

LORD'S DAY 32

Q86. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

A. Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits,¹ so that he may be praised through us,² so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits,³ and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.⁴

1. Rom. 6:13 – "No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness."

Rom. 12:1–2 – "I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect."

1 Pet. 2:5–10

1 Cor. 6:20 – "For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body."

2. Matt. 5:16 – "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

1 Pet. 2:12 – "Conduct yourselves honorably among the gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge."

3. 1 Pet. 1:[6–]10 – "Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace intended for you made careful search and inquiry,"

Matt. 7:17 – "In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit."

Gal. 5:6 – "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love."

Gal. 5:22 – "By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,"

4. 1 Pet. 3:1–2 – "Wives, in the same way, be subject to your husbands, so that, even if some of them do not obey the word, they may be won over without a word by their wives' conduct, 2 when they see the purity and respect of your conduct.

Rom. 14:19 – "Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding."

Q87. Can those be saved who do not turn to God from their ungrateful and unrepentant ways?

A. By no means. Scripture tells us that no unchaste person, no idolater, adulterer, thief, no covetous person, no drunkard, slanderer, robber, or the like will inherit the kingdom of God.¹

1. 1 Cor. 6:9–10 – "Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived!"

Eph. 5:5–6 – "Be sure of this, that no sexually immoral or impure person or one who is greedy (that is, an idolater) has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient."

1 John 3:14 – "We know that we have passed from death to life because we love the brothers and sisters. Whoever does not love abides in death."