

GREATER WORKS

20/6/21

*There is an intriguing scripture in the gospel of John that alludes to our works surpassing that of Christ's. **JOH 14:12** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and **greater works** than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. It is interesting for two reasons... the first is the statement that we will have the potential to do the works of Christ (miracles)... and the second, which is the most amazing, reveals that we have the potential to do even greater works than Christ... how can that be? What is something that Jesus didn't do, or couldn't do while he was on the earth as opposed to what we can do while he is in heaven? The best way to solve this question is to look at the changes that occurred after he left. We don't need to go too far into the book of Acts to find the answer.*

***This is the result of Christ's death and resurrection. ACT 2:33** Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. On the day of Pentecost something remarkable happened. The Holy Spirit was poured out for the first time... people spoke in tongues, a new way to serve God was revealed... the New Testament had begun. This is what Jesus had not been able to do, because the Holy Spirit was not able to be poured out until the problem of dealing with sin was dealt with. His body was a perfect sacrifice, thus for the first time God's people could attain ongoing perfection in his sight.*

***The Old Testament never brought anyone to lasting perfection, but the outpouring of the Spirit did. ROM 3:10** As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: The law could never complete the job it was designed to do, thus Jesus was hindered in his dealings with the human race for this very reason.*

***HEB 7:19** For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God. This is what Jesus could never do, because he had to die and go back to God before the Spirit could be poured out... this is the greater work!! Saving one soul from death achieves more than all the people ever achieved who lived under the law put together. Can you imagine the blessing what one person walking in the spirit achieves for God's cause? How much more of a blessing is a whole church walking in the spirit?*

***There are two layers to salvation... the anointing of the spirit is the beginning of a person's salvation... then comes the second challenge... 1PET 4:10** As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

***PHI 2:4** Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Both these responsibilities are encouraged by Christ to ensure our safe standing with God. Many people are so busy looking after themselves that they have no time to do the perfecting work of the Holy Spirit... serving one another. Many find comfort by doing token gestures, or talk about Godly love and servitude; turning up for a spiritual 'photo shoot' when it suits them, while the true Christians are doing the heavy lifting 24 hours a day. These great truths are described in the following prophecy based, parable... to help us and protect us from spiritual compromise.*

***This parable spells out the greater work... the difference between what's real and pretended and between life and death. MAT 25:34** Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: **35** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: **36** Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. **37** Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? **38** When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? **39** Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? Reveal to us the secret of this parable. **40** And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. This is the second layer of our overcoming. People don't always respond to encouragement and assistance, but God blesses you regardless of the outcome... it is the genuine offering that is critical.*

***41** Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: This verse confirms the overcoming power and responsibility that Christ has given us. With greater blessing comes greater responsibility.*

It is wonderful that every person has to be accountable for their own soul and not have to rely on the performance of others. If we fail or succeed, the reward will be according to the results we have chosen, not what someone else has done. This is the first layer of responsibility. The second layer is equally as important... we have been shown how to offer assistance to God's people with the same zeal that we care for ourselves... Regardless of the response, God considers that we have personally done it unto him... the second great blessing involves a greater awareness of our duty to God.

A quick stocktake of what the church has to offer at this time is highly motivational. A precise and clear, signs based, salvation message. Clear direction on the availability and use of the spiritual gifts... and their benefits. Unlimited encouragement to use these powers for God given purposes. Clear teaching on how to overcome this world. We are taught what scriptural love really means... far different than human love. Every person has their own bible. Everyone has the ability to come together in unity and purpose. This is greater than anything that Jesus could offer in his ministerial role while he was on the earth. It is God's will that you should be found perfect and wanting nothing... let's work together to bring about the great success and blessing being offered to us.