

WORKS

The Lord created us, each having a distinct purpose. This purpose involves us being His coworker, bringing in the kingdom of God here on earth.

1 Corinthians 3:9

“For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.”

In fact, He designed us for specific tasks (good works) He foresaw before the foundation of the world.

Ephesians 2:10

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

There is a difference between good works and dead works. One is directed by God with His grace – all good things come from above. Works of our own doing and strength are dead works. They arise out of the desires and motives of our fallen natures. They are not inspired by love (1 Corinthians 13:1-3) and usually spotlight us, rather than bringing glory to God.

Hebrews 6:1

“Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,”

In the end, all we have done will be judged by God:

1 Corinthians 3:13-15

“each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is {to be} revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work.

If any man's work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward.

If any man's work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.”

A tree bearing no fruit, having no good works is an indication of no salvation:

John 15:5-6

“I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch, and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.”