

# Labourers of Christ

## Pastor's Desk – January 24, 2021



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by Pr. Teddy Santos  
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**James 2:17-18** *Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works."*

Some of the incorrect thought about Biblical works is derived from the German theologian Martin Luther's teaching that salvation is by faith *alone*; a statement that does not appear in the Bible. God indeed gives salvation through His gracious gift of grace. Yet, James states that an individual's faith is proved by his works (**James 2:14-26**). If an individual has no works, they are proving that they have no faith.

People who belittle Christian works must be rigidly disregarded because the Lord pointedly commissions work to all Christian converts. **Ephesians 2:10** pointedly affirms, "*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*" Our God has assigned, prepared, and ordained these works before we came to be. They are obligations and must be fulfilled to the level and quality our Lord judges as good

and right. Simultaneously, these works are the very objective for which the Christian is called and transformed. Even though our works alone won't grant us salvation, God's calling, renewal, and allotment of assignments are given so that we are outfitted to live that same way of life for all eternity.

The works of faith that we do - the way our lives are lived - prove our transformation, that our faith in the Lord is real and makes the witness that honors God. Therefore, we must comprehend these truths concerning works:

- 1) God *never* designed works to save anyone. Our Lord Jesus is the Lamb slain for us since the beginning of time. God saw that we would need a Savior for salvation.
- 2) Producing works grants practice in God's way of life, therefore helping to implant His way as part of our character.
- 3) Producing works is a witness to the world, and by them, God is exalted.

These are their primary purposes. Let us put our faith to exercise and honor the Lord with what He has already gifted us!

At His service,  
Pr. Teddy Santos