



CAN I REALLY BE SAVED?

How is that possible?

**PLAN OF
SALVATION**

Hear

Believe

Repent

Confess

Be baptized

Live faithfully

**PLAN OF
SALVATION
(SIMPLIFIED)**

**Believe the
good news of
Jesus**

**Be obedient
as a result of
that belief**

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE OBEDIENT?

Perfect obedience?

Must I get everything right?

Must I know all the right answers in every situation?

Is complete obedience even possible?

If complete obedience is unattainable, how can I really ever be saved?

Does God expect perfection from me, and if not, what does he expect?



CONSIDER A LOVING EARTHLY FATHER WITH HIS OWN CHILD



Does he expect his child to be obedient?

What does that look like?

Does obedience imply perfection?

If not perfection, then what?

HOW CAN I EARN SALVATION?

I can't! That's the wrong question.

None of us will be saved because we deserve it.

If I am saved, it is NOT because of who I am, but because of who HE is.

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.” (Romans 3:23-25, ESV)



**IF THE ONLY WAY I CAN BE
JUSTIFIED IS BY THE GIFT OF
HIS GRACE, HOW DO I KNOW IF
GOD FINDS ME WORTHY OF
THAT GIFT?**

**I WILL NEVER BE WORTHY OF
THE GIFT OF HIS GRACE! MY
SALVATION IS NOT BECAUSE OF
WHO I AM, BUT BECAUSE OF
WHO HE IS.**

TWO IMPERFECT MEN

DAVID

He is called a “man after God’s own heart”. (1 Samuel 13:14)

David, Bathsheba, and Uriah (2 Samuel 11)

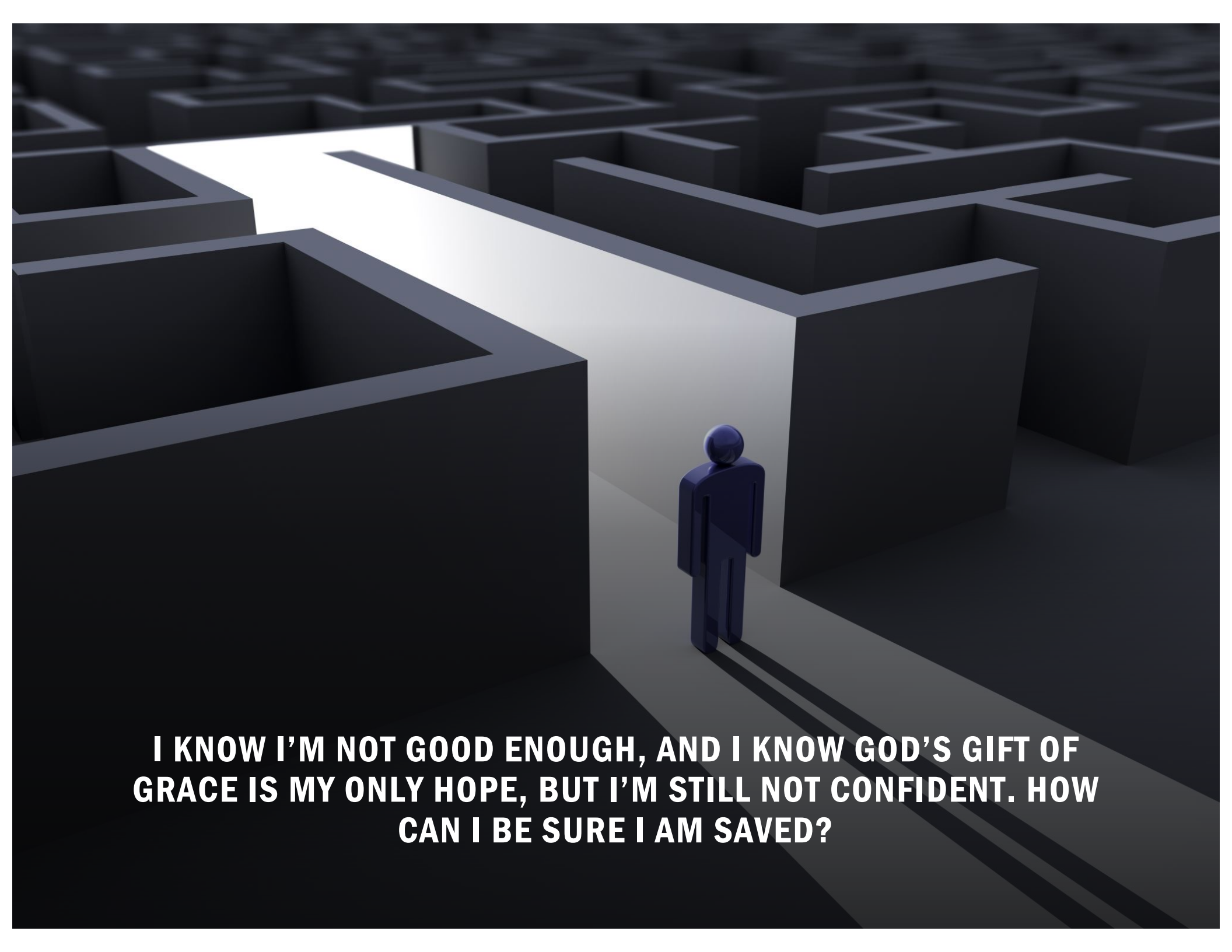
David was clearly not perfect.

