

Questions About Paradise, Deeds, Judgment, Hope, and Certainty

By Pastor Ed Anderson

Assalamu Alaikum. How can I be sure I've done enough to enter Paradise? We believe in the scales of deeds on the Day of Judgment (Surah Al-Qari'ah 101:6–9). However, we here in Bangladesh are curious and drawn to your incredible spirit of hope and certainty. We are tearful just watching you online because our uncertainty is even expressed by our scholars and traditions. Even our prophet Muhammad said "Even I do not know what Allah will do with me." (Sahih al-Bukhari 76:470)

Answer:

Wa Alaikum Assalam, my dear brothers and sisters in Bangladesh,

Your message moves me deeply. I can feel the sincerity, the longing, and the reverence in your hearts. You are asking one of the most profound questions any soul can ask:

"How can I be sure I will enter Paradise?"

This question is not born from pride — it is born from humility. It shows that your hearts desire peace with God, forgiveness of sin, and the certainty of being accepted by Him. Let me share with you the **gospel of Jesus Christ (Isa al-Masih)** — not as an argument, but as an answer of love from the living God who wants you to have *assurance*, not anxiety.

1. The Truth About Our Human Condition

The **Bible** agrees with your concern.

It says that no human being — not prophet, not priest, not scholar — can stand before a perfectly holy God on the merit of good deeds alone.

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

— *Romans 3:23*

We may fill our scales with prayers, fasting, charity, and righteous works — yet sin still tips the balance against us. Even one sin corrupts the perfection that Heaven requires.

2. The Gospel's Astonishing Message

Where religion says, “*Work harder to reach God,*”
the gospel says, “*God came down to reach you.*”

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.”
— *John 3:16*

The word “**gospel**” means *good news*.
The good news is this: **you don’t have to wonder anymore.**
God Himself provided the sacrifice that balances the scales forever.

When **Jesus (Isa al-Masih)** died on the cross, He bore the weight of all human sin. When He rose from the dead, He conquered death and opened the way to eternal life — not by works, but by grace.

3. The Scales Are Settled by His Righteousness

You mentioned *the scales of deeds* (Surah Al-Qari’ah 101:6–9).
In the gospel, those scales are forever tipped in favor of those who belong to Christ — not because of their merit, but because of **His** righteousness.

“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*

Imagine your sins as heavy stones on one side of a scale.
You could spend a lifetime adding good works, but the stones remain.
Now imagine Jesus placing His perfect life and sacrifice on your side of the scale — instantly, it tips fully toward mercy.
That’s what happens when you trust Him.

4. From Fear to Assurance

You wrote that your prophet himself said he was uncertain of his fate (Sahih al-Bukhari 76:470).
But listen to the words of Jesus — full of assurance and peace:

“I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of My hand.”

— *John 10:28*

“These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may **know** that you have eternal life.”

— *1 John 5:13*

Notice that:

Not *hope*, not *try*, not *wonder* — but *know*.

That is the peace you see in the faces of true followers of Jesus — it is not arrogance; it is assurance. Not because we are good, but because **He is enough**.

5. You Don't Earn Paradise — You Receive It

The Bible says:

“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*

Think of it this way:

In Islam, you must work to *earn* salvation.

In Christ, salvation is a *gift* already paid for — you only need to receive it with a sincere heart.

You can know peace today — not when the scales are weighed, but now.

6. The God Who Knows You by Name

My brothers and sisters, the God who created you does not want you to live in fear of uncertainty.

He wants you to be **His sons and daughters**, not slaves trembling before judgment.

“You did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption. And by Him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’”

— *Romans 8:15*

This is the peace that fills our hearts — not the peace of having done enough, but the peace of knowing we are loved enough.

7. An Invitation From the Heart of God

You asked a question that has been asked for centuries by men and women who long for peace:

“How can I be sure?”

Here is the answer Jesus gives you today:

“Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

— *Matthew 11:28*

No more fear.

No more uncertainty.

No more striving to balance scales that can never be balanced.

Through Jesus Christ, you can know God personally, experience His forgiveness, and rest in the certainty of His love.

A Prayer You Can Pray

“Lord Jesus,

I have tried to be good, but I still feel empty and afraid.

I believe You died for my sins and rose again.

I ask You to forgive me, wash me clean, and fill me with Your peace.

I give my life to You — not my deeds, but my heart.

Thank You for loving me before I even sought You. Amen.”

Final Truth

You don’t have to fear the scales anymore.

The Judge Himself — **Jesus Christ** — has already taken your punishment and offers you His righteousness.

Now, instead of wondering, you can say:

“I know that my Redeemer lives.” — *Job 19:25*

And that, dear friends, is the **gospel of assurance**,

the **peace of Isa al-Masih**,

and the **love of the one true God**,

who came not to condemn the world, but to save it.

