

BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED – SAVED TO DO GOOD WORKS (II)!



**** GOOD WORKS ARE IMPORTANT ****



Why?

(A) *Because it answers our calling!*

Why were we saved? Why were we called out of darkness? Why were we born again, as new creatures?

Ephesians 2:10 ~*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

We are saved and called to a life of "Good Works". That is what we are meant to do while here on earth.

(B) *Because it helps to strengthen our assurance!*

Good Works are the evidences of a living faith. **Good Works** are the fruits of sanctification, having their roots in regeneration. A new creature in Christ will start to do **Good Works** for Christ. A Christian, by doing **Good Works**, actually strengthens his assurance of salvation.

Good Works do not strengthen assurance because they build up our merit before God. Rather, **Good Works** are like mirrors. They reflect, they make visible to our eyes the faith that lives in our heart. Many struggle with assurance because they allow their faith to be weak and inactive. What they need is not self-examination and more self-examination, but to rest in Christ and then in gratitude, put faith to work, start to do good works.

(C) **Because it glories God, edifies the brethren and silences the enemies!**

Our **Good Works** can bring men to give praise to God. **Matthew 5:16** ~ *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*



As a Christian, nothing is more important than that God, our God, be glorified. Nothing is more pleasing to us than that people are praising our God. And the Bible tells us plainly that men will do so as we engage in **Good Works**.

What we do will affect our brothers and sisters. They will either be encouraged or be discouraged. Our good works can actually spur others to do good works. Zeal can stir up greater zeal and devotion can actually motivate greater devotion.



2 Corinthians 9:2 is an example of this ~ *for I know your willingness, about which I boast of you to the Macedonians, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal has stirred up the majority.*

Our good works can encourage and edify our brothers and sisters.

Our **Good Works** also have the effect of silencing the enemies of the gospel and shutting the mouths of blasphemers. This is what **1 Peter 2:12** teaches us: *having your conduct honourable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.*



GOOD WORKS ARE IMPORTANT! Would you not start to engage in some good works this week?