

True Saints According To The Bible

'Yes, He loves His people. All His consecrated saints are in Your hand' (Deuteronomy 33:3). 'Let Your saints rejoice in goodness' (2 Chronicles 6:41). 'As for the saints who are on the earth, they are the excellent ones in whom is all My delight' (Psalm 16:3). 'Sing praise to the Lord you saints of His and give thanks to His holy name' (Psalm 30:4). 'Oh love the Lord all you His saints' (Psalm 31:23). 'Oh fear the Lord you His saints' (Psalm 34:9). 'The Lord loves justice and does not forsake His saints' (Psalm 37:28). 'Gather My saints together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice' (Psalm 55:5). 'I will give You thanks forever because You have done it (completed the way of salvation, John 19:30). I will hope in Your name for it is good in the presence of Your saints' (Psalm 52:9). 'I will hear what God will speak for He will speak peace to His people, His saints' (Psalm 85:8). 'You have spoken in a vision to Your saints' (Psalm 89:19). 'God preserves the souls of His saints' (Psalm 97:10). 'They envied God's saints, Moses and Aaron in the camp' (Psalm 106:16). 'Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints' (Psalm 116:15). 'Let Your saints shout for joy ... Your saints will shout aloud for joy' (Psalm 132:9 & 16). 'All Your works will give thanks to You Lord and Your saints will extol You' (Psalm 145:10). 'Praise the Lord. Sing to the Lord a new song and praise in the assembly of the saints' (Psalm 149:1). 'Let the saints rejoice in honour ... All His saints have this honour. Praise the Lord' (Psalm 149:5 & 9).

'God preserves the way of His saints' (Proverbs 2:8). 'The saints of the Most High will receive the Kingdom of God and will possess the Kingdom forever, even forever and ever ... The Ancient of Days came and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High and the time came when the saints possessed the Kingdom of God ... The Kingdom, the dominion and the greatness of the Kingdoms under the whole sky, will be given to the people of the saints of the Most High. His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom and all dominions will serve and obey Him' (Daniel 7:18, 22 & 27). 'The tombs opened and many bodies of the saints who had died were raised and coming out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection, they entered into the holy city (Jerusalem) and appeared to many' (Matthew 27:52 & 53).

The saints, God's holy people mentioned in these above verses were not Catholics because the Catholic Church had not started. They were all righteous Jewish people. The word saint means 'consecrated one' or 'sanctified one'. A consecrated or sanctified person is someone who walks with God and lives according to His will, His statutes, His principles and His directions for life given in the Bible. The word 'saint' was adopted by the Catholic Church to mean a few deceased people from the church considered worthy to be canonised. God does not consider dead Catholics to be saints, He considers every person who genuinely believes in Him and obeys His commands to be His saints. A saint cannot perform miracles after they have died. If they ever performed miracles it would have been while they were alive and serving God. Any genuine Jewish person or Gentile Christian can be regarded as a saint. 'Through Jesus we received grace and apostleship for obedience of faith among all the nations for His name's sake, among whom you are also called to belong to Jesus the Messiah. To all beloved of God, called to be saints, grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus. I thank my God through Jesus for all of you for your faith is proclaimed throughout the whole world' (Romans 1:5 to 8). 'To the assembly of God at Corinth, those who are sanctified in Jesus, called to be saints with all who call on the name of our Lord Jesus in every place' (1 Corinthians 1:2). 'You are no longer strangers and foreigners but you are fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God, being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Himself being the Chief Cornerstone in Whom the whole building, fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord' (Ephesians 2:19 to 21). 'Give thanks to the Father, Who made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in Light' (Colossians 1:12).

