Are You A Saint?

According to Google…
“Hint: This is bad doctrine.”

All Saints' Day is a major Christian celebration honored on November 1 in Western Christianity. It commemorates all known and unknown saints who have attained heaven, serving as a core part of the Allhallowtide triduum that includes Halloween (All Hallows' Eve) on October 31 and All Souls' Day on November 2.

Meaning and Significance

• Honoring the Faithful: The day recognizes not only formally canonized saints (such as well-known martyrs and religious figures), but also everyday believers who lived a life of faith.
• Catholic Obligation: In the Roman Catholic Church, All Saints' Day is a Holy Day of Obligation, meaning Catholics are expected to attend Mass.
• Distinction from All Souls' Day: While All Saints' Day (November 1) celebrates those in heaven, All Souls' Day (November 2) is dedicated to praying for all the faithful departed who are still undergoing purification in purgatory.

History

• Origins: Early Christian communities originally honored martyrs individually or on local anniversary dates.
• Date Shift: Pope Boniface IV initially consecrated the Pantheon in Rome to the Virgin Mary and all martyrs in May of the 7th century. Later, in the 8th century, Pope Gregory III moved the celebration to November 1, and Pope Gregory IV made it a universal observance across the Western Church in the 9th century.

What the Bible says in the epistles of our Apostle Paul

The short answer, if you are a believer in the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ as payment for your sins, is "yes." All believers are saints. Paul addressed every one of his letters to believers. He called believers "saints," not "Christians."

Romans 1:7

To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 16:15

Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his sister, and Olympas, **and all the saints which are with them.**

1 Corinthians 1:2

Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, **to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord**, both theirs and ours:

Ephesians 1:1

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, **to the saints which are at Ephesus**, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

Philippians 1:1

Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, **to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi,** with the bishops and deacons:

Colossians 1:2

To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

What most people think of, when they hear about saints, is the process used by the Catholic Church to grant sainthood to a person after that person's death. Saints are supposed to have God's ear when they get to heaven, because to become a saint, there has to be a miracle associated with the person after his/her death. You can imagine that it would be hard to prove!

But, Paul tells us that with God, there is no person—living or dead—who is above, or different from, any other person. That is a man-made distinction.

Romans 2:11
For there is no respect of persons with God.

Ephesians 6:9
And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: **knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him.**

What the Bible Says:
All believers are part of the household of God. We are all members of the Church, the Body of Christ, and together, a holy temple in the Lord.

Ephesians 2:19-22
Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;** In whom all the building fitly framed together

groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

What the Bible Says:
Every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is a servant of God.

1 Corinthians 7:22
For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also **he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant.**

As servants of Christ, all believers are to be gentle, kind, patient, and meek to help unbelievers become saints and save themselves from the devil.

2 Timothy 2:24-26
And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

As saints (servants of Christ, and members of His body,) we have the Holy Ghost in our hearts. Paul tells us that we have the fruit of the Spirit, the Holy Ghost, because He lives in us. All of us have love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.

This fruit is a package deal. (Notice, it is not "fruits.") You cannot have some of the fruit and not the rest. Some believers show these attributes more than others but all believers have them.

Galatians 5:22-25

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

But everyone has sinned and come short of the glory of God. It is by faith in Jesus Christ only, that all believers (not just some that others might consider saints) become righteous.

Romans 3:22-23

Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: **For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**

It is nothing that we do that makes us righteous. It is our faith in Jesus Christ alone that makes us righteous.

Romans 4:5

But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, **his faith is counted for righteousness.**

Paul tells Titus that it is not works of righteousness that saves us, but God's mercy. He continues that those of us who have been saved by God's mercy should be careful to maintain good works. We should maintain good works, not to "keep" our salvation, but because we are saved. It is pleasing to God that we do things that are good and profitable to others.

Titus 3:4-8

But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, **Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;** Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying, and these things **I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works.** These things are good and profitable unto men.

Some churches pray to saints—people who have died and been given sainthood—because they believe those people have a pretty good chance of being in Heaven with our Lord, soon after they die. They want these saints to "put in a good word" for them.

What the Bible Says:

The Bible says that when all believers (saints) die, we are immediately with the Lord. There is

nothing in the Bible about some believers arriving in heaven at a later time-it is immediate.

