# Lesson 11: By Faith, Not By Works

## Memory work

### 61. Q. Why do you say that you are righteous only by faith?

*A. Not that I am acceptable to God on account*

*of the worthiness of my faith,*

*for only the satisfaction, righteousness, and*

*holiness of Christ*

*is my righteousness before God.*

*I can receive this righteousness and make it my*

*own by faith only.*

*Not that God accepts me*

*because of the quality of my faith*

*Christ has done it all for me.*

*I can receive all this only by faith*

### 62. Q. But why can our good works not be our righteousness before God, or at least a part of it?

*A. Because the righteousness which can stand*

*before God’s judgment*

*must be absolutely perfect*

*and in complete agreement with the law*

*of God,*

*whereas even our best works in this life are*

*all imperfect and defiled with sin.Because for God to be good with us*

*Our works must be perfect*

*While even our best works are imperfect*

### 63. Q. But do our good works earn nothing, even though God promises to reward them in this life and the next?

*A. This reward is not earned; it is a gift of grace.*

### 64. Q. Does this teaching not make people careless and wicked?

*A. No. It is impossible*

*that those grafted into Christ by true faith*

*should not bring forth fruits of thankfulness.*

## Homework

1.(4) Look up Canons of Dort III/IV rejection of errors 6. According to Arminians, what is faith not and what is it?

Faith is not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

But faith is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2.(2) Now read CoD III/IV article 12. Which sentence below best describes the Calvinist position?

O Faith is not an act of man but purely a gift from God.

O Faith is partly a gift from God and partly an act of man.

O Faith is a gift from God which causes man to act himself.

3.(4) Do you think you would be a better Christian if God rewarded your good works? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Give reasons for your response. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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