

Are Christians Trying to Earn What Jesus Already Paid For?

What if the greatest obstacle keeping Christians from walking in God's power is not a lack of faith, but a deeply rooted belief that we must earn what Jesus has already provided?

Andrew Wommack says that deception has quietly worked its way through much of the church.

"I'd say 70, 80% of the body of Christ is still under that deception," Wommack said during a recent Daystar interview.

Wommack knows the burden of performance firsthand. As a young Christian, he believed enough prayer, Bible study and righteous living would compel God to answer him. When his father died shortly after Wommack turned 12, he blamed himself.

"If I'd have done more, then I could have kept him from dying," Wommack recalled.

That guilt placed him on what he called a "treadmill," constantly striving to become good enough for God. Everything changed when Wommack experienced the holiness of God and saw his own righteousness as worthless by comparison. He repented and braced himself for rejection.

It never came.

"Instead of rejection, it was just pure love," Wommack said. "It totally changed my life."

The encounter dismantled his understanding of how believers relate to God.

"In the New Testament, you relate to God based on what Jesus did, not what you do," he said.



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Faith Is Not the Only Force at Work

Wommack believes many Christians have faith but are unknowingly allowing unbelief to pull against it. We hear the promises of Scripture, but we also hear diagnoses, grim expectations and voices telling us why the impossible cannot happen.

"It's not your faith that's the problem," Wommack said. "It's the fact that we have this unbelief counterbalancing and negating our faith."

His message is not one of passive hope. Wommack said Jesus commanded believers to confront the obstacles before them with spiritual authority.

"You told me to speak to the mountain, not to talk to You about my mountain," he said. "So you take your authority, you speak to it."

Wommack pointed to the day his son was pronounced dead as the most personal example of that conviction. His son had reportedly been dead for approximately four-and-a-half hours and was lying in a morgue when Wommack and his wife prayed.

"We just prayed, and he sat up and started talking," Wommack said. "It was a miracle."

For anyone weary from fighting sickness or waiting for a breakthrough, Wommack brought the message back to its foundation: the Father's love.

"God wants you well, more than you want to be well," he said. "If you could really understand how much He loves you, then I guarantee you, your faith would rise up."

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a journalism background from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and at the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of *The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man's Commentary* and a contributor to Charisma magazine. For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@.