

What Do I Put My Trust In For Eternal Life?

<https://abn.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/gospel-topics/eternal-life?lan...> A⁹

Eternal Life

Eternal life, or exaltation, is to live in God's presence and to continue as families (see [Doctrine and Covenants 131:1–4](#)).

Eternal life is defined by the LDS Church as: living in God's presence in heaven. Please circle the numbers that you believe will contribute towards whether or not you will receive eternal life.

- 1 Faith in Jesus
- 2 Tithing
- 3 Receive my temple recommend
- 4 Receive the Aaronic priesthood
- 5 Receive the Melchizedek priesthood
- 6 Must not drink tea or coffee
- 7 Sealed inside the temple
- 8 Baptized by someone with priesthood authority
- 9 Wear holy undergarments
- 10 Be married to an LDS spouse

Wages = what you have earned, worked for, and deserve

Gift = what you have not earned, not worked for, and do not deserve

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

We see that eternal life is a gift. Something that God freely gives to us and is not dependent on our own efforts/works.

John 3:36 "He that **believeth on the Son hath everlasting life**: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever believeth in him** should not perish, but **have everlasting life**."

We read that eternal life is given to those who sincerely believe in Christ and not on how obedient they are to the laws and ordinances.

Romans 4:1-6 “For **if Abraham were justified by works**, he hath whereof to glory; but **not before God**. For what saith the scripture? **Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.**”

This is telling us that Abraham was not justified by his works but by sincerely believing in God and that is how he was considered righteous before God: by faith alone.

“Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. **But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.** Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom **God imputeth righteousness without works,**”

God’s Word tells us that our faith is also counted to us as righteousness. Not only that, but to anyone who sincerely believes in God, he will “impute” the righteousness of Christ onto that person. Impute is an important word that means, “to attribute on behalf of.” If we sincerely put our faith in Christ, he will give us his own righteousness that covers all of our sins.

See, Jesus lived the perfect life in proxy/on behalf of us. Anyone who has sincere faith in Christ will be covered and completely forgiven of all their sins, not by their own works, but because of the work that Christ did, the perfect life He lived and the sacrificial death He died on our behalf. When we approach God on judgement day, anyone who has sincerely trusted in Christ alone (not Christ + works/obedience), God sees his perfect Son who never committed a single sin. This is how he can give eternal life to us as a gift.

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags.”

In the presence of a perfectly holy God, all of our righteous deeds and obedience to the laws and ordinances are nothing but filthy rags if that is how we are trying to receive forgiveness of our sins and become righteous.

Where do you find your righteousness?

- A. In Christ**
- B. Yourself**
- C. Both**