## The only way to get to heaven By Erica Jermanus

Where is your faith and trust? Is it in your own works, religion, or man? Or is it in Christ alone?

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## Introduction:

Many are trusting in another way to get to heaven other than Christ alone. Many people believe that all paths lead to heaven. Many believe that all religions lead to heaven. But that is false. There is only one way to get to heaven, and that is through Jesus Christ alone. There is no other way.

No one else can save you. You cannot save yourself. Your works cannot save you, and neither can religion. It is either the straight and narrow path or the wide broad path. There are two destinations. Jesus Christ is the straight and narrow path that only a few find. Few find the straight and narrow path because there are many who trust in something or someone else other than Christ himself.

I wrote this book to help others understand that there is only one way to be saved, and that is through the person of Jesus Christ. This book is to help people repent for trusting in other things and people and turn back to Jesus Christ for salvation. There may be people reading this book that don't believe in Jesus

Christ or have not truly accepted him as their Lord and Savior.

Well, today is the day because we are not promised tomorrow. Without Christ, there is no life or hope. There is death, hell, and destruction without Christ. So if you are on the broad path, you can make a decision today to accept Christ, believe in him, repent, turn away from your sins, and start walking with Christ.

You can make the decision today to walk the straight and narrow path with Christ. You can make the decision today to repent, turn away from your sins, and trust Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Heavenly Father wants a relationship with you, not a religion. He wants you to know him, and knowing him means loving him and others. You can obey him today by keeping his commandments. His commands are for us to believe in him and to love him and others. When we walk in the love of God, we are obeying the law.

So if you want to know Christ today, it starts by reading the Bible, talking to him, and listening to him. He will speak to you in many different ways. But the main way he speaks is through the Bible and a still small voice. So if you want to know his voice, get into his presence today. Start a conversation with Jesus Christ today. He loves you and wants you to know him deeply and intimately.

Chapter 1: Trusting in Jesus Christ and the younger generation

Many parents today have not taught their children about Jesus Christ and the Bible. Therefore, the children turn to the world and Satan's kingdom instead of Christ and the kingdom of God. Many teens and young adults are brainwashed from their youth. Many do not know God or Jesus Christ, who is God in the flesh. Many children and adults do not know the Bible or do not have a relationship with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. Sadly, many have turned to religion. The false religions in the world cannot save us. Many believe all roads lead to heaven. That is false. There is only one way to get to heaven, and that is through Jesus Christ alone.

John 14:6 says, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Only Jesus Christ can save us and get us into the kingdom of heaven. It is not by trusting in our works or a religion. Many are on their way to hell today because they trusted religion and other lower-case gods. Many have trusted in Buddha, Muhammad or Allah to save them. These are false gods that cannot save us. Many are trusting in the gods of social media, technology, worldly entertainment, food, sex, relationships, wordly fashions, careers, jobs, and money to save them. These are the things this generation is turning to instead of Jesus Christ. These gods cannot save, but Jesus Christ can.

Our generation today is so focused on the things of the world. Instead, focus on Jesus Christ and serving the kingdom of heaven. Store up your treasures in heaven, and then you will have rewards when you get there if you have believed in Christ.

Don't go to the world's religions to save you. Allah and Buddha are false gods dead in the grave. But Jesus Christ is alive both now and forevermore. Jesus Christ has risen from the grave. He has been resurrected from

the dead. He is the only one who can save you and get you into the kingdom of heaven.

Parents today do not teach their children the truth, so the children learn the lies of the enemy when they are young. The children are indoctrinated by the devil and the world's system. The children follow the devil to hell because they have been deceived from a young age. This world belongs to the enemy, the devil. The devil is trying to get this generation to follow him and do his will instead of doing God's will. The devil is trying to plant seeds in the younger generations' hearts and minds and get them to fall away from the truth and go after other religions or lowercase gods.

This generation is spending all their time on their phones, playing video games, watching worldly television, and listening to worldly music. These secular music, movies, and TV shows are leading many children and teens to hell, and it is because of their parents. These children are even taught by their parents to watch cornography when they are young. These young children are not focused on things that are pure and clean, but on things that are unholy and ungodly.

Parents do not set boundaries with their children when they are young. A parent should stop a child from watching and listening to these things when they are young. Parents should discipline their children when they are young so that they do not turn to the devil, the world, or religion. Many children have turned to other religions to save them instead of Jesus Christ. That is because their parents or friends have practiced these religions and influenced the children to do the same.

