



## Good works— (Works of faith)

One thing that is being missed in the body of Christ is encouraging believers to live a godly life or bring forth good works. The Word along with the most vocal and solid grace preacher, Paul, continuously promoted and encouraged the believers to do good works and to maintain them.

Many grace preachers have discouraged good works, one of the reasons being they do not differentiate between the motivation and the root of works of the law and good works (works of faith)

According to Titus 2:11-12 a true revelation of grace will teach us as believers to bring forth good works—live godly. Grace teaches us to bring forth good works or works of faith.

There is a difference between the works of the law (dead works) and the works of faith (good works).

“Works of the law” are those things that we do to earn right standing and justification before God. These are also dead works. They yield neither life nor justification, for it comes only by faith. When we do what we do such as giving, loving others, helping others to appease an “angry God” or to earn favor and His blessings, those acts even though they look “good” on the surface, they are dead works—works of the law.

“Works of faith or good works” are those godly actions that are fruits of our relationship with God. These are not done for justification nor to earn righteousness but are done because we are righteous and justified. Each believer is called to bring forth these kinds of good works.

The fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) = good works. This is what a believer ought to be bringing forth.

Again, good works are not for the reason for justification, nor to earn anything from God. Jesus has already done that. We are justified by faith in Jesus, not by our good works. No matter how good our works are, they cannot justify us or bring us in right standing with God.

- a) Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. (Emphasis mine)
- i) Notice that light is used interchangeably with good works.
  - ii) In the same way, light is seen, so are our good works. Our good works shine and illuminate the way for others.
- b) John 10:32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? (Emphasis mine)
- i) Notice that Jesus also did good works. The good works that Jesus did included miracles.
  - ii) These men wanted to stone Him for good works.
    - Not everyone will like our good works.
- c) 2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (Emphasis mine)
- i) God is willing and able to give us all grace in abundance. This principle can be applied in other areas as well.
  - ii) The context is speaking about giving as a good work, yet it is not the only good work. He (God) always gives us sufficiency in all things so that we can abound to every good work—not just giving alone.
- d) Colossians 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; (Emphasis mine)
- i) We are called to walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing by being fruitful in every good work, not just some or a few.
    - If we are not bringing forth fruit of good works, we are not walking worthy of the Lord, nor is it pleasing unto Him.
  - ii) We are to be fruitful in every good work. Notice that the good works are a fruit of our relationship with God (Romans 6:22).

- e) 1 Timothy 5:10 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. (Emphasis mine)
- i) The context of this verse is talking about widows. It lists the qualifications of the widows who were to receive support from the church.
    - Reported of good works
    - Brought up Children in the fear and admonition of the Lord
    - Lodged and welcomed strangers
    - Washed saint's feet
    - Relieved the afflicted
    - Diligently followed every good work. This is more than good works but diligence in them.
  - ii) The widows must have earned the right to be taken care of by the church.
  - iii) We need to promote and demonstrate good works. They open doors for us.
- f) 2 Timothy 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. (Emphasis mine)
- i) We are to purge ourselves or depart from iniquity to become a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meeting the Master's use.
  - ii) Then only shall we be able to be prepared unto every good work.
  - iii) We are vessel prepared to bring forth good works, not laziness, unfruitfulness, and loose living
    - Living in iniquity is not bringing forth good works
- g) Titus 3:1-2 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. (Emphasis mine)

- i) Some of the examples of every good work include:
  - Speaking evil of no man
  - Not to be brawlers
  - Gentle
  - Meekness
  
- h) Hebrews 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (Emphasis mine)
  - i) God wants to make us perfect (complete) in every good work so we can do His will. Every good work is God's will.
  - ii) God works in us that (good works) which is well pleasing unto Him. We are not on our own. We have help from on high.
  
- i) Ephesians 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. (Emphasis mine)
  - i) We are created in Jesus to bring forth fruit of good works—godliness. Anything other than godliness is not what we were created unto.
  - ii) These works were ordained a head of time that we should walk in them. We ought to walk in good works.
  
- j) 1 Timothy 6:18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; (Emphasis mine)
  - i) This verse was in context speaking to those who are rich in the world.
  - ii) This verse gives us an example of doing good and being ready in good works.
    - Distribution and Willing to communicate. This is referring to being generous and ready to share with others.
  - iii) Giving unto others is a good work.

- k) 2 Timothy 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. (Emphasis mine)
  - i) One of the number one things that the Word of God accomplishes is to make us thoroughly furnished and equipped unto all good works.
- l) Titus 2:7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, (Emphasis mine)
  - i) We are called to show ourselves as a pattern (example, stamp, image or figure) of good works.
- m) Titus 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. (Emphasis mine)
  - i) After we are born again, we ought to be zealous unto good works. This is one of the reasons that Jesus gave Himself for us, redeeming us from all iniquity and purify us unto Himself.
- n) Titus 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. (Emphasis mine)
  - i) They which have believed (believers), in God might be careful to maintain (give earnest attention to) good works.
  - ii) Good works are those things that are good and profitable unto men.
  - iii) Our good works are profitable and beneficial to others. They do not earn us merit, favor, or anything from God because Jesus earned it for us.
- o) Titus 3:14 And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful. (Emphasis mine)

- i) If we do not maintain good works, we will be unfruitful. In other words, our fruit is the good works we bring forth.
  - ii) We can't just bring forth good works. We need to maintain them. We maintain by practicing.
- p) Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: (Emphasis mine)
- i) Provoking is typically seen in a negative way. We can provoke others positively or else the Word would not encourage it. We are to prove each other unto love and good works.
  - ii) Love precedes good works. All our good works should have the love of God before them.
- q) 1 Peter 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. (Emphasis mine)
- i) Our good works are our conversation or conduct. These good works ought, to be honest, especially among the unbelievers. Sometimes our actions are dishonest, although they look good on the surface.
  - ii) Our good works are what others see and they will glorify God as they see our good works.