

Our "Good" Can Be God's "Wrong"

Introduction

1. **There is no doubt that many people are interested in serving God.**
 - A. **Religious buildings are created, thousands of dollars are spent on religious works, television programs, family service centers, and religiously owned hospitals.**
 - 1) **Jesus talked about the many so-called wonderful works.**
Matthew 7:21-23
2. **What we need to know and understand is that God is only interested in His divine order.**
 - A. **We must do as He has commanded because He is God and He expects His creation to do only that which He has authorized.**

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Luke 6:46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"

- 1) **There is a constant need for the authority of God.**
1 Corinthians 4:6
3. **We can see from several Bible examples that good intentions, or doing what seems right, never has, and never will be, accepted by God.**

Bible Examples

1. **Transporting the Ark of the Covenant from the Philistines (2 Samuel 6).**
 - A. **The history of the Ark of God among the Philistines (1 Samuel 4-6:1).**
 - 1) **The Ark was sent back to Israel and resided at Kirjathjearim (1 Samuel 6:2-7:2).**
 - 2) **There was an ordained by God way to transport the Ark.**
Numbers 4:1-15
Numbers 3:27-31
Exodus 25:10-14
 - a. **The sons of Kohath were to CARRY it.**
 - B. **King David attempted to return the Ark to its proper place.**
2 Samuel 6-1-11
 - 1) **The Ark was set on a new cart (v.3).**
 - 2) **Uzzah attempted to steady the Ark (v.6).**
 - 3) **Uzzah was struck dead (v.7).**
 - 4) **David was very upset about the matter (v.8).**
 - 5) **The Ark was finally brought to the city of David (v.12).**
 - 6) **David accepts full responsibility for the loss.**
1 Chronicles 15:12-15
 - C. **Because of improper transportation, a breach was upon Israel.** "The Levites had been deficient in their duty in the double sense of not having themselves exclusively undertaken the removal of the Ark, and not having executed that removal *after the divine due order*" (**Pulpit Commentary**).

2. **Nadab and Abihu burning incense unto God.**

Leviticus 10:1-2 Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

- A. It was good for them to burn incense. God commanded an eternal fire.**

Leviticus 6:12-13 And the fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not be put out. And the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order on it; and he shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out.

- B. However, they offered a “strange fire” which God did not command. A human substitution; they possibly saw it as more convenient.**
- C. Mankind must not attempt to improve upon that which God has ordained!**
- D. Both men were religious, but religiously wrong. God was not pleased and as a result both of them died that day.**

3. Ananias and Sapphira offering money to God.**Acts 5:1-11**

- A. The community of early Christians was commendable.**
Acts 2:44-45
Acts 4:34-37

- B. Ananias and Sapphira desired to give a service unto God: They sold their possession; kept back a part of it, which was perfectly permissible.**
 - 1) However, they left the impression that was all that they received.**

- C. It was asked of them: Why did you conceive evil in your heart?**
 - 1) They lied to the Holy Spirit. Not to men only, but to God!**

- D. The consequence of doing good in a wrong way was that:**
 - 1) Ananias died (v.5).**
 - 2) Sapphira told the same lie, and she died (v.10).**

- E. Therefore, *fear came upon all the church!***

4. Many people claim to do good works.**Matthew 7:21-23**

- A. We must understand the eternal principle that is shown here.**

5. The modern religious world.

- A. Evangelize the world, but often not according to God's way.**
- B. Change the mission of the church.**
 - 1) The work of the church is spiritual – lost souls need to be fed the bread of life.**
- C. Singing hymns to God accompanied with instrumental music.**
 - 1) God has given us His accepted way.**

Ephesians 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Colossians 3:16-17 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

- D. Change the command for baptism.**
 - 1) Baptize babies, use sprinkling or pouring, in the name of Jesus only.**
 - 2) Just a failure to demand authority for all things that we practice!**

Conclusion

- 1. It is not enough for one to attempt to do godly acts.**
- 2. These acts must be performed according to the authority of God as given to all men through the Holy Bible. Listen to Him:**

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

1 Peter 4:11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God...

Matthew 15:8-9 These people draw near to me with their mouth, and honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. and in vain they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.

Luke 6:46 But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Invitation

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Richie Thetford, December 2020