

- good works are supplying the needs of others through some kind of giving

PROPER ATTITUDE

- never take credit for your good works, but give the credit to God—as Jesus did:
doing good works in the Father's name glorifies the Father (John 10:25)
- Jesus took no credit because he was the vessel through whom God's works were done (John 4:34; 5:36; 9:4; 14:10; 17:4)
 - doing all your good works "in the name of the Lord Jesus" will keep you from glorifying yourself (Col 3:17)
 - doing good deeds for others gives them opportunities to glorify God (Matt 15:30–31)
 - the proper response to good deeds is to thank the vessel and glorify God (Luke 17:15–18)
 - let your good works be seen (Matt 5:14–16; Titus 2:7; James 3:13)
 - hiding your good works may keep unbelievers from being saved and God from being glorified (1 Peter 2:12)
 - good works will not embarrass or discredit you when they are discovered (John 3:21)
 - beware of doing good deeds to glorify yourself:
it's better to do good works in secret than do them to be honored by men (Matt 6:1–2; 23:5)
- doing good works anonymously will keep you from glorifying yourself—and the beneficiary may still glorify God (Matt 6:2–4)
 - don't let your good works be all talk and no action (Matt 23:3)

COMMANDS TO DO GOOD WORKS

- good works are commanded: we should (1) be eager to do good works (Titus 2:14), (2) be full of good works (Acts 9:36), (3) busy ourselves in good works (Titus 3:8, 14), (4) be ready for every good deed (Titus 3:1), (5) bear fruit in every good work (Col 1:10), (6) abound in the work of the Lord always (1 Cor 15:58), (7) be rich in good works (1 Tim 6:18), (8) adorn ourselves with good works (1 Tim 2:10), (9) have a reputation for doing good works (1 Tim 5:10), (10) devote ourselves to every good work (1 Tim 5:10), (11) perform deeds appropriate to our repentance (Acts 26:20), and (12) excite one another to do good works (Heb 10:24)
 - to not do good works is disobedience and will be disciplined (Rev 2:5)

EQUIPPED TO DO GOOD WORKS

- God makes us new creatures to do good works (Eph 2:10a):
and the good works he wants us to do are prepared or kept in readiness before we become new creatures (Eph 2:10b)
 - to do good works we must (1) be new creatures in Christ (Eph 2:10; cf. Titus 1:16), (2) have the right attitude (Matt 6:1–2; 23:5), (3) be clean (2 Tim 2:21), (4) be equipped with a knowledge of Scripture (Eph 4:11–12; 2 Tim 3:16–17), and (5) receive provisions from God (2 Cor 9:8)

REWARDS FOR DOING GOOD WORKS

- we begin life with a clean slate—having done neither good nor bad works (Rom 9:10–11)
 - good works that glorify God will be rewarded (Matt 6:1; 1 Cor 15:58)
 - our good works will not be forgotten (Heb 6:10; Rev 14:13; cf. Neh 5:19; 13:14, 22, 31)
- good works of Church Age saints will be rewarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ (1 Cor 3:12–14; 2 Cor 5:10; Rev 22:12)
- good works of Jewish Age saints "will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous"—beginning of the Kingdom (Luke 14:14)
 - judgment will be impartial (1 Peter 1:17)