2 Corinthians 5: 6-8
Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) **We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.**

Saints do the most good while they are alive on the earth. They can spread the Gospel and help others become saints.

What the Bible Says:
We have an intercessor, the highest Intercessor, the Holy Ghost—God Himself—making intercession for us saints! Not only does He take our prayers to God, He prays them according to God's will—something we cannot do—so God can answer every prayer! Paul says, "We know not what we should pray for as we ought."

As you read the following verse, realize that it is we who are doing the groaning, not the Spirit.

The Spirit intercedes for us, even when we are unable to do anything but groan.

Romans 8:26 -27

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of **the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.**

Jesus Christ, who died to save us, also intercedes for us with God! He is seated at the right hand of God so He definitely has constant access to our Heavenly Father.

Romans 8:34

Who is he that condemneth? **It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

Paul tells Timothy that Jesus Christ is the mediator between God and men. Jesus Christ, is

a man, a.k.a., a person. He is qualified to pay the ransom for the rest of us people to reconcile us to God.

1Timothy 2:5-6

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

So far, we have looked at saints referring to members of the Church, the Body of Christ. There can be confusion, because there are times in the Bible where angels are referred to as saints. If you study the passages carefully, you will find them easy to identify.

Jesus told His followers that He would come in glory to sit on His throne and holy angels would come with Him. We know this event as the Second Coming.

Matthew 25:31

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

The Gospels confirm that it is angels who are coming back with Christ for His Second Coming.

Matthew 16:2
For **the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.**

Mark 8:38
Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall **the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.**

Luke 9:26
For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall **the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.**

Jesus told a parable about the Second Coming. He compared it to a harvest, where the angels coming back with Him are the reapers. The angels are charged with pulling the tares, (unbelievers,) from among the good grain,

(believers,) and sending the unbelievers into the furnace of Hell.

Matthew 13:37-42

He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; **and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.**

When Jude describes Jesus' Second Coming, he adds the fact that there are ten thousands of His saints coming with Him. This has caused untold confusion! It is very obviously the Second Coming, but now, the angels are called saints!

Jude 1:14-15

And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, **Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints To execute judgment upon all,** and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

There are some churches who teach their members that because Jude uses the word "saints," it's the Church, the Body of Christ that returns to earth with Christ in His Second Coming! Members of the Church, the Body of Christ are not destined to return with Christ and live in the 1,000 year Kingdom of Heaven on the earth. Our hope is an event called the Adoption or the Rapture.

Romans 8:22-23

For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan

within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

Paul tells us that after the Adoption, we will ever be with the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18
For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and **the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.** Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

We are His Heavenly people, who will be taken to Heaven in the Rapture to forever be with our Lord, at least 7 years (the length of the Tribulation) before the Second Coming!

Another way to help you clarify those identified as saints in different Bible passages, Jesus told His followers that angels do not die.

Luke 20:34-36

And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: **Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels;** and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

So any reference to death, or bodies, in relation to saints, tells us that those saints are people. They can be Old Testament saints, New Testament saints, or saints in the Church, the Body of Christ, but saints are always believers.

Psalms 116:15

Precious in the sight of the LORD **is the death of his saints.**

Matthew talks about the graves that were opened and the bodies of Old Testament believers that were resurrected after Christ was resurrected. These saints are people, because angels do not die and cannot be resurrected.

Matthew 27:52-53

And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

So there is no need for us to pray to saints for their intercession in the hope that they have a faster track to God's ear. We have God Himself (in the form of the Holy Ghost and Jesus Christ) interceding for us, and we know that God cannot deny Himself. Our prayers are always answered in God's perfect will.

2 Timothy 2:10-13

Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him,he also will deny us: **If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.**

You have a direct line to the Creator of the Universe and He has given you 2 Intercessors to make your prayers perfect, so every one of your prayers can be answered, without the intervention of others who have died and gotten to Heaven before you. (Remember, you are already seated in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus.)

Ephesians 2:6
And hath raised us up together, and **made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:**

God promises us that when we make our requests of God with supplication and thanksgiving, we will receive the peace of God in our hearts and in our minds. That is the perfect answer to every prayer!

Philippians 4:6-7
Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. **And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**

Bottom line: You do not have to die to become a saint. Saints are not perfect people. Saints, throughout the Bible, have always been believers whose faith was in God. If you are a believer, then you are a saint, and you don't need anyone else to tell you that.