

# A Salvation that Works

Philippians 2:12–13

**1 Corinthians 15:10 KJV 1900**

But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which *was bestowed* upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

## I. The Command to Work

Philippians 2:12

### A. A Compliment to the Philippians

Philippians 2:12a

#### **The People of obedience**

**Philippians 1:8 KJV 1900**

For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.

#### **The persistence of obedience**

### B. A Command to the Philippians

Philippians 2:12b

#### **A Command to Work**

**Philippians 1:6 KJV 1900**

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

“If traces of Christ’s love-artistry be upon me, may He work on me with His divine brush until the complete image be obtained and I be made a perfect copy of Him, my master.” —Author unknown

## A Caution in the Work

**Psalm 111:10 KJV 1900**

The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: A good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: His praise endureth for ever.

**2 Timothy 2:15 KJV 1900**

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

## II. The Companion in the Work

Philippians 2:13a

**Jeremiah 31:3 KJV 1900**

The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, *saying*, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: Therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

### A. The Work of God

**Ephesians 2:10 KJV 1900**

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

**Hebrews 13:20–21 KJV 1900**

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### B. The Ways of God's Work

#### His Word

**John 17:17 KJV 1900**

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

## His Spirit

**Romans 8:16 KJV 1900**

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

## Trials

**James 1:13–14 KJV 1900**

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

# III. The Completion of the Work

Philippians 1:13b

## A. To Will

**Romans 8:29 KJV 1900**

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

God uses two things to direct us to His will:

- He gives us a discontentment with where we are in our current spiritual life.
- He stirs us to aspire to grow in Him and His righteousness.

**Philippians 3:10 KJV 1900**

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

**Philippians 3:12–14 KJV 1900**

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

“I am not what I might be. I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be. I am not what I hope to be. But I thank God I am not what I once was, and I can say with the great apostle, ‘By the grace of God I am what I am.’” —John Newton

## B. To Do

### **Ephesians 3:7 KJV 1900**

Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

### **Colossians 1:9–10 KJV 1900**

For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

### **1 Peter 5:10 KJV 1900**

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

“This life was not intended to be the place of our perfection, but the preparation for it.” —Richard Baxter

## C. The Purpose is His Pleasure

### **Psalms 37:23 KJV 1900**

The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: And he delighteth in his way.

### **Romans 12:2 KJV 1900**

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

### **It is beneficial to us**

God’s will has three qualities:

- It is good—God’s will never brings about a bad result.

- It is acceptable—God’s will is not distasteful.
- It is perfect—It will have a completion.

**Romans 8:29 KJV 1900**

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

## **It is good to God.**

**Ephesians 1:9–12 KJV 1900**

Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:

In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

## **Conclusion**