

MythBusters Part II
Busting the Myths that many followers of Christ may have
Jude 1:3 & 2 Timothy 3:12-4:4

02/10/2008

Review 3 principles from last week

1. Truth – What is TRUTH

- a. God's Holy and Living Word → Jesus Christ our Lord, God and Savior
- b. God's Holy and Living Written Word → The Holy Bible
- c. **What is Truth? → Accurate Reporting of the Actual Facts.**
Reality Reporting, Authentic, Faithful to the facts, Genuine.

Jude 1:3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about **our common salvation**, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to **earnestly contend for the faith that was once for all** delivered to the saints.

John 8:31-32 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "**If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; (32) and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.**"

2. **God hates man's traditions that cause confusion about His Word – or make it void and empty.** God hates man's traditions that people either treat as on-par with His Word → or is above God's Word → or that make people think it is from God – even though those traditions cannot be found written in God's Word for His people to follow or to do, etc.
Ref. → **Mark 7:1-13**

3. **We are not supposed to Worship God according to pagan traditions or customs.** We are **not** supposed to Worship and/or Follow God based upon traditions and customs of the pagans or the traditions and customs of those who worship or used to worship false gods. We are **not** supposed to base any customs or rituals on their customs or man-made traditions.

Deut. 12:29-32

When Yahweh your God cuts off before you the nations which you are going in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land, (30) beware that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, 'How do these nations serve their gods, that I also may do likewise?' (31) **You shall not behave thus toward Yahweh your God**, for every abominable act which Yahweh hates they have done for their gods; for they even burn their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods. (32) **“Whatever I command you, you shall be careful to do; you shall not add to nor take away from it.”** [NASB]

This Week... some myths some church-going people still hold to...

1. We are all going to **heaven**... even if a person is not a Christian, right?
Don't all **paths** and religions, basically lead to **heaven** or to God?

Answer:

John 14:6

Jesus *said to him, "I am the **Way**, and the **Truth**, and the **Life**; no one comes to the **Father** but through **Me**.

Matt. 7:13-14

"**Enter through the narrow gate**; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. (14) "For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Luke 13:24-29

"**Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.** (25) "Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, 'Lord, open up to us!' then He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know where you are from.' (26) "Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets'; (27) and He will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you are from; DEPART FROM ME, ALL YOU EVILDOERS.' (28) "In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but yourselves being thrown out. (29) "And they will come from east and west and from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God.

John 10:7-10

... Jesus said to them again, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the **door** of the sheep. (8) "All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. (9) "**I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.** (10) "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.**

John 17:3

"This is **eternal life**, that they may **know** You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Jesus is the Narrow Gate, the Narrow Door... the ONLY way to GOD. There are no other WAYS to get to Heaven, to have Eternal Life, to have an eternal loving relationship with the ONLY Living and True God, the creator of the Universe. There are no other ways. Jesus Christ is IT. He is the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE... and no one comes to the FATHER except THROUGH HIM (period!!!!).

He is the Exclusive way to God. A person must have a genuine authentic relationship with Jesus Christ to claim a relationship with God.

2. I am basically a **good** person, so if I do more **good** works than **bad** works in my lifetime, I will get to go to **heaven**, right?

By the way, I am a **good church** going person, I help the needy and poor, and I have kept the **10** commandments all my life (for the most part). So, that should help me get into heaven, right?

Answer:

Romans 3:9-20, 23

(9) What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; (10) as it is written, "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; (11) THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; (12) ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE." (13) "THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING," "THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS"; (14) "WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS"; (15) "THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD, (16) DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS, (17) AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN." (18) "THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES." (19) **Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God; (20) because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.**

(23) for **all** have **sinned** and fall short of the glory of God,

James 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law and **yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.**

Eph. 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; **and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; (9) not as a result of works,** so that no one may boast.

No one is SAVED based upon his/her good works before a Holy, Righteous, and Just – Living and True God.

3. How then can a person get to heaven? How then can a person be saved, know it and have a "Forever Relationship with God"? **(Read: Galatians 1:6-9)**

Gal 1:6-9 (6) I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; (7) which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. (8) But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! (9) As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed! [NASB]

- a. You must recognize that **you are a sinner...** by your very nature you have broken the Law of God (*as seen in the 10 Commandments – and ref. Rom. 3:9-23 again*)
→ Romans 6:23: for **all** have **sinned** and fall short of the glory of God
- b. You must recognize that **you cannot save yourself** from the Just Wrath of God that is due for the punishment of your sins and your sinful nature. God must punish all sin – He is a Holy, Just, Righteous and Pure God. There is no taint of sin in Him. He has every right to punish sin and sinners.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, **the just** for the **unjust**, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;

- c. You must accept and fully believe that Jesus Christ, the Messiah of God, the Messiah of Israel, Jesus of Nazareth – as recorded in the Bible, the real historical Jesus – **He is the One who was punished for your sins in your place... when He died upon the cross... He died for your sins, personally.**

2 Cor 5:21 God made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- d. Then you must fully trust in, believe in and have faith in Jesus Christ and the fact that **Jesus died for you** and that He is the only way for you to be saved from the wrath that God has every right to punish you with. Jesus Christ, the Savior and Lord – He is your only way of escape from God's Wrath and from an eternity in the eternal Lake of Fire that was created for the devil and his angels. You must receive and believe in the resurrected and ascended Jesus Christ who sits at the right hand of God now, bodily, interceding for His followers and is coming back again.

Jesus was tortured, humiliated, and died upon the cross for your sins (and all the world, too...) was buried, and rose from the dead 3 days later, victorious over all sin, hell, the grave, Satan, sickness, disease, death, and all evil.

1 Cor 15:1-8 (1) Now I make known to you, brethren, the **gospel** which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, (2) by which also **you are saved**, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. (3) For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures**, (4) and that **He was buried**, and that **He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures**, (5) and that He appeared to Cephas (*Peter*), then to the twelve. (6) After that He appeared to more than **five hundred brethren** at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; (7) then **He appeared to James, then to all the apostles**; (8) and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to **me** also.

He was seen after He rose from the dead – the Tomb is empty – to which all testify...

What must a person do...??? Trust in Him and His finished work of redemption.

Rom 10:9-13 ... if you confess with your mouth **Jesus as Lord**, and believe in your heart that **God raised Him from the dead**, you will be **saved**; (10) for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (11) For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED." (12) For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; (13) for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE **SAVED**."

- e. This is **GIFT** from God that you do not deserve, cannot earn, cannot work for... you can just receive in repentant faith from the gracious hand of God... from the nail pierced hands of a loving and caring Savior.

Eph. 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; **and that not of yourselves**, it is the **gift** of God; (9) **not as a result of works**, so that no one may boast.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the **free gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.