



How things fit together in the Kingdom

What Must We Do to Do the Works of God?

What do you think is the work God wants you to do? Is it your occupation, your current job, or is it your calling? Or, do you have to become a professional Christian to really do God's work?

All of these are wrong – they completely miss the point.

How come? It's actually God's definition of his work that matters, not our own interpretation of it.

So how do we get God's definition? Easy. Ask him.

Actually this has already been done. Jesus was asked this question and it's recorded in the Gospels.

Before we check that out, here's the definition of 'work' as used in the NT Greek as the word *ergon* (ἔργον)¹ :

- 1) business, employment, that which any one is occupied
 - 1a) that which one undertakes to do, enterprise, undertaking
- 2) any product whatever, any thing accomplished by hand, art, industry, or mind
- 3) an act, deed, thing done: the idea of working is emphasised in opposition to that which is less than work

What did Jesus have to say was Father's definition of his work:

John 6:28-29 (NIV) – *Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."*

John 6:28-29 (AMPC²) – *They then said, What are we to do, that we may [habitually] be working the works of God? [What are we to do to carry out what God requires?] Jesus replied, This is the work (service) that God asks of you: that you believe in the One Whom He has sent [that you cleave to, trust, rely on, and have faith in His Messenger].*

The prime work (i.e. 'undertaking') required of us is to believe in Jesus.

We've already done that and come into the Kingdom as genuine sons, so what's next?

Notice that Jesus didn't add anything to this. There was no, "and then you do this...". It's just believe, nothing else. That's all that's required.

Why? In the Kingdom everything is done under the oversight of the King. That's the way the Kingdom works – we are the King's vassals who are told what to do. This is why Paul put great emphasis on servanthood and being a bond-servant, because 'we are not our own'ⁱⁱ. We are not in a democracy or a republic, we're in a theocracy. However, out of our ignorance, what we've done is brought the world system idea of "do what ever you want to do" into the Kingdom and that's dead wrong.

In the Kingdom our responsibility is to find out what work we are to do for God. We have to get a revelation from him or we have to ask him. Our responsibility is not to do any work for him until he shows us what it is, when it is and how it's to be done. This is a Kingdom reality for every day of our lives.

1 – Thayer definition (www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G2041/ergon.htm)

2 – Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

The reason for enquiring first is that, although we are called to do “good works”ⁱⁱⁱ, they are not our focus – the King and the Kingdom is our focus. “Good works” means that we are always looking to “do good”^{iv}, rather than doing good works to please God. ‘Good’ is God’s nature,^v so “good works” should natural flow from our lives.

IMPORTANT: Favour and blessing will not flow abundantly while ever we work against our King doing our own thing during this new era of the Kingdom.^{vi}

The time for overlooking our ignorance is past.

Laurence

4-2-2020

[‘What is the Work of God?’ re-released in this format on 26-5-2021]

(www.CanberraForerunners.org)

COPYRIGHT

This document is free to copy, republish and distribute, but only 'as is'. It is free to quote from at length.

All Canberra Forerunners' documents are licensed under

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License

Quotes are the copyright of their authors.

Free graphics are from www.clker.com & free photos are from commons.wikimedia.org unless otherwise credited.

References are on the next page

i **REFERENCES**

ii – 1 Corinthians 6:20; 7:23

iii – Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 2:10; 1 Timothy 2:10; Titus 2:7; 3:8; 1 Peter 2:12

iv – Matthew 5:44; Galatians 6:10; Hebrews 13:16; 1 Timothy 6:18; 1 Peter 3:11

v – Matthew 19:17

vi – e.g. Romans 2:10