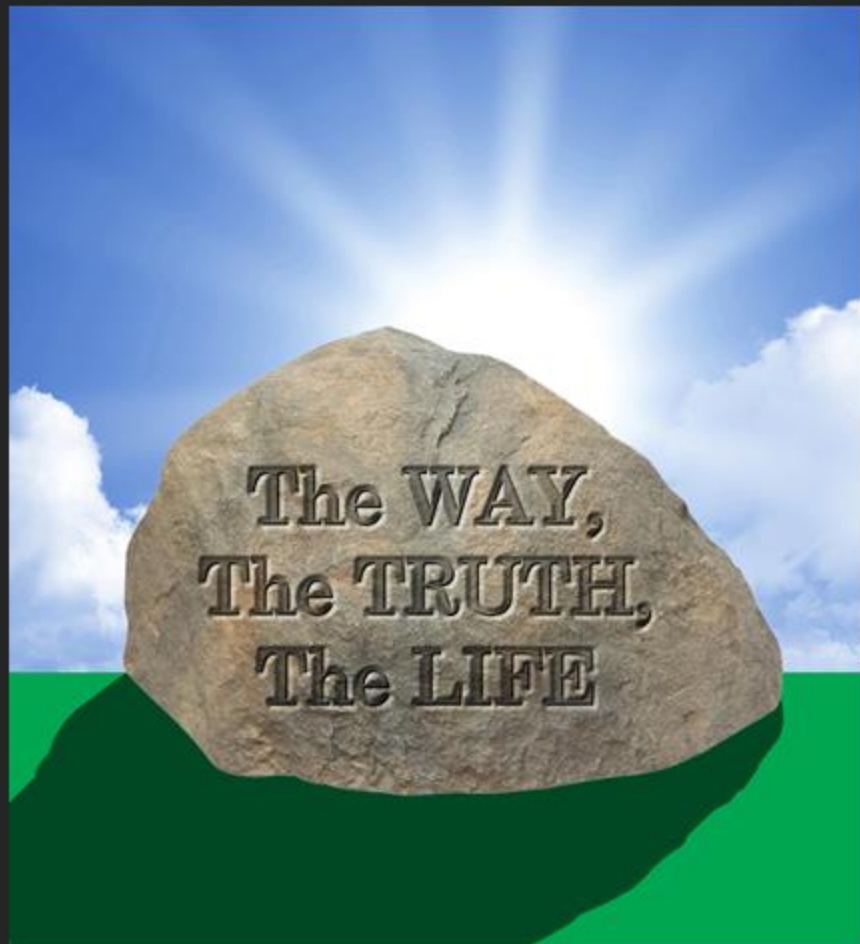


The WAY,  
The TRUTH,  
The LIFE

### John 14:6

<sup>16</sup> Jesus saith unto him,  
I am the way,  
the truth,  
and the life:  
no man cometh unto the Father,  
but by me.





Faith toward God is faith in Christ.  
Now, instead of believing in ourselves,  
we believe in our Savior.



REPENT AND  
BELIEVE



STAND UPON  
THE ROCK



WHERE WILL YOU  
PUT YOUR FAITH?

To be a Christian, you must have faith.

But faith *itself* is not the answer.

It's where you *PUT* your faith that counts.

Faith is like a power cord.  
It has no power of its own.





Faith is like a power cord.  
It has no power of its own.

You decide where you will plug it in.





Some people to put their faith in idols.

**1 Corinthians 12:2**

<sup>2</sup> Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.



But their faith cannot bring these idols to life.

**Psalm 115:4-8**

- 4 Their idols *are* silver and gold,  
the work of men's hands.
- 5 They have mouths, but they speak not:  
eyes have they, but they see not:
- 6 They have ears, but they hear not:  
noses have they, but they smell not:
- 7 They have hands, but they handle not:  
feet have they, but they walk not:  
neither speak they through their throat.
- 8 They that make them are like unto them;  
so is every one that trusteth in them.

You can put your faith in the wisdom of men or in the power of God.



**1 Corinthians 2:4-5**

- 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
- 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.



You put your faith in the one you trust the most.

**Psalm 118:8**

<sup>8</sup> It is better to trust in the LORD  
than to put confidence in man.



Who is the first one YOU call in your time of trouble?

**Psalm 50:15**

<sup>15</sup> ... **Call upon me** in the day of trouble:  
I will deliver thee,  
and thou shalt glorify me.



You can put your faith in things you can see or things you cannot.

