



Rev

Adult Education Lesson 8

Doing Good Works

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Much of this tract is commentary - don't take it as Gospel. It is here to encourage meditation and study. Use your gift of discernment, to find the truth.

Good Works

This article is the result of discussions as to what constituted a good work.

members thought these were good works:

anything they did that created a feeling that were doing something worthwhile for someone other than themselves or their family:

- Helping a neighbor to do yard work.
- Paying a neighbors electric light bill.
- Running errands for the elderly.

doing something to support the "church" :

- Volunteering for a non-spiritual church activity
- Washing the dishes after a church meeting

not criticizing or judging people for their behaviour.

And everyone thought that doing the good work would "pay off" in this life. Typically "you get back more than you give".

You get the idea. Yet, according to scripture, Jesus did none of these activities, and neither did His disciples.

We have been called to be Jesus's disciple - so, what is it we are supposed to do - according to scripture? What follows are quotations about doing good work, from the disciples (as translated in the KJV). On the facing page is a summary of many of these quotations. You can see that there is much good work to be done by us, and most of it is spiritual.

Jesus said that his disciples must be like this :

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| be poor in spirit; | be kind to brothers; |
| be patient; | be forgiving; |
| hold no grudges; | be knowledgeable of God; |
| be wise in teaching; | be humble; |
| be modest; | be gentle; |
| be discrete; | be mournful; |
| be meek; (no anger) | be merciful; |
| be pure in heart; | be peacemakers; |
| be not rich; | be sober; |
| be moderate; | be not rude; |
| be not proud; | be not pompous; |
| be not irritable; | be godly; |
| be charitable; | have faith; |
| have hope of all things; | believe all things; |
| do the will of God; | persevere to the end; |
| be sincere; | be grave; |
| be obedient; | |

And disciples should:

- Obey the commandments
- Be a peculiar people
- Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.
- Women should raise children
- Women should lodge strangers, and men welcome strangers
- Exhort others to continue in the faith
- Rejoice with others when they discover the truth
- Don't overstay a welcome
- Help others endure temptation

- Eat bread with the brethren, Give the thirsty brethren drink.
- Nurse the sick brethren
- Clothe the naked brethren,
- Visit Brethren in prison
- Feed the hungry brethren.

- Understand the mysteries
- Make Supplication Prayer
- Make Intercessory prayer
- Preach from housetops
- Cast out unclean spirits
- Heal sickness and disease



Good Works

In praise of Good Works

1 Timothy 5:10 “10 Well reported of for **good works**; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints’ feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.”

Titus 2:7-12 “7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of **good works**: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,
8 **Sound speech**, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.
9 **Exhort servants (slaves) to be obedient unto their own masters**, and to please them well in all things; not answering again; {answering...: or, gainsaying}
10 Not purloining, but **shewing all good fidelity**; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.
11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, {hath...: or, to all men, hath appeared}
12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should **live soberly, righteously, and godly**, in this present world;”

Mt 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your **good works**, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Joh 10:32 Jesus answered them, Many **good works** have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those **works** do ye stone me?

Ac 9:36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of **good works** and almsdeeds which she did.

Ro 9:11 (For *the children* being not yet born, neither having done any **good** or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of **works**, but of him that calleth;)

Ro 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to **good works**, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is **good**, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto **good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

1 Ti 2:10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with **good works**.

Good Works

In praise of Good Works

1 Ti 5:25 Likewise also the **good works** *of some* are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

1 Ti 6:18 That they do **good**, that they be rich in **good works**, **ready to distribute, willing to communicate**;

2 Ti 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all **good works**.

Tit 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in **works** they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every **good** work reprobate.

Tit 2:7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of **good works**: in doctrine *shewing* uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of **good works**.

Tit 3:8 *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.

Tit 3:14 And let ours also learn to maintain **good works** for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.

Heb 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to **good works**:

Jas 3:13 Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a **good** conversation his **works** with meekness of wisdom.

1 PE 2:12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* **good works**, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Jas 2:5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

Re 2:9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

Ac 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

1 CO 3:21 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;

Pr 16:19 Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Pr 19:1 Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.

Isa 29:19 The meek also shall increase their joy in the LORD, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

Isa 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Isa 66:2 For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

Zep 3:12 I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD.

Luke 12:22

“22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.”

Luke 14:26

“26 If any man come to me, and “hate” [Be prepared to leave them behind- see 14:33] not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.”

“27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.”

Luke 14:33

“33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.”

Luke 17:3, 4

“3 Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.

4 And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him.”

Luke 17:10

“10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.”

John 3:22

“22 After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.”

John 8:31

“31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;”

Acts 6:2

“2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.”

Doing Theology

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Acts 6:2

“2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.”

Acts 6:4

“4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.”

Acts 9:36

“36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. {Dorcas: or, Doe, or, Roe}”

(1 Th 4:3-6) For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

(1 Th 4:11) And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;

(1 Th 5:6) Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

(1 Th 5:11) Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

(1 Th 5:14-22) Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil.

(2 Th 3:10) For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

(1 Jo 2:15) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Amori Christi et Ecclesiae –

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The Views expressed here are strictly those of the author and probably disagree with what you have previously thought. Read other commentaries - meditate on the original KJV.

Doing Theology

Matthew 8:21, 22

“21 And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. [Aramaic expression meaning: take care of my father until he dies]

22 But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.”

Matthew 9:10

“10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.”

Matthew 9:14

“14 Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not?”

Matthew 10:1

“1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. {against: or, over}”

Matthew 10:27

“27 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops.”

Matthew 10:42

“42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.”

Matthew 13:10, 11

“10 And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?

11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.”

Acts 11:29

“29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea:”

Acts 13:52

“52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.”

Acts 20:7

“7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.”

Recommended Books

Matthew 15:2

“2 Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.”

Matthew 16:24, 25

“24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.”

Matthew 17:20

“20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

Matthew 26:19

“19 And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.”

Matthew 26:35

“35 Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.”

Matthew 28:19

“19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mark 4:34

“34 But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.”

Mt 11:5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Lu 14:15 And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.

Joh 7:49 But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed.

1 CO 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.

2 CO 6:10 As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

2 CO 8:2 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality.

2 CO 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

1 Th 1:6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

Jas 1:9 Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: