

# **Judging Works By The Proper Standard**

# Introduction

- “Works” are a hot-button issue.
- There are two extremes I want to address.
  - One claims all works in salvation negate grace/faith.
  - The other claims this church is “not doing anything” based on modern standards of “works.”
- Either charge is serious – Eph. 2:8-10
- **We must judge “works” by the proper standard!**

Christians and Churches will be ...

**JUDGED BY THEIR  
WORKS**

# Judged by Works

- Christians are judged according to their works.
  - We are being judged **now** by our works – 1 Jn. 3:7-8, 10; 1 Cor. 5:9-13
  - Our **final judgment** will be according to our works – 2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Pet. 1:17
  - We must be doing the **Lord's** work – Rom. 2:6-10; Col. 1:9-10; 1 Cor. 15:58
- Local churches are judged by works – Rev. 2:1-5; 3:15-16

Christians and Churches will be ...

**JUDGED BY WORKS  
AUTHORIZED BY  
CHRIST**

# **We Must Reject False Standards**

- Jesus would not allow His disciples to be judged by a false standard – Matt. 15:1-3, 8-9, 12-13
  - Pharisees wanted to judge Jesus’ disciples based on “tradition” – 15:1-3
  - Devotion to man’s doctrine makes one’s worship vain – 15:8-9
  - Those who follow human standards will be rooted up – 15:12-13

# We Must Reject False Standards

- Jesus said that many will seek to justify their works by false standards – Matt. 7:21-23
  - Many will falsely claim faithfulness apart from works – 7:21
  - Many will claim obedience based on unauthorized works – 7:22
  - This is **lawlessness!** – 7:23

# **We Must Judge Works by Christ's Law**

- Despite the accepted view, Christ has a law that we must follow.
- Paul lived under Christ's law – 1 Cor. 9:21
- We will be judged by the words of Christ – Jn. 12:48



**APPLICATION?**

# Christian?

- We must be doing the **works of faith** required by Christ – Gal. 5:6-7
- We must be concerned about **obedience** required for salvation – Heb. 5:8-9
- Why? Obedience **completes faith** – Jas. 2:20-24

# Local Churches?

- Churches are bound to Christ's law.
  - Some deny that local churches must abide in the authority of Christ.
  - Jesus judged churches by their works.
  - Christians are bound to Christ's law as individuals or members of a local church – Col. 3:17; 2 Tim. 3:16-17

# What Works Are Authorized for Local churches?

- Saving the Lost – 1 Thess. 1:8; Phil. 4:15-16
- Strengthening the saved – 1 Cor. 14:26; Heb. 10:24-25
- Helping poor and afflicted saints – Acts 4:34-35; Heb. 6:10
- “Not doing anything” would mean not doing these works!

# Conclusion

- We must not negate grace or be “doing nothing.”
- We cannot get caught up in worldly standards. Believing in...
  - Obedient faith puts you in the minority.
  - Authorized works of the local church puts you in the minority.
- We must judge works by the Lord’s standard.