

“Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...” - 1 Cor 15:58

NORTHSIDE EXHORTER

A Teaching Bulletin to Inform & Edify God's Family at Northside

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“Good Works”

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’” – (Matthew 7:21-23)

Did you know there is a bad kind of good works? Not everything well-meaning people do is virtuous, not even those things they mean to do to help others.

In *Matthew 7:21-23*, Jesus talks about people who claim to do good works by His authority. They told others about Jesus. They cast out devils. They did what they thought were “**mighty works**” (*Matthew 7:22*). However, when they appear before the judgment seat of God, Jesus will not reward them for their deeds. Instead He will call their work “**lawlessness**,” which is to say “iniquity”. From the rest of the passage, it is not hard to figure out such individuals will be stunned.

The problem is that Jesus does not “know” these “workers” because they are not in fellowship with Him. They probably did all these “**mighty works**” to make themselves look good or feel

important, & not for the glory of God. These did not follow His narrow way, because He was not their Master.

Today, are you doing good works that will last for eternity, or will even what you mean for good, turn to sand because you lack a relationship with God? We must realize that no matter how we act, if we are not working for God, at the end, it will all be worthless.

We need to take time & ask the Lord to help our work be good works as we seek to do His will. We no longer want to follow our own will, but His will.

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Antoine N. Holloway