

Working, Loving, Serving, BUT...

I. Introduction:

A. It'd be great to tell someone that if they just stay busy in the work of the Lord they'll be good (**I Corinthians 15:58**). Is that it though?

1. After all, we are in created in Christ unto good works (**Ephesians 2:10**).
2. Christians are supposed to be zealous of good works (**Titus 2:14**).

B. Maybe just telling a person to love the Lord and thy neighbor will solidify their place with God (**Mark 12:28-33**).

1. Doesn't **I John 4:8** strongly support this simplification?
2. Good works have to be motivated by love, right (**I Corinthians 13:3**)?

II. Body: Well... What About Those That Loved, Served, Worked, But Were Not Right With The Lord Because Of Their Fellowship (**Revelation 2:12-29**)?

A. Using the Scriptures, couldn't it be argued that it is enough that...

1. ...Those in Pergamos did not deny the faith during times of persecution (**Acts 14:22** and **II Timothy 2:12**)?
2. ...Those in Thyatira worked (**James 2:14; 2:24**)?
3. ...Those in Thyatira had charity (**I Corinthians 13:13** and **Colossians 3:14**)?
4. ...Those in Thyatira ministered; served (**Luke 11:41**)?
5. ...Those in Thyatira had faith (**Ephesians 3:10-12** and **Hebrews 10:38**)?
6. ...Those in Thyatira had patience (**James 1:3-4**)?
7. ...Those in Thyatira had grown to be more than they had when they began (**I Thessalonians 4:1-2**)?

B. **NO!** One, two, three, etc. things are not enough if you err/sin (**Luke 11:42**).

1. What happens when a righteous man commits sin (**Ezekiel 18:24**)?
2. The Scriptures, in both covenants, show that obedience to the Lord includes doing ALL of His will (**Deuteronomy 5:33, Deuteronomy 27:26, Jeremiah 7:23, Matthew 23:23, Matthew 28:18-20, I Timothy 5:21, and James 2:8-12**).

C. The errors in Pergamos and Thyatira were that they did not deal with the false brethren among them as they should have (**Galatians 2:1-5**).

1. The blind eye approach doesn't work (**I Corinthians 5:1-13**).
2. We learn from Pergamos and Thyatira that fellowship matters (**Amos 3:3, I Corinthians 1:10, II Corinthians 6:14-7:1, Ephesians 5:6-11, II Thessalonians 3:6, and II John 1:6-11**).

III. Conclusion: We cannot rest where we are. We cannot be complacent. We must CONTINUE in full faithfulness... (**John 8:31-32, Romans 2:7, Galatians 6:7-9, Colossians 1:21-23, Hebrews 3:14, and II John 1:8**).