

Do Good Now

To please God, it is not enough for Christians not to do evil but we must continually do good

Introduction

- We teach many lessons emphasizing things that we must not do, as individuals and local churches, because God has not authorized them
- If we are not careful, it is possible for us to be deceived into thinking we are pleasing God if we just keep ourselves from doing evil, murder, adultery, covetousness, anger and so on

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Introduction

- But, the Scriptures are clear, we must not only refrain from evil but eagerly and abundantly do good in order to please God
- Failing to do good is as sinful as actively doing evil
- We note some examples of those remembered for doing good
- And, some principles for why we should do good now

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Failing To Do Good Is Just As Sinful As Actively Doing Evil

Jas 2:8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well.

Jas 2:9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

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Failing To Do Good Is Just As Sinful As Actively Doing Evil

Jas 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.

Jas 2:11 For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

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Failing To Do Good Is Just As Sinful As Actively Doing Evil

Jas 4:13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit."

Jas 4:14 Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

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Failing To Do Good Is Just As Sinful As Actively Doing Evil

Jas 4:15 Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."

Jas 4:16 But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.

Jas 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

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Jesus The Perfect Example of Doing Good

Act 10:38 "You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

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Dorcas

Act 9:36 Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which translated in Greek is called Dorcas); this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did.

Act 9:37 And it happened at that time that she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her body, they laid it in an upper room.

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Dorcas

Act 9:38 Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, having heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him, imploring him, "Do not delay in coming to us."

Act 9:39 So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, they brought him into the upper room; and all the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them.

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Dorcas

Act 9:40 But Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed, and turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

Act 9:41 And he gave her his hand and raised her up; and calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive.

Act 9:42 It became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

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Cornelius

Act 10:1 Now there was a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian cohort,

Act 10:2 a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the Jewish people and prayed to God continually.

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Household of Stephanas

1Co 16:15 Now I urge you, brethren (you know the household of Stephanas, that they were the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves for ministry to the saints),

1Co 16:16 that you also be in subjection to such men and to everyone who helps in the work and labors.

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Timothy

Php 2:19 But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of your condition.

Php 2:20 For I have no one else of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare.

Php 2:21 For they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus.

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Timothy

Php 2:22 But you know of his proven worth, that he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel like a child serving his father.

Php 2:23 Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things go with me;

Php 2:24 and I trust in the Lord that I myself also will be coming shortly.

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Epaphroditus

Php 2:25 But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need;

Php 2:26 because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.

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Epaphroditus

Php 2:27 For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow.

Php 2:28 Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly so that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may be less concerned about you.

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Epaphroditus

Php 2:29 Receive him then in the Lord with all joy, and hold men like him in high regard;

Php 2:30 because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was deficient in your service to me.

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The Church At Philippi

Php 4:14 Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction.

Php 4:15 You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone;

Php 4:16 for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs.

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The Church At Philippi

Php 4:17 Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.

Php 4:18 But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God.

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The Church At Philippi

Php 4:19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

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Epaphras

Col 1:6 which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as it has been doing in you also since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth;

Col 1:7 just as you learned it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf,

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Epaphras

Col 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.

Col 4:13 For I testify for him that he has a deep concern for you and for those who are in Laodicea and Hierapolis.

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Widows Indeed

1Ti 5:9 A widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years old, having been the wife of one man,

1Ti 5:10 having a reputation for good works; and if she has brought up children, if she has shown hospitality to strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has assisted those in distress, and if she has devoted herself to every good work.

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Do Good Now

1. Failing to do good is just as sinful as actively doing evil
2. Examples of those devoted to good works

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Failing To Do Good Is Just As Sinful As Actively Doing Evil

Jas 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

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Redeemed To Do Good Works

Tit 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,

Tit 2:12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,

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Redeemed To Do Good Works

Tit 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

Tit 2:14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

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Redeemed To Do Good Works

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

Eph 2:9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

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Commanded To Do Good Works

Gal 6:9 Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.

Gal 6:10 So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

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Commanded To Do Good Works

Heb 10:24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,

Heb 10:25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

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Commanded To Do Good Works

Tit 3:1 Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed,

Tit 3:2 to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.

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Commanded To Do Good Works

Tit 3:3 For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

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Commanded To Do Good Works

Rom 12:17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.

Rom 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

Rom 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

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Commanded To Do Good Works

Rom 12:20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD."

Rom 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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Must Abound In Good Works

1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

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Must Actively Love Our Neighbors

Luk 10:25 And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

Luk 10:26 And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?"

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Must Actively Love Our Neighbors

Luk 10:27 And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

Luk 10:28 And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE."

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Must Actively Love Our Neighbors

Luk 10:29 But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Luk 10:30 Jesus replied and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead.

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Must Actively Love Our Neighbors

Luk 10:31 "And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

Luk 10:32 "Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

Luk 10:33 "But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion,

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Must Actively Love Our Neighbors

Luk 10:34 and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him.

Luk 10:35 "On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.'

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Must Actively Love Our Neighbors

Luk 10:36 "Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?"

Luk 10:37 And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

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Do Good Works Before Others So They May Glorify God

Mat 5:16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

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Do Good Works Before Others So They May Glorify God

1Pe 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

1Pe 2:12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

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We Will Be Judged According To The Good We Have Done

Mat 25:15 "To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey.

Mat 25:20 "The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.'

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We Will Be Judged According To The Good We Have Done

Mat 25:21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Mat 25:22 "Also the one who had received the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.'

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We Will Be Judged According To The Good We Have Done

Mat 25:23 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Mat 25:24 "And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed. 47

We Will Be Judged According To The Good We Have Done

Mat 25:25 'And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'

Mat 25:26 "But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed. 48

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We Will Be Judged According To The Good We Have Done

Mat 25:27 'Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my money back with interest.

Mat 25:28 'Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'

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We Will Be Judged According To The Good We Have Done

Mat 25:29 "For to everyone who has, more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.

Mat 25:30 "Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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We Will Be Judged According To The Good We Have Done

Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

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Why Should We Do Good Now?

1. Redeemed to do good works
2. Commanded to do good works
3. Must abound in good works
4. Must actively love our neighbors
5. Do good works before others so they may glorify God
6. We will be judged according to the good we have done

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Do Good Now

1. Failing to do good is just as sinful as actively doing evil
2. Examples of those devoted to good works
3. Why should we do good now?

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