

Guilty of split trust?



Change your mind!

(ILLUSTRATION – A true story) **The Great Charles Blondin** was a French tightrope walker who performed in the circus. In 1860, he stretched a tightrope across the **Niagara Falls**. It was 1000 feet long and 160 feet above the water. A large crowd gathered to watch Blondin make this courageous attempt to cross the rope. As the water raged below, Blondin successfully made his way across. The crowd cheered! Then Blondin took a small wooden wheelbarrow (which you can see today in the Niagara Museum), and wheeled it safely across. The crowd cheered again! Blondin pointed to one man and asked, “You, sir! Do you believe that I could put a man in this wheelbarrow and wheel him safely across?” “Yes, I believe it,” he answered. “Then get in,” Mr. Blondin challenged. He cried, “No way!” He was afraid. He was not willing to get in. Blondin did convince another man to get into the wheelbarrow, and they did successfully cross the rope.

What do you think it took for that man to get into the wheelbarrow? Trust, faith, belief...yes, it required a **complete dependence** upon Blondin. Well, the decision to believe in Jesus as your personal Savior is similar. Will **you** “get into the wheelbarrow” and trust Jesus to get **you** all the way to heaven? Now suppose that the man getting into the wheelbarrow said in his mind, “Oh, I feel bad that Mr. Blondin is doing all the work. I think that I will help.” What do you think would happen if he tried to put his big toe out of the wheelbarrow onto the rope in order to help? (Wait for answer.) Yes, both he and Blondin probably would be plunged into the raging water below. This is called **split trust**. If you are trusting in Jesus **plus** your good works to get to heaven, you are guilty of **split trust** and you are not saved! You must **change your mind** about thinking that the good things you do will help you get to heaven! The Bible says, “*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us*” (Titus 3:5a); “*The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from **all** sin*” (1 John 1:7b); and “*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God, that ye may **know** that ye have eternal life*” (1 John 5:13). Why not make that **important decision** to place your **complete dependence** upon Jesus to forgive **you** of all your sin, to make **you** a child of God, and to get **you** all the way to heaven?

See John 19:30a, Ephesians 2:8, 9, and Romans 4:4, 5

Salvation is by grace through faith, PLUS NOTHING!