## 2 Corinthians 4:18

<sup>18</sup> While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:

for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.



You can put your faith in your own work or the work of Christ.

**Philippians 3:9**

<sup>9</sup> And be found in him, **not having mine own righteousness**, which is of the law, **but that which is through the faith of Christ**, the righteousness which is of God by faith:



Don't just ask yourself if you have faith.  
Ask yourself where you are putting it!







REPENT AND  
BELIEVE



STAND UPON  
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WHERE WILL YOU  
PUT YOUR FAITH?



WHOSOEVER  
BELIEVES IN HIM

The journey from  
REPENTANCE FROM  
DEAD WORKS to  
FAITH TOWARD GOD  
is different for Jews  
than it is for Gentiles.

The Greek Philosopher



The Jewish Rabbi



Those who, like the Jews, trust in the works of the law must turn their faith to the work of CHRIST.

**Galatians 2:16**

<sup>16</sup> Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ,



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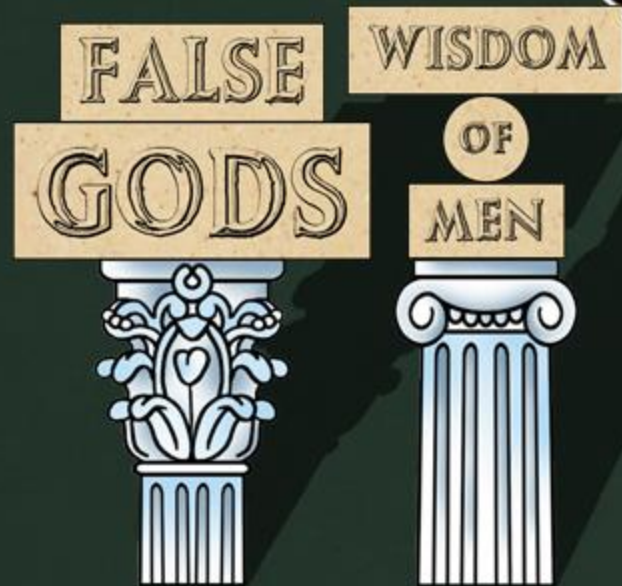
**Galatians 2:16**

<sup>16</sup> Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law:

**for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.**



Those who put their faith in idols must  
turn to serve the living and true God.



Paul was happy to report on the Gentiles who turned from idols to Christ:

**1 Thessalonians 1:9**

9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;



No matter what direction you arrive from, there is only one name that opens the door to salvation.

### Acts 4:11-12

- <sup>11</sup> This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.
- <sup>12</sup> **Neither is there salvation in any other:** for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.



The promise of God is made to WHOSOEVER will believe.

**Romans 10:11, 13**

- <sup>11</sup> For the scripture saith, **Whosoever** believeth on him shall not be ashamed.
- <sup>13</sup> For **whosoever** shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.





### John 3:16

<sup>16</sup> 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.





WHOSOEVER  
BELIEVES IN HIM

Our dead works of self-righteousness cannot help us.  
It is only by his mercy that we are saved.

### Titus 3:5-6

- 5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;
- 6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;



When seeking the gift of salvation,  
the only work that is not a DEAD work  
is to believe on Christ.

**John 6:28-29**

- <sup>28</sup> Then said they unto him,  
What shall we do,  
that we might work the works of God?
- <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered and said unto them,  
**This is the work of God,**  
**that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**



The foundation of a strong Christian life begins with knowing that our works cannot save us.

REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

**Christ the Rock**



When seeking salvation, the only work  
that counts is to believe on Christ.  
We must turn our faith toward God.

FAITH TOWARD GOD  
REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

**Christ the Rock**



UP NEXT:

# The Doctrine of Baptisms

THE DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS  
FAITH TOWARD GOD  
REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

**Christ the Rock**

Test your understanding of this lesson:

1. In Acts 20:21, what are the two parts to the gospel of salvation?

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- 1) *Repentance toward God*
- 2) *Faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.*



Test your understanding of this lesson:

2. In Exodus 33:21, where did God tell Moses to stand so he would not be consumed?

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*And the LORD said,  
Behold, there is a place by me,  
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- 1) *In the wisdom of men*
- 2) *In the power of God*

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4. What key word in Romans 10:11, 10:13, and John 3:16 proves that salvation is open to anyone?

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*“Whosoever”*

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5. According to John 6:29, in the pursuit of righteousness, what is the only work that is not a dead work?

*To believe on Christ.*

*“This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.”*





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