Many think it is okay to dabble in the occult or in witchcraft, such as tarot card readings, fortune telling, and zodiac signs. These are forms of witchcraft that are leading many astray. If you want to get an answer to a problem, get it from the living God, because he has all the answers we need. He is the answer to the problems that we have. Many turn to psychics and mediums to get answers or find things out instead of going to God. This is witchcraft and a sin that leads many to hell and destruction.

Women and men put their trust in their appearance or their beauty, which can lead them astray. Some men go to the gym to get big muscles so they can show them off. They have the wrong motive and are operating out of a spirit of pride. Women want to look good physically so they can attract men. So their god is their appearance or their beauty, which is vanity. The god of vanity cannot save you.

Many put their trust in their jobs and careers and are spending all of their time working a forty-hour or more work week instead of focusing on eternity. What can you do to serve the kingdom of God? How can you store up your treasures in heaven? Many hate their jobs because they are not fulfilling their purpose and using their gifts and talents. Many are serving the god of money and are working to get a paycheck. There is nothing wrong with that, but sometimes we work with the wrong motives and intentions.

When we are working for Jesus Christ, we never have to work a day in our lives. We love what we do, and we are fulfilling our calling and purpose, which is very satisfying. When we serve our purpose, we receive rewards in heaven. Only what is done for the kingdom of God will last.

Chapter 2: Not saved by our works, but created to do good works

Many think that they can get to heaven through their own good works. They think that they can try to earn their salvation. People try to get to heaven by giving their money to the poor, attending church regularly, or getting baptized. But none of these things can save you or get you into the kingdom of heaven.

Ephesians 2:8-10 says, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Therefore, we are not saved by our works, but we are created in Christ for good works. God has good works prepared for us to do each day. It is up to us to walk into them and do them for God and his glory. Our good works do not earn our way to heaven. There is nothing we can do to get to heaven. Our works in God's sight are as filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6 says, "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy

rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

We don't have righteousness of our own. The righteousness we have comes from Christ and our faith in him. Philippians 3:9 says, "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:"

Jesus Christ has imputed to us his righteousness. But now that we have his righteousness, we continue to work out our salvation by doing good works, but not to get saved. We do good works as evidence that we are saved. Our good works are evidence that our faith is genuine. Our good works are evidence that our faith is not dead but alive. Our faith in Christ will produce good works. Our good works are not a reason to boast or brag. That is a form of pride and self-righteousness. But when we do good deeds, it is not to get praise from men. It is to get praise from our Heavenly Father.

We want to make sure that we are pleasing to our Heavenly Father. We do not want to get glory from men because of the good works that we do. The glory goes to our Heavenly Father. Matthew 5:16 says, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." So our good works should lead people to glorify God and not ourselves. There is nothing good in ourselves. The only good in us is from God. It is him working in and through us to accomplish his will, plan, and purpose. He equips us for every good work.

Hebrews 13:21says, "Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

God has given us all gifts and talents to use to serve him and his kingdom on earth. We are created with special abilities that God has bestowed upon us. He wants us to use our gifts to glorify him on this earth. Find out what your gifts and talents are, and use them for the glory of God. You may be good at singing, writing, dancing, cooking, or playing an instrument or a sport. Whatever it is, you can use it in the work of ministry to glorify Jesus Christ. When we steward our gifts well, that is when God can trust us with more responsibility. He will give us more gifts to steward because we have been faithful to the little that he has given us.

1 Peter 4:10-11 says, "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."
"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Matthew 25:21says, "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

Luke 16:10 says, "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."

Philippians 1:6 says, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:"

God will finish the good work that he has started in us. He will bring it to completion. We may have stopped working on the assignments that God has given us to do because we think that we are not good enough to do them. That is a lie of the enemy Satan. We cannot do it in our own strength. But we can do it with God's help and in his strength.

The Lord will help us get the things done that he is leading us to do. God may have put something on your heart to do. That idea is from him, and he wants you to pursue it. He wants you to step into your calling and purpose. You do not know what that idea can do to help others. God will help you get back on track again if you have given up on your purpose and assignment.

We do not use our gifts to get glory from men or praise from men. But it is all for the glory of God and to bring souls to the kingdom of God. We do not do good works to be people pleasers, but to be God pleasers. All that matters in the end is pleasing our Heavenly Father, not man. We will all one day stand before God and give an account of our lives here on earth. So the one thing that matters is that our hearts are right with him and we have done what he required of us to do for his glory.

