

“Heaven is for Real: How do we get there?”

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 25, 2014

[Ephesians 2:8-13](#)

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. 11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)— 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

The Bible says that...

1. **WE ARE SINNERS THAT NEED TO BE SAVED**

[Romans 3:23](#)

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

[Ephesians 2:](#)

8 ... you have been saved

12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

The Bible says that...

2. **WE ARE SAVED BY GOD'S GRACE (NOT BY WORKS)**

[Ephesians 2:](#)

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, ... — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—
9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

The Bible says that...

3. **WE RECEIVE HIS GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN THE BLOOD OF JESUS**

[Ephesians 2:](#)

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith —
13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

The Bible says that...

4. **WE HAVE BEEN CREATED TO DO GOOD WORKS**

[Ephesians 2:](#)

10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

[Revelation 20:12](#)

12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.

[James 2:14-20](#)

14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds?

18 ... "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

20 ... faith without deeds is dead?

CONCLUSION:

[Romans 8:16](#) The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory

[1 Corinthians 15:54](#) ... "Death has been swallowed up in victory." 55 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.