

Acts # 23 “Dead to Human Good” Acts 2:38-41

In A.D. 33, God gave His people an undeniable sign of evangelism in foreign lands that would continue until A.D. 70, signaling that Israel’s disciplinary destruction and dispersion was coming and this also was a sign that announced the opening of a new dispensation, the Church Age, a time in which Gentiles would be grafted in to the root system.

The reason Peter is emphasizing repent isn't because repenting of their sins is something they needed to do to be saved; it's because the Jewish people were involved in works-oriented religion and to receive God's salvation, they had to change their thinking in relation to the Person and work of Jesus Christ.

One of the greatest demonstrations of Satan’s crafty nature is the promotion of his human good propoganda through the social gospel of love and world peace in the name of good religious endeavors to the exclusion of the Good Shepherd; Satan would love to abolish war and get credit for it.

THE ANSWER TO HUMAN GOOD IS DIVINE GOOD PRODUCED IN 3 WAYS:

- 1) The filling of the Holy Spirit.
- 2) The exhale of the Word of God from the human spirit.
- 3) From building a fortified soul structure.

4 KEYS TO THE PRODUCTION OF DIVINE GOOD:

1. Focus means we must be in the directive will of God, filled with the Holy Spirit, under His enabling power.
2. *Momentum means that biblical truth is important in everything and momentum is understanding and applying biblical truth.*
3. Attainment is the advance to spiritual maturity through the execution of the plan of God and biblical truth must be learned before divine good can be produced.
4. Impact is the function of the mature believer as an invisible hero in the Church Age. **The right mental attitude plus the filling of the Holy Spirit or being in the will of God equals the production of divine good.**

We are only fruit-bearers under the following conditions:

- 1) *We must have consistent post-salvation biblical rehabilitation.*
- 2) We must have resultant spiritual growth.
- 3) We must have the correct mental attitude.
- 4) We must remember: fruit-bearing is the production of divine good, not independently of but as a result of the filling of the Spirit and advance in the spiritual life.

THERE ARE 3 TYPES OF GOOD IN HISTORY:

Human good is the production of evil and it began in the Garden of Eden right after the Fall with the legalistic operation fig leaves.

Evil is the self-promoting thinking of Satan, while human good is the application of that

thinking.

Human good is the production of the unbeliever and the ignorant arrogant rebellious believer.

Moral good is observing God's established laws and it can be produced by believer or unbeliever but divine good is exclusively produced by a growing or a mature believer.

The whole purpose of water baptism when we enter into that ritual is that we understand 3 things:

- 1. We understand that we're identified with Jesus Christ in His death, burial and resurrection and therefore we are dead to human good religious practices; so no longer do we have to perform human good to promote ourselves, we're promoted in Christ.**
- 2. *We understand that we are identified with Christ as He is seated at the right hand of the Father; so we can't lose our salvation.***
- 3. We understand that we are now in a position to perform divine good.**

Peter is saying: the issue in the Christian life is human good vs divine good and you're going to be baptized when you understand that you're through with human good, so baptism is simply a recognition of that, it doesn't save anyone.

Water doesn't wash away sins, it's the blood of Christ that washes away sins.

Peter's principle is that once you understand what this is all about, then you can be baptized.