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All words spoken by Jesus Christ are in **red text**.

God resists those who think they are worthy; but He makes worthy those who think they are not.

By fully exploring the different facets of the word “worthy,” we will gain a unique insight into the various subliminal influences of human-defined worthiness in our lives, why we sometimes do what we do—and most important, it will create a greater appreciation of our salvation.

There are three perceptions of worthy to consider: what others proclaim is worthy, what we think is worthy, and what God defines as worthy. In addition, we will discover there is a significant difference between the human definition of worthy, and the spiritual definition of worthy—because one is based upon lies, and the other is based upon truth.

The human definition of worthy may be defined as one who’s action or behavior:

- Meets or exceeds a human-defined standard.
- Is entitled to recognition, respect and admiration for what they have accomplished.



For example, when a person competes in the Olympics, and they perform better than all they compete against (the human-defined standard), they are entitled to a gold medal. They are not only worthy of the award, they are also entitled to acceptance, recognition, respect and admiration for their hard work and success.

Additional examples of human-defined worthiness include:

- Achieving “benchmarks” in life defined by our parents, family members, or friends, such as:
  - Earning a degree.
  - Being married and having children.
  - Employed via a type of job or profession.
  - Attainment of an economic status (wealth, possessions, etc.).
- Experiencing life portrayed by advertising, movies, television, magazines, Internet, and so forth:
  - Possessing attributes that are depicted as beautiful (face, hair, body, etc.).
  - Receiving recognition, admiration, respect, envy, or a sexual response based upon what we wear, own, drive, do for a living, or achieve.
- Behavioral compliance with cultural or social group guidelines.

However, some of these standards are unattainable, and many fall short—which may cause conflict, turmoil, frustrations within the heart and soul—and even low self-esteem (which delights Satan).

Here are additional points to consider:

- Whether or not one is entitled of being worthy of fulfilling a human-defined standard is usually based upon another person’s approval and affirmation. Although we may perceive “we have arrived,” we are still dependent upon others to confirm our attainment of the defined standards.
- All human-defined worthiness:
  - Falls short of God’s standards.
  - Does not fulfill the spiritual needs God designed within each of us.
- Those who are driven by human-defined standards of worthiness are slaves to delusional lies.
- Those who consider themselves worthy based upon their own merits are bolstered by pride. For [“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” James 4:6](#)

From a personal perspective of “worthy,” it is a good thing for every Christian to pray and seek understanding as to the source of their perceived worthiness: human-defined or God-defined. Some may find they are misguided by subliminally driven concepts of worthiness that are not based upon truths.

King Solomon, who built the first Temple in Jerusalem, is considered the wisest earthly king who has ever lived. The source of his wisdom is revealed in the third chapter of 1 Kings. [“The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask! What shall I give you?” 1 Kings 3:5](#)

Now...before we go further...take a moment and mentally put yourself into Solomon’s situation and consider how would you respond to God if He asked “What shall I give you?” What would be the first thing you would you ask for? It’s safe to say all persons would likely ask for an increase of something in their life. As such, what would be your desired increase? Think about your answer before continuing.

Solomon asked God for something most persons would not ask for: increased wisdom. God not only gave Solomon what he requested, God also gave him that which he did not ask for (and what most would request): riches and honor (1 Kings 3:11-13).

Solomon looked closely at those earthly things that motivate human life, and determined the masses (including himself) were misdirected by lies. [“I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and indeed, all is vanity and grasping for the wind.” Ecclesiastes 1:14](#)

Vanity in Hebrew means “breeze,” “breath,” or “vapor” and is translated as “meaningless,” “futility,” and “pointless.” In other words, earthly things that serve as a motivating influence to improve one’s position in life is useless. Although one may achieve something that seems worthy, the benefits derived will quickly vanish as a vapor of ungraspable air—because lies are comprised of delusional intangibles. What is perceived as attainable and enjoyable will soon disappear after we cross the “finish line.” This truth encompasses sin, and human attempts to define and seek after what is considered worthy.

