

Assurance of Salvation
 Part 79

Glorifying God:

HOW to glorify God (4)



"WE MUST GLORIFY GOD."
 (It's a *moral* obligation.)

God's people *delight* in doing so.

Today, PART 4 of: **HOW to glorify God!**

ISSUES TO COVER →

- The REMINDER
- 2 more "HOW's"

The REMINDER!

"Glorifying God"
 involves **VALUES / CHOICES.**

- **IF** your values/choices do not agree with Scripture, **THEN** you are not glorifying God.
 (This means you are not following Jesus.)
- **IF** this characterizes the way you live, **THEN** you are not saved.

THE "HOW" LIST
 beginning with #7
 (We've already looked at the first 6.)

"How do we glorify God?"

7) WE GLORIFY GOD when we are willing to work out our salvation.

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ...

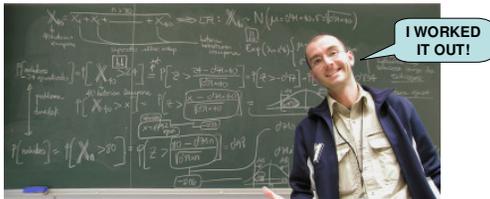
Philip. 2:12 (NIV)



**** It is true that you'd never make it. ****

- We tend to use the phrase "work it out" in a way that is different from how Paul used it.

EXAMPLE: "It's a difficult problem, but I'll work it out somehow."



But that's not what we're referring to!

Paul was writing to people who were already saved!

- God had already begun a good work in them.

God, who began the good work within you, ...

Philip. 1:6b (NLT)

- They were already living in obedience to God's Word (made known to them by Paul).

... as you have always obeyed ...

Philip. 2:12b (NIV)

But he wanted them:

- To grow in their salvation...

...continue to work out your salvation ...

Philip. 2:12c (NIV)

- To be serious about it (no pretense)...

... with fear and trembling, ...

Philip. 2:12d (NIV)

[continued]

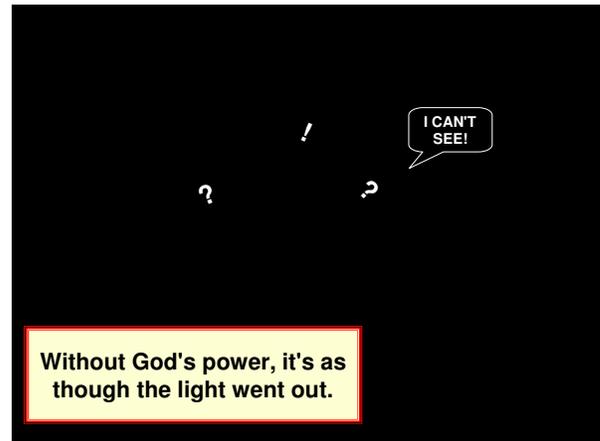
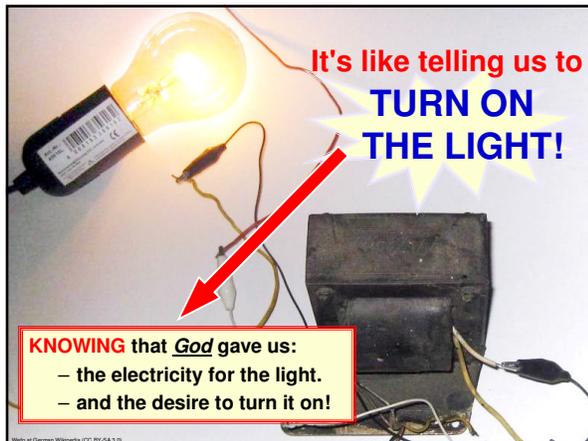
- All the while knowing that God was at work inside them!

... for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Philip. 2:13 (NIV)

In other words...

Our work of obedience grows us in our salvation, because God is working in us to make it happen!



God's sovereignty and human responsibility

- Since they are inseparably linked, this means:

What we "work out" is only a reflection of what God is "working in"!
- IN OTHER WORDS:
 - We are to do *outwardly* what God is doing *inwardly*!

We could also say it this way:

 - We must have the *obedience* that *comes with salvation*.

... the obedience that comes from faith.
Romans 1:5 (NIV)

What type of "obedience"?

- Everything that God tells us to do...
- But it starts with paying attention to God's Word!
(This is how we find out what God tells us!)

... *humbly accept the word* planted in you, which can save you.
Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. *Do what it says*.
James 1:21b-22 (NIV)

Everything we do is a "work." It shows who controls us.

The power that is *in* us will come *out*, one way or another.

- **Either a work of the *devil* ...**

You are doing the works your father did.
You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires.
John 8:41a, 44a (ESV)

- **Or a work of God.**

[Jesus] gave himself for us ... to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.
Titus 2:14 (NIV)

... holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.
2 Tim. 2:21b (NIV)

... what he* has done has been done through God."
John 3:21b (NIV)

* (the person who "lives by the truth" – v. 21a)

So who's works am I "working out"?

- Am I working out the works of salvation, because God's power is in me?

OR:

- Am I working out the works of condemnation, because the devil's power is in me?

8) WE GLORIFY GOD when we are willing to live for God.

THIS MEANS:

- We live in a way that:
 - advances God's interests, and
 - directs people's attention toward God.
- We use our abilities for God's kingdom.

- It DOES NOT mean**
 - that we all must preach, or do "church-related" activities.
- It DOES mean**
 - that we must use whatever abilities we have:
 - To express God's love to others.
 - To express our love for God and neighbor.

Expressing love: We are to do this even when others aren't watching!

ALWAYS REMEMBER: YOU are God's ambassadors (or representatives) in a sinful world.
So represent God well!

- By what you SAY...**

We are Christ's ambassadors, and God is using us to speak to you.
2 Cor. 5:20a (NLT)
- By what you DO...**

The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

YOUR MISSION: Consider
(And make "life adjustments" if necessary.)

- Who's "power" controls your life?**
 - The things that "work out" from your heart... *What do they tell about you?*
- Who do you live for?**

THE "GLORY" MANIFESTO

- I will "work out" my salvation – that is, I will grow in my obedience.**
 - Knowing that God makes this growth possible.
- I want to use my skills and abilities in a way that honors God.**
 - As God's representative, the world will learn about God through me.

Credits (1)

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Credits (2)

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