We can see by what is written in the Scriptures, the saints were all alive and well and they remain known as saints after they die but they cannot perform miracles. Peter visited Jewish saints at Lydda, then in Joppa Peter raised Tabitha Dorcas (which means 'Gazelle') from the dead then presented her alive and well to the saints (Acts 9:32, 40 & 41). The Holy Spirit makes intercession for the saints of God (Romans 8:27). We are to be hospitable and meet the needs of the saints, serving the saints, giving to the saints who are poor, which is acceptable to the saints (Romans 12:13; 15:25 to 31; 2 Corinthians 8:4; 9:1; 13:13; 1 Timothy 5:10; Hebrews 13:24). We are to receive all believers in the Lord in a way that is worthy of the saints (Romans 16:2 & 15; Ephesians 1:1). We are never to hold a grudge against a saint nor are we allowed to go to court against a saint because it would mean standing before an unrighteous judge when it is the saints who will be given the task of judging the ungodly in the world (1 Corinthians 6:1 & 2). It is the saints who sit in the assemblies/churches (1 Corinthians 14:33) and dead people cannot attend church. Financial collections are for the saints (1 Corinthians 16:1). The early church set themselves up to serve the saints who were missionaries (1 Corinthians 16:15). The initial church was called 'The Way' (Acts 19:23) but later on it was called the Assembly of God (2 Corinthians 1:1). We are to love the saints (Ephesians 1:15; Colossians 1:4; Philemon 1:5 & 7). All of God's saints will have a rich and glorious inheritance because we have been enlightened to the truth and we enjoy the hope of His calling (Ephesians 1:18). All saints, including sincere

Jews and Gentiles are saved and strengthened only by the grace and riches of God (Ephesians 3:8 & 18). God gave all saints various Spiritual gifts for the perfecting of the saints, to serve, build up the Body of Jesus until we all attain unity of faith and the full knowledge of the Son of God (Ephesians 4:11 to 13). Saints enjoy peace (Colossians 1:2).

'The mystery of God has been hidden for ages and generations but now it has been revealed to His saints (at the time Jesus was alive and after His death and resurrection) to whom God was pleased to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Jesus the Messiah in you, the hope of glory' (Colossians 1:26 & 27). 'To the end He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints' (1 Thessalonians 3:13). 'When He comes to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who have believed (because our testimony to you was believed) in that day (the day Jesus returns to earth)' (2 Thessalonians 1:10). 'God will not forget your work and the labour of love which you showed toward His name, when you served the saints and still do serve them' (Hebrews 6:10). 'Beloved, while I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I was constrained to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once and for all delivered to the saints' (Jude 1:3).

Saints have many roles to fulfil as we all grow in God and serve Him in various ways. The Book of Revelation reveals one role of saints is as intercessors. 'Then He (the Lamb) came and He took the Book of Seven Seals (verse 5) out of the right hand of God Who sat on the throne. When He had taken the Book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one having a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints' ... 'Another holy angel came and stood over the altar, having a golden censer. Much incense was given to Him so He could add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar, which was before the throne. The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints went up before God out of the holy angel's hand' (Revelation 5:7 & 8; 8:3 & 4).

The following verses reveal the righteous judgement of saints. They will not to be called to account as the unsaved are, but to receive eternal rewards for faithful service. Then it is revealed what some saints will go through before the Judgement of the Righteous. 'The time came for the dead to be judged and to give Your bondservants the prophets their (eternal) reward, as well as to the saints and those who fear Your name, to the small and the great' (Revelation 11:18). 'The devil was given permission to make war with God's saints and to overcome them. Authority over every tribe, people, language and nation was given to him ... If anyone has a (Spiritual) ear, let them hear (understand fully). If anyone has captivity, he will go into captivity. If anyone is with the sword, he will be killed. Here is the need for endurance and the faith of the saints ... Here is the need for patience of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus' (Revelation 13:7, 9 & 10; 14:12).

After all these events are over, the saints and all righteous people who walked with God and endured to the end will receive the Crown of Righteousness, which will be given to all of those who have loved and embraced the appearing of Jesus Who brought righteousness, hope and salvation to the world. 'Be sober (calm, sensible) in all things, suffer hardship, do the work of an evangelist and fulfil your ministry. I (Apostle Paul) am already being offered (as a sacrifice) and the time of my departure (release from this life) has come. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the course. I have kept the faith. From now on there is stored up for me the Crown of Righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge will give to me on Judgement Day, and not to me only but to all of those who have loved His appearing' (2 Timothy 4:5 to 8).

Amen and God bless you.

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