

*How many good deeds do you need to do for God to improve your life?*

Jews are promised a land blessing (Ac 7:5; He 11:9) whereas Christians are promised a spiritual blessing (Lk 24:49). The Lord will meet the believer's needs (Jn 6:68).

After justification one's life may become *more* difficult not less so (Ac 5:41).

While false teachers claim that that one can have his best life now (2 Pe 2:1), the scriptures say, "count the cost" (Lk 14:28–30) and "difficult is the way" (Mt 7:13-14). Christians suffer (Ac 5:41) and have trials (1 Pe 1:6–8) but their lives will be victorious (Ro 8:37–39).

The unregenerate cannot please God (Ro 8:7-9) but one who has yielded his life to the Holy Spirit can do a good work (Is 19:25). Believers are created (Eph 2:10), prepared (2 Tim. 2:21) and equipped for such works (2 Ti 3:17). They will be rewarded (1 Co 3:13–15) at the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Co 5:10).

The Bible teaches that betterment is expressed by growth (1 Pe 2:2) addition (2 Pe 1:5–11) and pressing on (Phil 3:13–15) in the faith.

Christians can overcome: sorrow (Jn 16:22–24; 1 Thess 4:13–18), the world (Jn 16:33; 1 Jn 5:4, 5), transgressions (Ro 6:6–7, 11–18; Ro 8:1–4; Eph 2:5, 6; 1 John 5:4, 5) and difficult circumstances (Ro 8:37; Phil 4:11–13). They are always (2 Co 2:14) and forever (1 Co 15:54) triumphant.