



Standing On The Rock 2 – The Word And Good Works

A. Review

“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

Matthew 7:24-27

Review – We have studied the Word and its power against sin. The Word gives us power over sin and brings maturity (Christlikeness).

B. The Word and Good Works

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

“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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

1. Because works do not save, not make spiritual, does not mean they are not a part of the Christian life.
 - a. We do not work for our salvation or spirituality.
 - b. We do not work to impress God or others.
 - c. We work because we love God and people.
 - d. We work because we have the Holy Spirit in us Who backs our works.
2. Good works are the increasing GOAL of the Christian life.
 - a. Salvation should produce good works.
 - b. Spirituality should produce good works.
 - c. Good works do not produce faith. But faith should produce good works.

“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give

them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." **James 2:14-26**

3. If God did not intend you to accomplish good works, He would not have given you a body with eyes, ears, hands, and feet.
4. Our body touches the natural world. We touch people through good works.
5. Faith and good works are permanently joined together.
6. Good works are:
 - a. A result of the Word ("a doer of the Word" - James 1:22)
 - b. A result of faith
 - c. A means of witnessing
 - d. A means of rewards in time and eternity
 - e. A proof of our sanctification before God and men
 - f. A proof of our joy and love for God

C. The Scope Of Good Works

1. Our daily priority.

"This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works." **Titus 3:8**
2. Without good works, we will never know God's character.

"Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see (οραω- perceive, comprehend) the Lord." **Hebrews 12:14**
3. Good works are not to be hidden.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." **Matthew 5:16**
4. Good works should be your defense before an evil world.

"Having your conduct honorable 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." **1 Peter 2:12**
5. We should stimulate other Christians to produce good works.

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works.” **Hebrews 10:24**

6. A good work is one Jesus would do and gives glory to God.

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” **Colossians 3:17**

7. Good works should be a delight, not a chore.

“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” **1 Corinthians 10:31**

8. Good works are our way of wearing, like clothing, God’s word.

“...showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.” **Titus 2:10**

“You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men.”

2 Corinthians 3:2

9. Good works leave a legacy and a resume for others.

“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.” **Acts 9:36**

“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.”

1 Timothy 5:9-10