# tter Edition

June 2013

Fourth Month 6013 Calendar

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### Saved By Faith Alone?

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Notes to Don & Pam

ThINKing Pink

"Trust and Obey"



Bevond the Printed Word...

TWO

#### **Shortwave** Radio Broadcasts!

TRI is a media ministry broadcasting both TV and radio 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Red Letter Edition has been LIVE! 6 days a week for quite some time...NOW RLE is reaching thousands of ThINKers without computers, without ready internet service through shortwave radio! It has long been our burden to be so "unavailable" except on the internet. Shortwave is THE ANSWER!

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omehow the good news of the gospel has become contorted to speak a message it was never intended to In reality the gospel of speak. salvation requires perfect balance from imperfect people; therefore, a message of the gospel to a man who believes that his good works will count toward his eternal reward needs to hear the truth of the gospel message, "We are saved by faith - not by works."

> Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:"

Simultaneously, another man – perhaps in another part of town - or somewhere in the world – believes that he is saved by faith alone and he is sure that his lack of righteous works (or, in some cases, the presence of sin in his life) will not count against him in eternity. This man needs to hear, "If a man says he has faith and has not works, can faith save him?"

> James 2:14, "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?"

Are both of these statements true? Is it possible that these two seemingly contradictory Scriptures exist in the same library of Scriptures we know as the Bible? Of course, as you can see, they both exist. Neither can be neglected because both are TRUE!

#### A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE **SCRIPTORIUM**



As it is whenever anyone tries to codify doctrine or reduce the truth of Jehovah to words on a page,

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### THINKING PINK (BY & FOR LADIES)

A Softer Shade of Red

Next Issue: 7/2013 (see page 5) SOMETHING BORROWED-

**HEALTH** 



### Saved By Faith Alone?

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something is going to be sacrificed. Unfortunately, somehow in the "faith vs. works" doctrine the word *alone* began to appear.

"We are saved by faith *alone*; we are saved by works *alone*." My question is why can't we adopt the language of the Bible which clearly says that we are **saved by faith and works?** 

Somewhere between the scriptorium and the Bible we have

today, the words, "Only" and "Alone" have been added – not in the pages with ink, but in our *thinking*.

We are a people pleasing to God because we have both works and faith. Why can't we adopt the words in Revelation where it says, "... which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." (12:17)? How perfect a world we would all enjoy if every man who had faith had works and every man who had works had faith.

Why must we insist on inserting that word *alone*? This is where balance becomes important! We know when our works are not based in faith, but rather are based in fear -- *and* we know when our faith is nothing more than *hope* -- evidenced by our lack of works.

In all my encounters with different people of different faiths, I have never ever met anyone who believes that we are saved by works. I find that fact to be very interesting because in most of the Protestant realms many preachers spend many hours preaching against a salvation of works. To whom are they talking? To whom are they preaching?

"What doth it profit, my breth-ren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?"

James 2:14

Have you ever met *anyone* who truly believes they are saved by works alone?

Similarly, I have never met anyone who believes in salvation by faith alone. Oh yes, it is preached and taught, but no one has ever had the courage to actually say that we are saved by faith or that there is no need to live for God, no reason to be baptized or even go to church, not even that it is unnecessary to provide for your family. No one ever actually says, "It isn't necessary to keep the Commandments because we need only to believe."

So, I ask again, if nobody really believes these two extremely contradictory doctrines, then why insist that they are to be believed?

Historically, the fuss about works vs. faith began when the average "New Testament Christian," scared to death of the Old Covenant, set out to fight against it — and with anyone who believes in it! Think about it...how many times have you heard, "The Law cannot save you?"

I heard that the Law could not save me for so long I just assumed that somehow (presumably stated somewhere in the Old Testament) the Law *had* saved men in the past. I was amazed to find that nowhere in the Old Covenant is found any promise of eternal life!

The Law not only will not regenerate us today, it has never regenerated anyone who has ever lived! So, what assurance did the people of the Old Testament have of being awakened at the last day? Was it because they kept the Law? Or was it their faith?

No one has ever obtained the promise of regeneration in any way other than by faith. We have

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Notes to Don 4 Pam I have calmed down a lot thought since getting some wisdom and understanding...I'm not angry anymore and I don't compare myself to others anymore. We are just trying to walk in what revelation Father gives us. I know when to keep my mouth shut...and when to speak up. It's all about the journey. So we continue to do right and maybe we will be chosen in the end. Much love (NM)

FROM THE CHATROOM: You know what is soooo cool? When Don showed how Jesus was a man when he came and was tempted, that is what showed me the power HE gave us to be a true Christian, not just a play one! Did that ever give me hope and realization of Christ in us, the Hope of Glory (WA)

[HUSBAND] found the DVD "Surviving the End" when he was cleaning some things out and realized we hadn't watched it before. We watched it last night and it really made us think. He usually doesn't stay up past his bedtime but he commented that Don's preaching really good so we listened to the whole thing.

