

**Sermon #4**

# **The Work of God**

God is amazing awesome, majestic and kind.

He wants the best for each of us.

He is always working for our good.

All that He does is for our good.

God leads each of us to work that is good:

work that benefits ourselves and others;

work that restores and uplifts our souls,

work that strengthens and builds us up.

God's work is challenging and rewarding, not burdensome toil.

Jesus once said to some people who were seeking Him,

<sup>27</sup>“Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”

<sup>28</sup>Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.” John 6:27-29

And who did God send?

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him . . . This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.”

John 3:16-17,19

The One God has sent is called by various names:

the Spirit of God

The Spirit of truth

The Holy Spirit

The Christ  
The Son of God  
The Son of Man from heaven

Jesus of Nazareth manifested the One sent by God.  
He expressed the nature of God,  
spoke only truth,  
was holy, righteous and obedient to God,  
was the image and likeness of our heavenly Father,  
taught and lived perfect love.

That is why I recognize Him as the Messiah, the Anointed One.  
He gave up His personal thoughts, ideas, ambitions and attachments  
and let them be replaced with God's thoughts, truth, purpose and  
love.

True faith is always accompanied by obedience.  
So if I believe in my Father—God—and in the Messiah,  
I will do what they say to do.  
If I say I believe, but I don't obey, then I am deceiving myself.

The church system as we know it today, in itself,  
is **not** the work of God.  
Believing Christ and his teachings **is** the work of God.

The handout today is designed to help you evaluate yourself and  
determine whether or not you are doing the work of God.  
This should give you a general idea of whether or not you are believing  
in the One who God sent. **{handout}**

Believing the One sent by God doesn't take a lot of time or a lot of  
study. It can happen in an instant, but it can't be purchased with  
any amount of money.

It is a decision.

Some people seem to need to be preached at every night for years before they will believe and obey Christ. Some go to church their whole lives and never really believe.

But if you become like a little child, turn to Christ and the Spirit of Truth within, and if you receive, believe and act upon what you hear, you won't need to be persuaded or convinced by human teachers and preachers.

The Holy Spirit of God, the Spirit of truth, will teach, guide, convince and convict you.

Jesus said, <sup>12</sup>“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father. <sup>13</sup>And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.”

John

14:12-14

“I, the Lord, dwell in righteousness and faith.

If you believe in Me, I live and dwell in you.

I will teach you My way and enable you to follow.

My way is best; don't you want the best?

I will lead so you can follow. This is the work I call you to do.

When you work for Me I AM your reward.

And I AM the best.

I am eternal, perfect, whole, loving, kind, gracious, wise.

I teach you the truth and give you all I have.

There is nothing greater than this.

Do My work; work for Me.

Believe what I say, and do what I say.

Eternal joy and peace and fulfillment are yours.

I love you.

Put your faith in Me.

Believe that I AM good, and I AM for you.”

## Notes

## The Work of God is to Believe in Christ

### I am doing the work of God when I believe that. . .

*(check those which, after careful consideration, you really believe are true)*

- If I look at another person lustfully,  
I have already committed adultery with him/her in my heart.
- If I divorce my faithful spouse,  
I am causing him/her to commit adultery.
- I should not put any money in the church offering if I remember  
that a fellow member has something against me.
- Swearing and vowing beyond just saying “Yes” or “No” is from the  
evil one.
- God rewards me when I give in secret, pray in secret and fast  
without others knowing.
- When I give, pray or fast so that others know about it,  
the praise of men is my only reward.
- My Father knows what I need before I ask Him.
- Babbling on in long prayers with many words is pointless.
- Spiritual treasures (righteousness, truth, obedience, etc.) are more  
valuable than material possessions.
- I cannot serve two masters. I cannot serve both God and Money.
- My heavenly Father knows what I need,  
and He will provide as I seek His righteousness.
- Tomorrow will worry about itself.
- Meekness and true humility are of great value.
- God humbles the proud and arrogant and gives grace to the humble.
- I should not resist an evil person.  
Instead, I should do good to him and pray for him.
- I should leave or let go of anyone who is trying to turn me against  
God, even if it is someone I love very much.
- If my church leaders are hypocritical and legalistic,  
I should leave them.

- Christ fulfills the Law and Prophets;  
all I need to do is believe and follow Him.
- I should not judge.
- If I do not forgive people their sins,  
my Father will not forgive my sins.
- If I seek, I shall find; if I knock, the door will be opened;  
if I ask, I shall receive.
- Calling people hateful names or harboring anger against them  
makes me subject to judgment.
- Whatever I ask for in prayer, believing, God has given to me.