

August, 1995

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Good Works are the Nature of Love

Works of love — the nature of love is to give to the beloved, loving God for His goodness. Your recognition and admiration are expressed in the gift of yourself in doing good works in obedience to Him (Jn 14:15,21-24), however costly (Mk 14:3-6; Eph 2:10; Acts 23:1; 1 Tim 1:5,19; Heb 13:18; 1 Pet 3:16,21; as Barnabas, Acts 11:24; James 2:14; 2 Tim 3:16; 1 Ths 1:3; Heb 6:10; Rom 12:1; 1 Cor 10:31; 6:20; Mt 5:16; 22:36-40; 1 Pet 2:12; Rom 13:8-10).

It is required for disciples who have been chosen for salvation (that is, they appreciate their salvation) to have an overriding desire to serve by the grace He supplies (1 Pet 4:11). That is a countermand — disregard for their own flesh, which overrules all opposition, no matter what it may be (Lk 12:49-52), or annuls all other desires so as to have zeal for His House, so it may be built (Eph 4:16; 12:10; Titus 2:14). Eph 4:12 is how the house is built according to the goals (Mt 21:43; 24:14), by which action all of the chosen ones are made ready and fit, and worthy of Him (Rev 19:7-8) — that is, to rule with Him for 1,000 years in the next age.

This fitness is determined on the basis of good works versus bad works (2 Cor 5:10), and according to the motive behind the works (1 Cor 4:5) — whether the works ironed out all the wrinkles and removed all the stains from the wedding garment (Col 1:10; Mt 7:21-23). The good works in Eph 2:10, which we are saved to do (Mt 1:21), must be done in accordance with the anointing of the Spirit of truth (1 Jn 2:20,27) in order to be prepared for Him (1 Jn 2:28). That means the good works must be done in zeal for His house (Titus 2:14 — as Col 1:10 says), and according to the right standard of understanding the word of God as our instruction book (Gal 5:19-21) — what the workings of the flesh are, and the works of the Spirit (verses 22 & 23). So all good works are done in accord with the Spirit and the Body. We are baptized into the Body (1 Cor 12:13; Gal 3:27).

2 Tim 3:16 is the word of God, but must be understood and obeyed according to the workings of the Spirit in the Body, and from the right motivation (1 Ths 1:3; Heb 6:10; Rom 12:1).

Rom 12:1 is the standard by which all will be judged. If one does not actually give his body as a sacrifice to do His will, he is not conscious of God and of His redeeming love for him. Rom 12:1 is the only way one can work according to the Spirit, and only if one does this, will his works be judged good (2 Cor 5:16); only then can he or she walk in love (or Col 1:10-14; Jn 3:16; Rom 12:1). Mt 10:38 — worthy — Rev 3:4 - 19:7,8.

All works must be done according to the standard of the word (2 Tim 3:16). We can call this Biblical Law with right motive and with right appreciation and gratitude for redemption, and with the right aim (Phil 3:12,14), and this for His glory (1 Pet 4:11; 1 Cor 10:31; 6:20; Mat 5:16).

Love for God takes the form of works, deeds (1 Jn 3:18-20; James 2:14; Rom 13:8-10). Good works, then, are works of love, and the nature of love is to give to the one loved. Love to God is expressed in the gift of personal devotion, however costly. This is the gospel of salvation and the gospel of the Kingdom (Mt 10:37-38; Col 1:10; 2 Ths 2:13-15). There is no salvation except by obeying the gospel and no entry into the next age without obedience to His anointing (1 Jn 2:27-28).

Love for your brothers is expressed in laying down your life for them in good works, doing them good (1 Jn 3:17-24). There is no way one really knows that Jn 5:24 is real except by 1 Jn 3:14, for God's Spirit will not reveal Himself without us loving as Messiah Himself loved (Jn 14:21). Jn 13:34 — If you know, then all men will also know (Jn 13:35), for God's Spirit knows all things (1 Jn 3:18-20). And you have confidence, peace, assurance, understanding, revelation, and all that Jn 14:21 means to one who loves and obeys Him. Gal 6:9-10 — Good works means love for your brothers and for all men (Mt 14:3-6; 26:13). The whole basis of the gospel is pouring out one's life for others you love, as God did for those He loved in Messiah (Jn 13:34; 15:12).

The witness is Isa 43:12. Mt 24:14 — The end will not come until Isa 43:12 is fulfilled, for this is the witness of His Kingdom.

The gospel tells all men that salvation is costly, and to have salvation is costly (Mt 10:37-38; Mk 8:34-35). So, who will be ashamed of Him (verse 38) if they are truly saved? Mt 2:21 — How can they do good works? (2 Cor 5:10).

The nature of love is expressed in good works. The nature of God's love for us was expressed in His good work for us (Rom 5:8-9).

Nature is the essential qualities, as Gal 5:22,23 is the nature of God's Spirit being expressed through people who are filled with His Spirit. Now we know what His nature is like. Isa 43:12 — We are His witnesses that He is Divine Nature.

Nature: attributes, character, features, make-up, quality, traits, description, disposition as Jn 14:7. Gal 5:22-23 can only be expressed by Gal 5:24, lest verse 26 be expressed by verses 19-21, so verse 25 we must be doing if we are truly His witnesses that He is: I AM GOD (verse 13; Isa 41:4; 37:16; Dt 32:39).

God's very nature, His essence of His very being (Heb 1:3), is revealed to the earth (Isa 49:6), bearing the fruit of the kingdom (Mt 21:43; 24:14), which reveals the very nature of God, without which the world cannot believe (Jn 17:23). Jn 13:35 — He is revealed through love (Rom 5:5). So how can one who belongs to Messiah love the world and the things of the world? (1 Jn 2:15).

Eph 3:10 — By the witness of His Kingdom we reveal who God is, how God is, what God is — His disposition, His temperament, His attributes, character, complexion, constitution, features, and make-up (Eph 3:16-21 by Eph 3:10,11; 4:11-16; 4:1-7; Col 1:16-18;1:26-27).

1 Jn 3:16 — Love is expressed. The word simply means that if we comprehend His love for us, we should love in the same way, expressing His love to others. But if we do not know His love, we will not be able to pretend the love that lays down its life. Laying down one's life and resources for others (verse 17) in every way possible, seeking their welfare (Rom 12:9-13; Acts 4:34; 2:44) — this was no poor relief system of government — it was love from a pure heart (Ps 34:14; 37:3,27-28). God can have no poor witnesses in the Kingdom. Each person at the judgment seat must be judged worthy of the Kingdom as to how he gave glory to Messiah his

Redeemer, gave witness that He is God and worthy to be praised with only total surrender and devotion of their lives, without any shame of Him in them, thereby bringing to the end the false witness of Him (Rev 17; 18:23; 19:2-3), and then the end of the age.