

# Sermon on the Mount

## Good Works

### Points to Consider

1. Do Good Works
2. Do Good Works for the Right Reason
3. Do Receive God's Reward

### Do Good Works

**Matt 6:1-4** *Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 Therefore, **when you do a charitable deed**, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 3 **But when you do a charitable deed**, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.*

Jesus did not say “If you do a charitable deed.” He said “When you do a charitable deed.” It is not a matter of if, but when.

**Eph 2:8-10** *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

We have been created in Christ Jesus for good works.

**1 Tim 5:9-10** *Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, and not unless she has been the wife of one man, 10 well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.*

In order for a widow to be taken care of by the church she has to have a reputation for good works.

**1 Tim 6:17-19** *Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. 18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.*

Those who are rich in this life are taught to be rich in good works. Being rich in good works includes giving and sharing.

**Titus 2:6-8** *Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, 7 in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, 8*

*sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.*

Young men are to be a **pattern** of good works. We should be examples to others.

**Titus 2:11-14** *For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.*

We are to be **zealous** for good works.

## **Do Good Works for the Right Reasons**

**Matt 6:1** *Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

The wrong reason to do good works is to be seen by **men**.

If our goal is to get glory from men, we will succeed. However, that will be the **limit** to blessings we receive.

**Acts 5:1-11** *But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. 2 And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? 4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." 5 Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things. 6 And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him. 7 ...10 Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband. 11 So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.*

Ananias and Sapphira **conspired** to lie in order to be seen by men. They were seen **dying** because of their lie.

**Matt 6:3-4** *But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.*

We are to do our charitable deeds in **secret** so the Father will reward us openly.

### **The struggle!**

We already noted that widows who were to be taken care of by the church had to have a **reputation** for good works.

**Acts 10:1-3** *There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, 2 a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.*

Cornelius gave alms **generously** to the people.

**Acts 10:22-23** *And they said, "Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you." 23 Then he invited them in and lodged them.*

Cornelius had a good reputation among the **Jews!**

**Acts 9:36-37** *At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did....And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.*

Dorcas was one whose works were **seen** by men, yet brought glory to God.

**Luke 21:1-4** *And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, 2 and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. 3 So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; 4 for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."*

The widow was seen giving her two mites. She had to be seen in order for Jesus to use her as a **positive** example.

## **Do Receive God's Reward**

Dorcas received a **second** life.

Cornelius received the gift of being the **first** Gentile convert.

**2 Cor 9:6-13** *But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ... 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. ... 10 Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, 11 while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. 12 For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God, 13 while, through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men*

God **loves** giving to givers!

For God so loved the world that He **gave** his only Son!

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has promised us "an exceed-  
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## News and Notes

**Sue Perdue** has her second sleep study on September 8<sup>th</sup>. She is also going to the eye doctor in October to see if they can perform surgery on the eye they did not perform the surgery on last year. Keep Sue in your prayers.

**Gail Gilliana's mother** passes away on Tuesday. The funeral services were on Friday. Thanks to all who attended to support the family.

**Kim Wilson** is still recovering from her broken foot.

**Joe Stone**, the father

of one of the Gandy's friends from Texas, is still in the nursing home. They hope he is released to return home this week. He has made dramatic improvements, but they still don't know what caused his health issues.

**Lorene Hutton**, the mother of Shelley's step-dad, is at home under Hospice care. She is in her eighties and is looking forward to going home.

Continue to remember **Linda Tuzinski, Lana Lucas, John Guerra, Harvey's mom, Lora Winland, Bill King,**

**Jim Conn, Retha Claxton, and Gail Gilliana**

**Keep Praying**

**Rusty, Kristin, and Nolan** received news this week that the alleged birth male has gone in for his DNA test. The Copelands must take Nolan on Thursday to see if there is a DNA match.

Continue praying for Kristin's pregnancy.

Eric and Lori Gillins are expecting another baby. Congratulations!

96). Tradition also held that he returned later to Ephesus, where he died some time after Trajan became emperor in A.D. 98.

Stories that John reclaimed a juvenile delinquent, raised a dead man, and opposed the Gnostic heretic Cerinthus survive from this era in his life. It was also the general opinion of the time that from Ephesus John composed the five writings which bear his name in the New Testament (Gospel of John; 1, 2, and 3 John; and Revelation).

Only the Revelation identifies its author as John (1:1,9). The second and third epistles of John identify the author as "the elder" (2 John; 3 John 1). Although 1 John and the Gospel of John do not name their author, he can be none other than "the elder," because style and content in these writings are unmistakably related. It may be, as tradition asserts,

that the apostle John wrote all five documents. It appears more likely, however, that four of the five writings were actually penned not by John the apostle but by John the elder, a disciple and friend of John's who relied directly on the apostle's testimony as he wrote the documents.

This would explain those passages in the gospel which speak about the beloved disciple (who presumably is John the apostle; John 19:35; 21:24), as well as the reference to "the elder" in 2 and 3 John. The Revelation, however, was probably written directly by the apostle John himself.

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