

"That is to say, you would trust the fruits you brought forth rather than God's word—not for your salvation, but for your knowledge of it."

"Then am I to do nothing?"

"Absolutely and literally nothing. You must take salvation exactly as the thief on the cross did. He could not turn over a new leaf; his last wretched leaf had been turned in reviling his Saviour. He could not do any work for God, for there was a nail through each hand; he could not run in the way of God's commandments, for there was a nail through his feet; and until you stand still and accept salvation for nothing, knowing that you are saved simply on the authority of the bare word of God, you will never be saved. We do not look inward to what we feel, nor outward to what we do, but to the Son of man lifted up (John iii. 14)."

"Well I think I see what you mean, I am not to examine to see if I feel better, feel saved, or feel happy. But here is the next difficulty, how am I to know it?"

"Two things are to be distinguished—salvation, and the knowledge of salvation. First, how am I to get saved? and then, How am I to know it?"

"First, then, my salvation depends solely and entirely upon the work, the person of Jesus Christ our Lord."

"Secondly, the knowledge that I am saved depends solely on the record, the word, the testimony of God. He that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son (1 John v. 10)."

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