

# Saved by works?

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[Are we saved by works?](#)

At first glance, it might seem that we are saved by works when you look at this verse:

[Ephesians 2:10](#)

For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

However, when we look at:

[Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

[Contradiction? No.](#)

It might look that those verses contradict themselves. But do they?

No they don't. In the verses 8 and 9 its very clear that we are saved by Gods grace to faith in Jesus Christ. So what about verse 10?

If you look into the Greek version , we see that its like this: "Saved for (Into) Good Works."

We don't get salvation through good works, but we do Good works are a result of our salvation.

When we are saved, God gives us a new life, for good works. To do good works.

### What are these good works?

We may tend to limit it to "Christian activities". (Prayer, evangelism, bible study) And although these works are good, its not the complete picture. God wants your everything. **Everything** you do, should be good works:

Ecclesiastes 9:10

"**Whatever** your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going."

Ecclesiastes 12:14

"For God will bring **every work** into judgment, including every secret thing, whether it is good or whether it is evil."

Ephesians 4:28

Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but **must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.**

### Do we really need to do it?

Well, have a look at these verses:

Titus 3:1

"To obey, to be ready for every good work."

Titus 3:8

"That those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works."

James 2:14-26

"What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith, but does not have works? Can faith save him? 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? 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."

That verse is very clear about it. If we do not good works, that is a very bad sign, to say the least. If the Holy Spirit is in you, when you believe what Jesus did for you, when God is your number one... you will do good works. If you don't, the terrible question is: Is the Holy Spirit is in you? Do you really believe what Jesus did for you? Is God your number one?

### Why?

1 Corinthians 10:31

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God.**

The tough question for today:

Matthew 7:15-20

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore, by their fruits you will know them.

Revelation 3:15-16

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

Do you bear good or bad fruit?

If you don’t do good works... you are still a “tree” and you will “bear fruit” .....but is there “good fruit”? Are you a true Christian, a lukewarm Christian or maybe even a false convert....or worse? And yes, that is a very tough question that we need to ask ourselves today.

Who do we believe in? In a Jesus that is only love and that is it... or is there more, and if so, what do we do? Not because we must, but because we want to.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God’s handiwork, **created in Christ Jesus to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**What are your good works that we did offer to God in the last week?**