

After he retired, Les met Ruby. Both of them had been widowed, and they struck up a friendship. One day Ruby said to Les, "I know where I'm going to spend eternity. How about you?"

Although he had attended church for 70 years, Les replied, "I'm not sure." He had always hoped that God would accept him because he did more good deeds than bad, but he knew he couldn't count on that.

When Ruby told Les, "You'd better get sure!" he agreed. Her pastor shared Romans 10:9-10 and Ephesians 2:8-9 with him. Les was surprised to know that he could be sure of his salvation. He prayed and asked Jesus Christ to forgive him and be his Savior. Now Les and Ruby Richards celebrate his salvation every day. Seventy years of good works and church attendance could never get Les into heaven. Only faith in Jesus Christ could.

Are you sure you belong to Him? If not, you can "get sure" today. --JDB

How You Can Be Sure

Admit you are a sinner (Rom. 3:23).

Believe on Jesus as your Savior (Jn. 3:16).

Obey God's commands (1 Jn. 5:2).

Trust His promise (1 Jn. 5:11-13).

Salvation is not what we achieve but what we receive.



Pastor:

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Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.

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Central Mountains Baptist Church

30 AUGUST, 2009

Information for Visitors.

* We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.

* a Cubbies programme is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to Kindy age bracket.**

Get Sure!

God . . . made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved). --Ephesians 2:4-5

Church had been a major part of Les Richards' life from his early childhood. As an adult he taught Sunday school. Anyone looking at this friendly, clean-living churchgoer would have labeled Les a Christian in a heartbeat.



Does Doing Good, Count?

There are two possible answers to the question, "Does doing good, count?":

1. No! Doing good does not count, in _____ heaven, Ephesians 2:8-9

(Revelation 20:11-15) "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. {12} And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. ... {13} The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, ... {14} Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. {15} And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

(Revelation 21:1) "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea."

(Revelation 21:4) "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

(2 Timothy 1:9) "[He] has saved us and called us with a holy calling, **not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,**"

(Titus 3:3-5) "For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. {4} But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, {5} **not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,**"

(Galatians 2:16) ""knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law ... for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified."

(Galatians 5:4) "You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace."

(Romans 3:20) "Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

(Romans 4:2) "For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God."

(Matthew 19:16-22) "Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" {17}

So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." {18} He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, " 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' {19} 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" {20} The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth.



What do I still lack?" {21} Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." {22} But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions."

(Romans 3:23) "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

(James 2:10) "For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all."

(Romans 10:9) "... if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

(Romans 4:3) "For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.""

(Romans 5:1) "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,"

(2 Corinthians 5:21) "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

(James 2:15-17) "If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, {16} and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? {17} Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

2. Yes! Doing good does count, for _____ heaven,

(Acts 4:12) ""Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.""

(1 Corinthians 3:11-15) "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

{12} Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, **{13}** each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. {14} If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. {15} If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."

(2 Corinthians 5:10) "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

(John 1:12) "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:"



(Hebrews 10:35-39) "Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. {36} For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

(Hebrews 11:6) "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

(John 11:25) "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."