Jesus said, [“For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?” Matthew 16:26](#)

God’s standard of worthiness was revealed by the life of His Son, Jesus Christ. Any person who comes short of Christ’s example will fail to achieve God’s expectation of absolute perfection—which is every person who has ever lived—including you and me!

Therefore, think deeply about the following question. How many persons who make it to Heaven are worthy of being there? Take time to consider your response before you continue reading because there is more than one correct answer.

In truth, no one who makes it to Heaven is worthy of being there. On the other hand, everyone who makes it to Heaven is worthy of being there. From an earthly perspective, not one person is worthy because of their sin. [“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” \(Romans 3:23\)](#). However, because we believe God gave His Son as a sacrifice for our sins, we are considered sinless and righteous in the eyes of God—and worthy of entrance into Heaven. [“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16](#)

However, those who consider themselves worthy to enter into Heaven—based upon their own merits—are influenced by a darkened lie and are bolstered by pride. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9) But the humble hearts of those who realize the reality and truth of their unworthiness are more open to receive God’s grace, mercy and salvation through His Son. For “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” (James 4:6)

In Luke, chapter 7 versus 1-10, we read of a Gentile (a “centurion” who was most likely a Roman military officer) who pleaded for Jesus to come and heal one of his servants. The centurion said he did not consider himself worthy to come to Him, nor worthy to have Him enter into his home. As such, his request was for Jesus to simply make a command for his servant’s healing, and he knew his servant would be healed. He recognized his unworthiness and expressed his faith in Jesus. Jesus said in response to the centurion’s request “I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!” When they entered the home to check on the servant, they discovered he was healed.

Of all the persons who have ever walked on earth, there is only one who attained God’s standard of worthiness. All others who proclaim some form of deity did not (and will not) meet God’s standard. The worthiness of Jesus Christ is clearly defined in Revelation chapter 5—for during the last days there is only one who is able to loosen the seals, open the scroll and look at it.

“And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, ‘Who is **worthy** to open the scroll and to loose its seals?’ And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. So I wept much, because no one was found **worthy** to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. But one of the elders said to me, ‘Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.’ And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are **worthy** to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.’ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: ‘**Worthy** is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!’ And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: ‘Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!’ Then the four living creatures said, ‘Amen!’ And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.” Revelation Chapter 5

“For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.” Colossians 1:19-20

Throughout time—from the beginning to the end—there is only one who is worthy: Jesus Christ, the sacrificial Lamb of God who paid the price for our sins and made us worthy of our eternal inheritance.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” 1 Peter 1:3-5



Those who perceive they are unworthy; those who feel rejected by others; those who perceive themselves as a second- or third-class citizen; and those who have low self-esteem...you are loved far beyond anything you are able to comprehend! Disengage your mind, heart and soul from the lies the world propagates; realize only God can fill the empty void within you; and elevate your eyes into the spiritual realm where truth resides.

Jesus said, “For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God.” John 16:27

Jesus said, “Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.” Matthew 10:29-31

“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.” 1 John 3:1-3

Christians will develop an accurate spiritual perception of self-worth as they:

- Recognize the futility of worthiness defined by humans.
- Grow and mature in their relationship with God.
- Embrace God’s love because of the price He paid for us through the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ.
- Realize their conversion from sinful death to spiritual life did not occur at their own volition.

Jesus said, “You did not choose Me, but I chose you.” John 15:16

“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—that, as it is written, ‘He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.’” 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

“Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient.” 2 Corinthians 3:5

Our worth is not based upon the delusional opinion of others; but rather, our spiritual worthiness is because of our faith in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and because of the unchanging and everlasting opinion of God. “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” 2 Corinthians 5:21

The link below will show a wonderful YouTube video of Hillsong Worship singing “Worthy is the Lamb.”  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-cd5prE4f0&ab\\_channel=HillsongWorship](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-cd5prE4f0&ab_channel=HillsongWorship)

I pray “That you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.” 1 Thessalonians 2:12

God Bless You!  
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