

CatClub: Question 30



1. Recap. Last week we answered the question: How can we be saved? And we learnt that there is only one way to God, i.e. through Jesus Christ (John chapter 14, verse 6). Then we looked at two very important verses: Ephesians chapter 2, vv. 8-9, which tell us: **‘For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast’**. This taught us first, that when we are saved it is by grace alone, i.e. only because of God’s favour (=his act of kindness), which we don’t deserve; second, that we receive salvation by faith alone, i.e. only by trusting in Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins; & thirdly, that we can never do enough (that’s what ‘works’ means) to earn salvation for ourselves - we can never work our way into God’s good books.

Q30 now asks: What is faith in Jesus Christ? **Answer:** **Faith in Jesus Christ is acknowledging the truth of everything that God has revealed in his Word, trusting in him, and also receiving and resting on him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel.**

Explanation: This answer tells us two things: first, that a Christian must believe that ‘God’s Word’ (meaning the whole Bible) is true; second, that a Christian must accept the gospel message which the whole Bible proclaims, i.e. that trusting in Jesus alone is the way to eternal life.

2. Investigation - please look up:

(a) (In the New Testament) John chapter 5, verses 39 to 46. In verse 39 Jesus, talking to the Jewish religious leaders, tells them that **the very Scriptures (i.e. the Old Testament) that they studied actually spoke about him**. In verse 46 he explains that Moses, 1500 years before Jesus, was actually talking about him (e.g. think of the meaning of the blood of Passover Lamb which saved the Israelites from death in Egypt). To sum up, the Old Testament records the preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ, which is what the New Testament is all about. So, if the Bible from beginning to end is all about Jesus, we must believe it all and declare that it is true!

(b) (In the New Testament) John chapter 3, verses 16-17: **‘For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.’** **This is what we call ‘the gospel’, also ‘the good news’** that the whole Bible is about. It is the announcement that God the Father sent Jesus Christ into the world to save sinful people and that the only hope of eternal life is to trust in him.
>>>Try to learn by heart these important verses!

By the way: **‘Jesus’; was his first name; ‘Christ’ was his title (meaning ‘Anointed’ or ‘Chosen One’).**

>>>Next week’s question: What do we believe by true faith?

This week’s songs: ‘Christ is mine forever’

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roQovDZeAWE>

‘Give me Jesus’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmmJ900eL2s>

John 5:39-46

³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. ⁴¹ I do not receive glory from people. ⁴² But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. ⁴³ I have come in my Father's name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. ⁴⁴ How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? ⁴⁵ Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. ⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me.

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.