

Working Out Our Salvation

Text: Philippians 2:12–18

Introduction

We cannot earn our salvation by doing good works; it is a gift of God's grace (Ephesians 2:8,9). Yet Paul urges the Philippians to work out their own salvation through bearing the fruit of good deeds in gratitude for God's gift of salvation.

Message

1. Good works are the fruit of faith.

- a. Christlike living is a product of saving faith (Ephesians 2:10).
- b. Both faith and works demonstrate salvation (James 2:14–16).

2. How to work out our salvation.

- a. How not to work out our salvation (Luke 18:9–14).
 1. By trying to impress God.
 2. By trying to impress people.
 3. By trying to accomplish a dreadful duty.
- b. How to work out our salvation.
 1. Doing good works is a privilege because God has given us the gift of salvation.
 2. Faithfully — give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58).
 3. Eagerly — keep your spiritual fervor (Romans 12:11).
 4. In God's name (see Matthew 7:22).
 5. In cooperation with one another as God's fellow workers (1 Corinthians 3:19).
- c. When to work out our salvation — as long as it is day (John 9:4).
- d. How long do we work out our salvation — until we finish the race (2 Timothy 4:7).

3. Judgment on the basis of works.

- a. A judgment day for all (2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:12,13).
- b. Judgment according to our response to the needs of others (Matthew 25:31–46).

Conclusion

Saving faith produces good deeds for the benefit of others, not for ourselves. We work out our salvation by doing good works that are suitable for saving faith.

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