



# ZWTF

Zapping You Whenever Thoughts Flow

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## Spitting into the face of Christ's free gift.

Ironically, Christians reject the "free gift" of Christ.



**W**e all know people to whom we have tried to give money, but they are too stubborn and proud to take it. Not many things in life are more irritating or insulting. God gives you a heart to help someone, but the would-be recipient simply does not know how to accept a gift. He or she apparently does not realize that

it is more blessed to give than to receive. Not only are these proud people immune to gratuity (they think they have to earn everything), but they rob the giver of a blessing. Rudeness is mistaken for nobility, and the chief culprit is pride.

Think of this in terms of Jesus Christ's singular and inimitable act of sacrifice for humanity. Irrespective of the worthiness of His beneficiaries, Christ conquered sin and death for all. In fact, Paul writes in 1 Timothy 1:15 that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Those who realize their utter unworthiness (these are acknowledged sinners) accept the gift. Then there are Christians.

Christians simply cannot accept the free gift of salvation. This is so ironic because it is Christians who insist to the world that, in order to be saved, one must "accept the free gift of salvation." If this is the criteria for salvation, the Christians themselves are not saved. Why? Because they cannot accept the free gift.

Christians have constructed a twisted world in which their "acceptance" of "the free gift of salvation" is a work (though they don't call it that) that activates the salvation. Without the acceptance of the gift, there is no salvation. (This

is standard Christian doctrine.) We know that "acceptance of the free gift" is a work because, without the acceptance, salvation not only doesn't happen, one is tormented in hell for eternity. The cross alone—without the acceptance—is unable to save.

In just such a way have Christians negated the true freeness of the gift of salvation. The insistence that it is their acceptance of the gift (rather than the gift itself) that saves them, is in fact what dooms them to eonian loss. The gift of salvation is unwittingly reduced to an offer that requires human contribution.

What could be more insulting to the Giver of the gift of salvation than this? This spittle tastes worse to Christ than the Roman soldier variety. Christ *did* save sinners, but only self-perceived sinners receive it. Only self-perceived sinners realize that no contribution on their part could "activate" such a magnificent rescue. Simultaneously, there exists a group of people who *say* that they are sinners but who, in their own minds, are anything but; they don't *need* the free gift. *How can such a thing not require our contribution?* think the Christians. (Here is where the gift is rejected.) And so they put up a stiff hand in the face of the Giver and say, "No, but we'll tell you what we're going to do. We're going to assume that salvation can't really be free—I mean, come on, nobody gets anything for nothing—so we insist on doing our part of accepting it. How's that?"

Christ would say, "How dare you. You boldly insult My singular sacrifice." The Christian insistence on acceptance (the acceptance activates the "free gift") is in fact non-acceptance. Because of this non-acceptance, Christians do not have eonian life. They are practical unbelievers. Those who truly see themselves as sinners *do* have eonian life. (Acceptance doesn't ultimately save one; it brings one to an early awareness and experience of salvation, i.e., eonian life.) Those who *say* they are helpless sinners but insist upon a necessary contribution, do not *in fact* see themselves as helpless sinners. How could helpless sinners possibly help themselves?

Christians ought to be damn thankful that there is no such thing as eternal torment for rejectors of Christ. —MZ