His response (2 Samuel 12)

PAUL

“For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.” (Romans 7:18-19, ESV)

“I don’t mean that I am exactly what God wants me to be. I have not yet reached that goal. But I continue trying to reach it and make it mine. That’s what Christ Jesus wants me to do. It is the reason he made me his.” (Philippians 3:12, ERV)

A 3D rendered maze with dark grey walls and a light grey floor. A small, dark blue, stylized human figure stands in a path that leads towards a bright, glowing light source at the end of the path. The maze is complex, with many dead ends and paths that loop back. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows and highlights, emphasizing the depth and complexity of the maze.

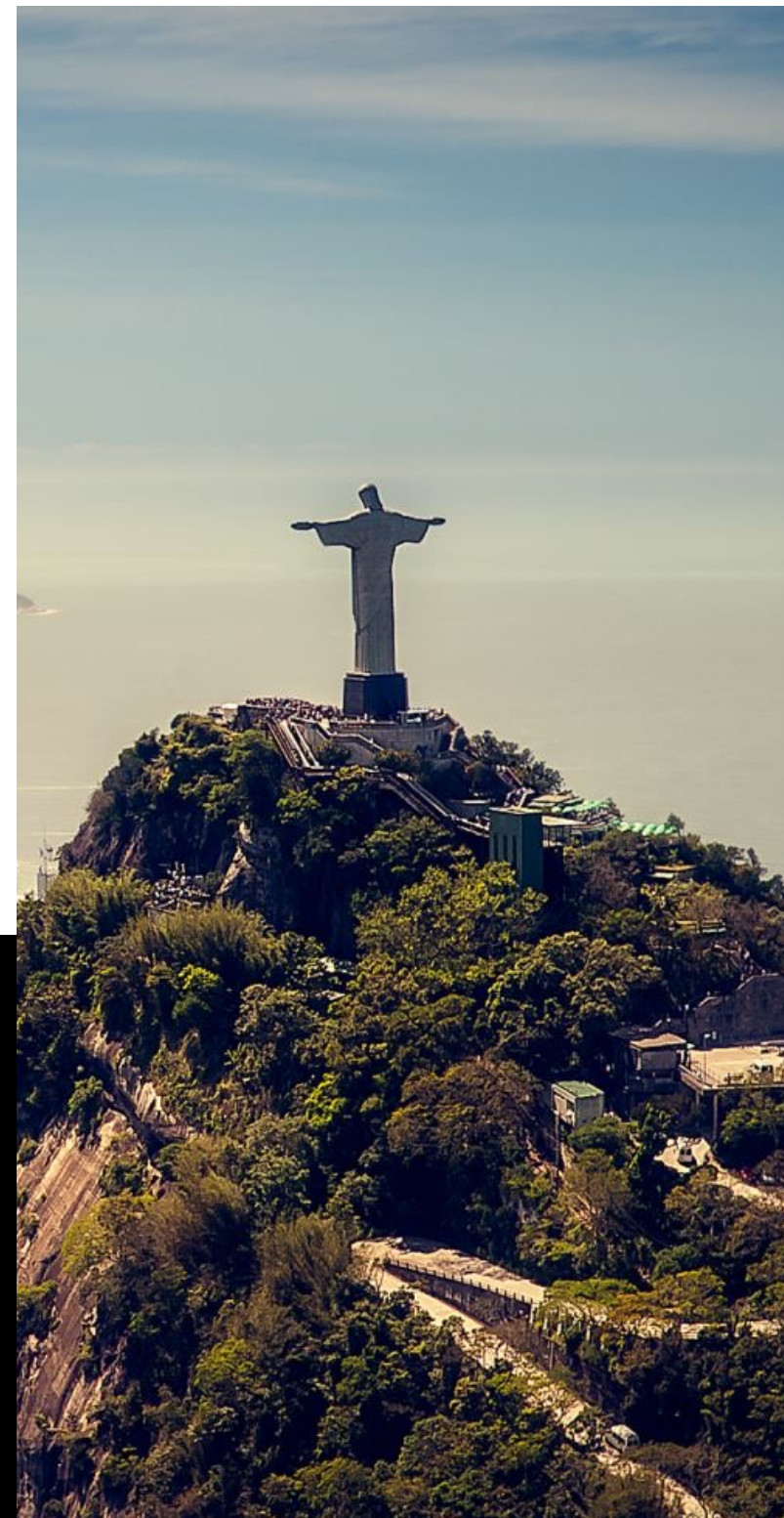
I KNOW I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH, AND I KNOW GOD'S GIFT OF GRACE IS MY ONLY HOPE, BUT I'M STILL NOT CONFIDENT. HOW CAN I BE SURE I AM SAVED?

“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.” (John 3:16-17, ESV)

“This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

(1 Timothy 2:3-4, ESV)

**GOD LOVES ME AND
WANTS TO SAVE ME!**



GOD KNOWS ME!

**He knows my
strengths.**

**He knows my
weaknesses.**

**He knows my
temptations.**

**He knows my
desires.**

**He knows
what is
important to
me.**

**He knows my
heart!**

**WHAT
DOES
GOD
DESIRE
FROM
ME?**

What does a loving earthly father desire from his child? Perfection, or something else?

Though I will never get it just right, is my true desire to please my Lord by serving him with all of my being?

Is pleasing my Lord the most important thing to me in my life?

Is serving Him my purpose for living?

God knows my answers to these questions, and that can be most comforting!

CONCLUSION

I am not saved because of my ability to do all of the right things and to not do all of the wrong things. Rather, I am saved because God loves me, gave Himself for me by sending Jesus to pay the price for my sin, and freely gives me His gift of grace because He wants me to be with Him.

Accepting this truth gives me a great sense of peace and causes a shift in my focus. No longer do I live my life in fear that I am not really saved because I stumble from time to time and am unworthy of God's gift. Instead, I focus on God's love for me and I am at peace because I know that God knows my heart, understands my inner struggles, and saves me even though I am unworthy.

This peace, which surpasses all understanding (Philippians 4:7), leads me to serve my Lord no longer out of fear, but because I love Him and want to please him. It becomes my natural response to his love for me. It is the only response that makes any sense.

