

GOOD WORKS APPLICATION

1 GOOD WORKS AS CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (SELF-SACRIFICE)

- 1. Woman who anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume (Mt.26:6-13)**
 - Some complained the ointment was wasted, but Jesus said it was a beautiful
 - This was seen as a good work by Jesus
- 2. Jesus called His miracles “good works” (Jn.10:32-33)**
 - The Jews were ready to stone Jesus. “For which good work do you stone Me”
 - The works of Jesus testified to His identity (Jn.10:25, 37-38)
 - These included healings, feeding thousands, raising the dead, etc.
- 3. The eligibility of widows to be supported by the church (1Tm.5:10)**
 - Stipulations: age of widow, how faithful she was to her husband
 - The good works mentioned: brought up children, shows hospitality, washed saint's feet, cared for afflicted
- 4. The Good Samaritan (Lk.10:25-37)**
 - The Samaritan's act of mercy is Jesus' definition of loving ones neighbor as oneself
 - He gave of his own time and resources for the good of another

2 GOOD WORKS AS MARKETPLACE ACTIVITIES

- 1. Christians engaged in marketplace activities is good (Ti.3:8-14)**
 - Believers to devote themselves to activities that are useful in meeting the needs of one another (Ti.3:14)
- 2. Believers are to work with their hands to help support others (Ep.4:28)**
 - Believers have put off the old life and are to begin a new life in Christ (Ep.4:22-23)
 - (1) Old life: do not steal anymore; (2) New life: work with your hands; (3) Purpose: share with the needy
 - “What is good” likely refers to honest marketplace endeavors
- 3. The intrinsic goodness of work (2Th.3:6-16)**
 - Paul had to address some who did not live with the interests of others (2Th.3:11)
 - Paul said, “If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat” (2Th.3:10)
 - Paul asks Christians to not associate with such people (2Th.3:6, 14)
 - When we work it keeps us from idleness and meddling in the affairs of others (2Th.3:11)

3 GOOD WORKS AS HOME ACTIVITIES

- 1. Tabitha is “full of good works and charitable deeds” (Ac.9:36-43)**
 - Tabitha (Greek Dorcas) dies and is raised from the dead by Peter (Ac.9:36-43)
 - “good works” and “charity” describe the Christian life as work and giving
 - She manufactured garments from home which she gave to poor widows (Ac.9:39).
- 2. Paul describes Christian young women as Homemakers (Ti.2:5)**
 - Paul was reinterpreting what women do at home as work
 - Godly women were not merely staying at home but working at home
- 3. The Proverbs 31 Woman (Pr.31:10-31)**
 - This provides a commentary of what good work at the home may entail
 - She works hard within a domestic context (Pr.31:27-28)
 - She is generous in that she gives to the poor and needy (Pr.31:20)