

Work of God

4-21-24

John 6:29 (ESV)

Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in HIM whom HE has sent.”

Jesus has done various miracles including feeding the 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2 fish, walked on water which has attracted a huge following. People are only seeing that Jesus could supply their physical needs such as food. Therefore, when they approach Jesus, HE rebukes them for their shortsightedness.

John 6:27(ESV)

Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.

Jesus is the provider and sustainer for all human needs. Most importantly Jesus came to give us eternal life. Therefore, *God the Father has placed HIS seal of approval on Jesus.* John uses the technical term for seal meaning ‘to certify’. In John 3:33 the same term is used saying that when ‘we’ accept Jesus’ message, we ‘certify’ God is true. Here Jesus is making it clear that we need to work for the food that provides eternal sustenance which only HE can provide. Jesus gets a religious response, “What human effort can we put forth to be accepted by God.”

John 6:28(ESV)

Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?”

However, Jesus, the Son of Man, as the provider and sustainer has only one answer for them that never changes.

John 6:29(ESV)

Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”

When Jesus says, “the work”, work is singular. God has only one work. The singular work that God requires of humanity is simply stated, ‘to believe in Jesus whom HE has sent’. The unpardonable sin is to add to the completed work of Christ. Of course, repentance will be granted to those who seek it. The reason for writing the gospel of John was that people should ‘believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God’.

John 20:31 (ESV)

These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 17:3 clearly shows that eternal life is solely by knowing God the Father and Jesus the Son whom HE sent.

John 17:3 (ESV)

And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Believing in the one whom God sent is the “food” that endures to eternal life. Any additional works or efforts for salvation nullify God’s grace and declare that Jesus died for no purpose at all.

Galatians 2:21 (ESV)

I do not “nullify” the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for “no” purpose.

The apostle Paul summarizes these truths and also properly explains how God prepares good works for those who have previously accepted Jesus as Savior.

Ephesians 2:8–10 (ESV) O/H v.10

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his “workmanship” (poem), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

No works for Salvation, it is a gift of God. We are God’s “workmanship,” which literally means his “poem” or, his “work of art.” We are God’s poem and God has already built the road we need to walk on. The source of our good works is God. HE made them possible.

This is why we commit everything to God because they are already HIS. HE prepared them, and HE will complete them.

Psalms 37:5 (ESV)

Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in HIM, and HE WILL ACT.

I have preached a lot, and we know a lot, so let us just keep things simple and it is so simple!

#1 Believe in Jesus Christ alone.

#2 We are HIS poem, God's work of art.

#3 God prepared our work beforehand.

We don't just live for ourselves. We have divine locations, divine assignments, and divine appointments. Be excited, be content, be at peace because God has already moved before you. Trust in God. HE is doing something. What we know of Jesus, trust it and speak it! God will take care of the rest.

Isaiah 55:11 (ESV) NO O/H

So shall My WORD be that goes out from MY mouth;
it shall not return to ME empty, but it shall accomplish
that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing
for which I sent it.

Remember: "This is the work of God, that we believe in Jesus whom HE has sent." HE paid the price!

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin, so that
in him we might become the righteousness of God.