2 Corinthians 5:10 says, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

## Chapter 3: Once saved always saved doctrine

There is a false doctrine that many Christians and pastors believe, which is that once saved, always saved, or eternal security. Many believe that you can do whatever you want to do and still make it into the kingdom of heaven. But they are sadly mistaken. We cannot continue to live habitually in sin and still think we are saved. It is possible that we can lose our salvation. It is possible that we can walk away from Christ. We can walk away from the faith, and when we do that, we are losing our salvation.

There are many scriptures to back up this doctrine of losing your salvation. I will list them here.

1 Corinthians 10:12 says, "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Hebrews 6:4-6 says, "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame."

Someone may walk with God one day but fall into sin the next. You continue to backslide to the point where you fall away; that is when you lose your salvation. But when you are making a conscious effort to continue in the faith and in your relationship with God, then you will stay on the straight and narrow path. It is not easy. There are times we slip up and fall back into sin, but when we do, we repent and ask God to forgive us.

1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Matthew 7:21-23 says, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

As you can see here, it is those who do the will of the Father who will enter the kingdom of heaven. Those who died in their sins will be cast out, as will those that the Father never knew. So that is why it is important to develop a relationship with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ, because that is what is going to matter on the day of judgment. Also, getting sin out of our lives and repenting is what matters on that day of judgment.

We are not perfect. We do fall, stumble, and make mistakes, but we do not continue to sin willfully. We do not continue to practice sin. There is a difference between falling into sin and practicing sin. A person who practices sin gets good at it. This person is not convicted by the Holy Spirit and may not have the Holy Spirit. That person may not be a born-again believer if they continue to sin willfully without any remorse or sorrow over that sin.

2 Peter 2:20-22 says, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."

It is possible to go back to your past or your sins. God may have delivered you from certain sins, and then you

entertain those sins again, —that is, you go back to the dog's vomit. God may have delivered you from a sinful or ungodly relationship, and then you go back to that relationship. Or you may have fornicated once and then you go back to hooking up with that person and having sex outside of marriage. You go back to the alcohol or drugs that God has delivered you from. That is you going back to the dog's vomit.

So there are many scriptures in the Bible that support losing your salvation. I wanted to talk about this topic in this book because so many are deceived and blinded. This once-saved, always-saved doctrine is leading many people astray and to hell. Jesus Christ saves us from hell when we turn back to him and trust in him.

So I want to warn you of this false doctrine. It is possible that you can fall away from God and from your faith. It is possible that you can backslide, fall into sin, and not be saved. We are not perfect, but we will not continue to practice sin. We will confess and repent when we have sinned and get back on the straight and narrow path. It is possible we can be on the narrow path one day and the broad path the next day because of sin.

I have witnessed the wrath of God in my life. I thank him for sparing my life and for his mercy and grace. There are times, when I have fallen from grace and backslided by falling into willful sin. I have lost my salvation because of sin and unholiness. There were times I was born again and then not born again because of sin. But the Lord had mercy on my soul and gave me a second chance to repent and get it right.

Chapter 4: Works based salvation, holiness, and repentance

Many churches today teach that you have to do something in order to get to heaven. Many churches teach you that you have to earn your salvation. There are churches that teach you that unless you are baptized, you cannot make it into the kingdom of heaven. Baptism does not save us, but it is an act of obedience to God. When we are saved, we want to please the Lord, so we will get baptized as a declaration or commitment of our faith.

There are churches that also believe you have to keep the sacraments to get into the kingdom of heaven, but that is false too. There are churches that teach you that you have to do all these things to get to heaven. If you are in one of these churches, get out and leave.

Many believe repentance is works-based salvation. But repentance is required for salvation. There is no salvation without repentance. We must be holy to enter the kingdom of heaven. Heaven is a place where there is no sin. It is a place of righteousness, holiness, and justice.

Hebrews 12:14 says, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:"

Matthew 5:8 says, "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

Believers go through a process of sanctification. To be sanctified means to be holy or set apart. We are becoming more holy and set apart every day. Every day, we become holy when we choose to obey Christ and the gospel. When we get convicted of sin, that shows that we belong to him. The Lord will correct and discipline his children because he loves us. The correction and conviction should lead us to repentance.

Repentance is necessary for salvation. If one dies without repentance, that person will be eternally lost or separated from God. Once saved always, saved teaches that you can live in sin and still make it into the kingdom of heaven. That is a false doctrine. If you are going to a church that believes in this doctrine or the worksbased salvation doctrine, repent and get out.