YHWH has been speaking some of these points to us also. It is very interesting that the word "Saved" means safety...YHWH just revealed to me a couple days ago that I needed to stay in His "safety zone", meaning walking in him always, abiding in him, not getting out of his boundaries, listening to his voice and being obedient to walk in His ways, laying down worldly pleasures etc...Keep on surviving in YHWH. (NE)

Thank you for sharing TRUTH with so many!!! (TX)

Words are inadequate to express my sincere appreciation to you for the decades of searching the scriptures for truth and then for teaching to listeners in so many ways. Although I had listened on TRI TV to the teaching "On Guidance", just last Sabbath I listened and watched the RLA DVD. The class notes are extensive and are very helpful. The teaching notes and charts are invaluable tools in hearing the voice of YHVH and accurately handling the scriptures. This will better enable me to "know that I know" truth. May you continue to bring truth and dispel deception. (TX)

How I would love to I am 80 years old myself....I intend because I bepeople and diligently who to ministry

Thank you

join you in a TRI gathering, but so far I have not been able to make it happen.

and do not think I could drive that far by
to continue to support Think Red Ink
lieve in the things you are showing
am happy to see you working so
to spread the good news to all
are appointed to having ears
hear. Both of you and your
are in my prayers each day.

(FL)



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always been saved by a living faith. We have never been saved by faithless works of the Law, or by faith not accompanied by works!

You may wonder, "Maybe we are in a different 'dispensation'? Or living under a new covenant? Are the people of our day saved under a different plan than those of the Old Testament?" (The answers to these questions are, respectively, no, no, and no!)

"Were those of faith in the Old Testament expected to obey the Law? Are we 'New Testament Christians' expected to obey the Law? Were works necessary for Old Testament people to prove their faith in God? Are works necessary to prove our faith in God?" (The answers to these questions are, respectively, yes, yes, and yes!)

From the beginning, salvation continues to be *by faith;* and *works* continue to be expected of us by Jehovah. So, what's the problem? The problem is that word, "ONLY."

Works are more than mere evidence of faith. Although works do evidence our faith in God, righteous works executed on a daily basis, give physical blessing, prevent harm, illness, disease, financial loss, and even provide assurance of our salvation.

John said that we *know* that we *know* him because we *keep His Commandments*. If the reciprocal is true (and I believe it is) if we do not keep His Commandments (and therefore have no works to show for our faith) then we suffer not only from the obvious consequences of disobedience to our Creator God, but we will have no assurance of our salvation. We do **not** *know* that we *know* Him. We may *believe* we know Him (have faith), we may *hope* we know Him, but the only way we *KNOW* that we know Him is by keeping His Commandments!

Isn't it odd that the preachers and teachers who are constantly telling people works have nothing to do with their salvation are exactly the same preachers and teachers with congregations full of people having no assurance of their salvation by faith *alone*?

How about that? It turns out that the Bible is true -- imagine that!





### THINKING PINK - ISSUE 3



7/2013

A Softer Shade of Red

THINKING PINK

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something BLEW!

### Part 3 Something Borrowed - Health

Polly had always been active. Dancing favo lessons and cheer leading as a child, track and field in high school, tennis in college, she had never been one to sit still for yery long. In one brief more appropriate to the state of the state

Next Thinking Pink E-zine on HEALTH coming out 7/2013. Send your submission to Editor@ThinkRedInk.com.

Randy lived life to the fullest. It was one of the things Elaine loved most about him. A very accomplished man, he put himself wholly into whatever he wanted to do. "Most people will never do most of what

Randy has done," thought Elaine. She looked across the room and enjoyed the sight of him reclining, relaxed in his favorite chair. It was good to have him back home after all the weeks in the nursing facility and because the end of the home and he has haplained.

at hearing the dreaded word. "How could Joe have cancer? What is that he is saying? Chemotherapy? Radiation? Six months? NO! NO!" Rosa's put him-to do. out of her mouth. All she could do was

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n't believe



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Words: John H. Sammis

Music: Daniel B. Towner

This song gives a simple, clear explanation of living the Christian life. The title expression was used in a testimony meeting, following an evangelistic crusade in Brockton, Massachusetts, by Dwight L. Moody. A young man stood to speak, and it soon became clear he knew little Christ-ian doc-trine. But he finished by saying, "I'm not quite sure, but I'm going to trust, and I'm going to obey." Daniel Towner, who was in the meeting, jotted down the words, and gave them to John Sammis, who developed the lyrics from them.