

Good Works does what?

Intro- Ever done something for someone and they just were like meh you owed me?

We believe in the truth here at cross brand and there are these few things that you need to know as a follower of christ

Just a few observations

1. Lordship doesn't belong.

a. For example,

- i. You cannot say a prayer and then not change
- ii. Good ole boy belief “yes im saved and then go do something completely against christ”
- iii. I'm going to go get right later on but i said a prayer for fire insurance

2. Not works based

We dont believe in catholicism

James 2:14 What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? **15** Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, **16** and you say, “Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well”—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

- a. Do good things makes us saved
 - i. Tithing
 - ii. Not cheating on your wife
 - iii. Not stealing

3. Easy believism

Words are meaningless

- a. We said a prayer so were good
- b. We give you opportunities to say a prayer
 - I. rodeos
 - II. every sunday
 - III. every event
- c. If you're not changing from the inside out they mean nothing.

Boils down to two thing

- 1. Obedient to god
- 2. How you treat other people

If you aren't right in these two areas are you really a follower of Jesus Christ

4. Are you a fraud?

- a. What are you doing

i. **James 2:14** What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?

1. We all know someone that says one thing at church then leaves and is completely different.

a. For ex.

5. Are you saved?

1. James 2: **15** Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, **16** and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

a. For example, a church with a new preacher looking homeless.

i. We have people here that try to look homeless on purpose

a. We are all of God's children.

i. How we treat people is a reflection on our walk with god.

1. You cannot say for people to help the homeless then you go spit on one, or say they got themselves there

2. You cannot justify cheating on a spouse

b. But then we have people that do just good works and do not actually follow Jesus

Mathew 7:21 "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. **22** On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' **23** But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.'

- Many will claim to be christians. But will be turned away.
- My question is are you even saved?

6. How you treat people is more infotus than verbal claims

For example: even the demons believe in jesus

They know him

Lived with him in heaven

They defy jesus and refuse to follow him.

james 2; 18 Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

For example, Abe was right as he was about to kill his son.

Rahab the prostitute, helping two good men

What good is one without the other?

James is asking.

James is also saying I will show you my faith by my good deeds

1. Obedience to god
2. How you treat other people
 - a. You cannot have one without the other or your faith is completely dead!
 - b. And you can tell by the lifestyle you choose to live
 - i. Seen by others or behind close doors

Here's an observation.

Real christians, real followers of Christ boil down to these 2 things.

James 2: 14 What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?

Don't be a faker

1. Be careful

- a. No one likes a fake, just imagine how much Jesus dislikes a fake.
- b. Why do you think he disliked the pharisees

2. We are saved for good deeds

- a. **ephesians 2:8** God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. **9** Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.
- b. God saved us with a free gift of salvation so that we could go save others by our good works for what jesus has done for us.

The Best way to identify as a christian is through our behavior

James 2:18 Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your

faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

19 You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God.^[1] Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. **20** How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

Belief is useless if the behavior contradicts.

We are told by people to just believe, just say a prayer.

What good does that do you if nothing changes?