


Air Time Saturday, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. CT Call In (877) 548-3675 [iTunes](#) [RSS](#) [CD/MP3](#)



Julie Roys

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June 03, 2017

Does Saving Faith Require Works?

Scripture says we are saved by grace through faith. But what is faith? And does saving faith require works? This Saturday on *Up for Debate*, Julie Roys will wrestle with faith, works and the gospel with two eminent theologians. Joining her will be Theology Professor Matthew Bates who says saving faith requires works and Bob Wilkin, of the Grace Evangelical Society, who says saving faith is not dependent on works.

[▶ LISTEN](#)

Listen to the debate at www.upfordebate.org

Moody Radio Network Debate with Dr. Matthew Bates June 3

Dr. Matthew Bates is author of a book called *Salvation by Allegiance Alone*. You can hear the debate by typing in "Up for Debate Radio Program" in your internet browser and then go back to the June 3 broadcast.

My overall reaction to the debate is that the issue of what a person must do to be born again was made clear. Bates argued that what is required is "embodied action." When I asked what that was, he said it was living out the Sermon on the Mount. Near the end of the debate he said, "Paul is very clear that we are going to be saved by works" (go to 42:54-58). He went on to talk about Rom 2:6-11. (When I had my turn I explained that Paul was speaking hypothetically there and in Rom 2:13 as Rom 3:21-26 shows.)

On the other hand, I showed that the sole requirement is faith in Christ for the life which He

promises, everlasting life. I suggested that verses like John 3:16; 11:25-27; and 20:30-31 are very clear on this point.

It was very hard in this debate to decide what to comment on and what to let go. There was so much I wanted to say and so little time.

I am very thankful to the Lord, host Julie Roys, Moody Radio Network, and Matthew Bates, for this opportunity.

I'd appreciate your prayers for the fruit of this program in the lives of the listeners.

Victor Street Bible Chapel Dallas, TX June 18

On this day we finished our journey through Second Peter. Since I preach once a month at Victor Street, it takes a while to go through even a short book like Second Peter. This series started in October of last year. Eight sermons covered the three chapters.

We covered the last five verses of the book,

2 Pet 3:14-18. Peter urges his readers, and us, to be faithful, to remain steadfast, until Christ returns. He warns against the possibility of falling. He urges continued growth. And he mentions Paul's epistles and calls them Scripture!

The manuscript of this message was published as a blog on June 20th. You can also listen to it from the blog since there is a hyperlink.

During the Lord's Supper we discussed Rev 21:22-22:5. We discussed the beauty of the New Jerusalem, the water of life, and the tree of life.



Bob with Sheilah and Leon Adkins

Berean Memorial Church Irving, TX June 25

Pastor Leon Adkins asked me to speak on one of my favorite passages, James 2:14-17. I titled the message, "Faith Without Works Is Dead (Unprofitable)."

I've probably spoken on this passage a few dozen times, but this time I changed things up and I think the message connected better with the audience.

The key is the question found at the start of verse 14 and the end of verse 16: "What does it profit?" Faith without works does not profit. Saying without doing does not profit (Jas 2:12, 14, 16). You must bless others to be blessed by God. If you leave others in their suffering, then you will reap suffering.

If you'd like to read or hear the message, go to our website and check out the blog from June 28.

Twelve Texts That Crush Calvinism

I've been working on this book for years. But it is finally taking shape. I'm starting to feel it might be ready

to go to print in the next few months. Please pray for wisdom in deciding how to edit it and when to release it.

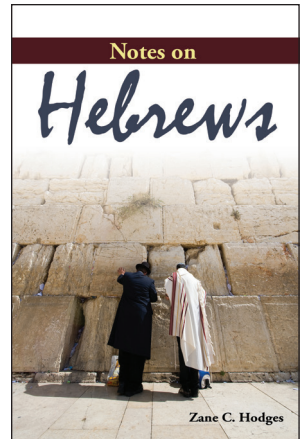
New Books

Shawn's book on election, *Chosen to Serve*, will be released in August.

He's also working on getting three books by Zane done by the summer, including a reprint of *Gospel Under Siege*, and two new books: *1-2 Timothy* and *Notes on Hebrews*.

Ken Yates has started the second draft of his book on *Affliction*.

Shawn is also almost done the first draft of his book, *Zero Pointer: Why I Am Neither Calvinist, Nor Arminian, but Free Grace*.



The Hope Center Lobby

National Conference

Due to a sharp increase in costs, we are looking at moving the GES National Conference to a new venue. We've examined several possibilities, but are currently in negotiations to hold the conference at The Hope Center (thehopecenter.org) in Plano, TX, for March 19-22 or Apr 9-12.

The space, facilities, and surrounding area are nicer than the Riley Center. But there are no hotel rooms for people to stay in on-site. Instead, there are several super hotels 1 to 4 miles away, with "preferred" Hope Center rates. We will be visiting these next week, to determine which hotels to recommend.

As soon as the contract is signed, we will alert everyone by Facebook, Blog, Email, and letter.