

They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

**Nehemiah 8:8**

## Store In My Heart Psalms 119:10

With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

A verse from the Psalmist discourse in praise of the Word of God. This Psalm encourages us to seek the wisdom God has given therein. This verse reminds there are two parts to being faithful to God.

First, if we are to be successful in being close to God, we must give our all in a diligent effort to draw near to Him. If we are not willing to give everything in our service, we will fail to achieve our goal. Being close to God is a lot of work.

Secondly, we must depend on the assistance God offers if we are to remain on the right path. This is not something we can do alone. We need God's help.

Work as if it all depends on me and pray as if it all depends on God is good advice. This verse supports that idea. Let us give our all to serve God and He will see us through.



# Start Relying On Jesus

Edwin Crozier

Quit Relying on Yourself for Salvation; Start Relying on Jesus  
“What if I get in a car wreck and just before my head slams into the steering wheel, I take God’s name in vain, will I go to heaven?”

Are you ready for my newest answer to this question?

“Who are you relying on for your salvation? Yourself or Jesus?”

**Romans 10:3** says the Jews were ignorant of the righteousness of God, therefore they were trying to establish their own righteousness. They weren’t relying on Jesus to save them. They were relying on themselves. They were going to keep the law so well that God would have to save them.

The problem was no one could keep the law that well. Every single one of them sinned (**Romans 3:23**). In fact, we learn that God didn’t establish law to save anyone. He established law to convict us that we need saving. **Romans 3:20** says, “*For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.*”

**Galatians 3:21** says, “*If a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.*” God hasn’t given a law that could give life. Did you catch that? The Old Law doesn’t give life. The New Law doesn’t give life. If a law could give life, then God would let us earn life through a law. However, God gives us life as His free gift (**Romans 6:23**). **Romans 3:24** says we are justified as a gift from God through the redemption that is in Jesus.

What all this means is, instead of relying on ourselves and our law keeping to save us, we need to rely on Jesus Christ. If we plan to stand before God and demand we should be saved

because of all the great works we've done, we're going to be in trouble. If we plan to stand before God with any other defense than Jesus Christ and His death, we are going to be lost. When we try to be saved by establishing our own righteousness, we'll fail every time.

Does this mean I can take God's name in vain with impunity and not worry about my salvation? Do those who aren't trying to establish their own righteousness sin so the righteousness of God's grace can abound? Of course not. **Romans 6:1-4** demonstrates that is wrong. However, what we really need to recognize is that this mindset demonstrates we don't understand what it means to rely on Jesus for our salvation.

We think "rely on Jesus for salvation" means I live however I want and Jesus will save me anyway. Nothing could be further from the truth. The wages of sin is death even for the Christian (**Romans 6:23**). Relying on Jesus doesn't mean living my way and expecting salvation anyway. Relying on Jesus for salvation means turning my life over to Him, living by faith in Him (**Galatians 2:20**), and letting Him lead me to salvation. It means trusting God's promise that I am His, therefore He is conforming me to the image of Christ (**Romans 8:29-30**). It means trusting Jesus to deliver me from my body of death (**Romans 7:24-25**) so that I overcome these sins that will kill me. It means that my continued struggles as I grow in Christ do not destroy my salvation but my progress in Christ provides me an entrance into the eternal kingdom (cf. **2Peter 1:5-11**).

Back to the question that started all this off. If you are relying on Jesus to save you and trusting God's promise to conform you, why are you worried that God is going to let you so sin in the last minute of your life to destroy your relationship with Him?

Quit relying on yourself. Quit trying to establish your own righteousness. Believe Jesus. Turn your life over to Him. Let Him guide you to salvation.

(Only through The Word can we know what God desires. Study Diligently. DLH)

## Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

### Church of Christ

1512 Tanner Street

Malvern, AR 72104

(501) 332-8806

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com

FB @TannerStCoC

## For Our Information

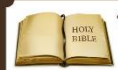
**Jim Soliday** is about the same. He has a heart monitor and will see the doctor again this week. **Ruben Keisler** has appointments scheduled to get things ready for his bypass surgery on July 5th. **Brenda Keisler** is dealing with hip pain. **Gloria Hurst** is improving after having stitches removed. **Annette Gray** is much better following a doctor visit to deal with heart rhythm problems. **Paula Laubach's** spine is fusing well but she still has more healing ahead.

The **Simpson** Family will be in Broken Arrow, OK this week.

The **Henderson's** plan to be in North AL Thursday and Friday.

Sunday Evening – **Nehemiah 8** Wednesday - **John 5:25**

The  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
MEETS HERE



10:20 AM • Sunday Worship Service  
5:00 PM • Sunday Night Bible Study  
7:00 PM • Wednesday Bible Study