

Philippians Series

Lesson #053

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Living Worthy Philippians 2:12–16



What is the role of our works in our eternal salvation?

Three Stages of Salvation

**PHASE
ONE**

Justification

**Saved from
Penalty of Sin**

“you were saved”

**PHASE
Two**

**Spiritual
Life**

Text

**Saved from
Power of Sin**

“you are being saved”

**PHASE
THREE**

Glorification

**Saved from
Presence of Sin**

“you will be saved”



Php. 2:12, ¶ “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

Php. 2:13, “for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Php. 2:14, ¶ “Do all things without griping and arguing,

Php. 2:15, “that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

Php. 2:16, “holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.”

Php. 2:12, “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

Php. 2:13, “for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” [NKJV]

Php. 1:19, “for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,” [NASB95]

Php. 1:28, “in no way alarmed by your opponents — which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.” [NASB95]

Php. 2:12, “So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling;” [NASB95]

Php. 2:12, “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

Php. 2:13, “for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” [NKJV]

κατεργάζομαι *katergazomai*

2 plur pres mid impera

to produce something

Rom. 4:15, “because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression.”

**κατεργάζομαι *katergazomai*
to produce something**

Rom. 5:3, “And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;”

**κατεργάζομαι *katergazomai*
to produce something**

Rom. 7:8, “But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law sin was dead.”

**κατεργάζομαι *katergazomai*
to produce something**

Rom. 7:13, “Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.”

**κατεργάζομαι *katergazomai*
to produce something**

Php. 2:12, “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;” [NKJV]

**κατεργάζομαι *katergazomai*
2 plur pres mid impera
to produce something**

**σωτηρία *sōtēria* fem
sing acc salvation,
deliverance**

Php. 2:12, “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, you are responsible to produce your own deliverance with fear and trembling;” [RD]

**κατεργάζομαι *katergazomai*
2 plur pres mid impera
to produce something**

**σωτηρία *sōtēria* fem
sing acc salvation,
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**Saved from
Presence of Sin**

“you will be saved”



First main paragraph: What is the key statement?

Php. 1:27, “Only let the way you live your life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,” [RD]

**πολιτεύομαι *politeuomai*
2 plur pres mid impera
live as a citizen. In Koine Greek it
had become an idiom for *how
someone lived their life*. cf., Eph.
2:19**

**ἀξίως *axiōs* adverb: in
a worthy manner;
worthily, in a manner
worthy of, suitably,
deserving effort**

Eph. 2:14, “For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,

Eph. 2:15, “having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

Eph. 2:16, “and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

Eph. 2:17, “And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.”

Eph. 2:18, “For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Eph. 2:19, “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,”

συμπολίτης *sumpolitēs*

masc plur nom fellow citizen

Eph. 2:18, “For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

Eph. 2:19, “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

Eph. 2:20, “having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,

Eph. 2:21, “in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

Eph. 2:22, “in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,” [NKJV]

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

παρακαλέω
***parakaleō* 1 sing**
pres act indic
to urge, exhort,
comfort

περιπατέω *peripateō*
aor act infin
to walk, walk around,
figurative for the Christian
way of life

ἀξίως *axiōs* adverb: in a
worthy manner; worthily, in
a manner worthy of,
suitably, deserving effort

1 Thess. 2:11, “as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children,

1 Thess. 2:12, “that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.”

ἀξίως *axiōs* adverb: in a worthy manner; worthily, in a manner worthy of, suitably, deserving effort

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,”

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parakaleō 1 sing
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**κλήσις *klēsis* with the
article
fem sing gen
“the calling”**

**ἀξίως *axiōs* adverb: in a
worthy manner; worthily,
in a manner worthy of,
suitably, deserving effort**

Col. 1:10, “that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”

ἀξίως *axiōs* adverb: in a worthy manner; worthily, in a manner worthy of, suitably, deserving effort

2 Thess. 1:11, “Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power,”

2 Tim. 1:9, “who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,”

**κλήσις *klēsis* with the article
fem sing gen (11) dat (9)
“the calling”**

ἀξίως *axiōs* adverb: in a worthy manner; worthily, in a manner worthy of, suitably, deserving effort

Heb. 3:1, “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,”

κλήσις *klēsis*
fem sing gen
“the calling”

- 1. In each of these passages, “the calling” is specified by an article.**
- 2. This genitive noun supplies the standard or measure to which the adverb ἀξίως “worthily” points. “Walk worthy of the standard of the calling.”**

“The noun κλη̃σις ‘calling’ refers to the position of status, honor, and responsibility that God has entrusted to his saints.”

~M. Barth, Ephesians.

3. Thus it emphasizes the basis for the command to walk, i.e., move forward from the understanding of who we are in Christ, what we have been given in Christ, which both summarize our wealth in Christ, which is now shown to be the standard we must aspire to in our daily lifestyle, conduct, way of life, thinking, worldview.

1 Cor. 7:20, “Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called.”

“Likewise, a Christian’s vocational situation is a matter of little consequence (if status can be changed, well and good; if not, it is not a matter for worry). What matters is that every Christian should realize he is Christ’s slave and needs to render obedience to Him.”

~David Lowery, “1 Corinthians,” *BKC*

Eph. 4:17, “This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the empty vanity of their thinking,”

Eph. 4:20, “But you have not so learned Christ,

Eph. 4:21, “if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as THE TRUTH is in Jesus:”

Eph. 4:22, “that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man [our identity in ADAM] which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

Eph. 4:23, “and be renewed in the spirit of your thinking,

Eph. 4:24, “and that you put on the New Man [our identity in CHRIST] which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”

OLD MAN & NEW MAN

Eph. 2:15; 4:22–24; Col. 3:8–9; Rom. 6:6



**OLD MAN
“IN ADAM”**



**NEW MAN
“IN CHRIST”**



Eph. 2:15, “having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,”

Eph. 4:25, “Therefore, putting away lying, ‘Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,’ for we are members of one another.” [NKJV]

Eph. 4:25, “For this reason, because you have already put off THE LIE, *let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor*, for we are members of one another.” [RD]

Eph. 4:25, “For this reason, because you have already put off the lie, *let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor*, for we are members of one another.” [RD]

ἀποτίθημι *apotithēmi*

aorist middle participle masc plur

nom

“to put off, take away; literally, to take off clothes,” figuratively, “to lay aside or put off” the deeds of the flesh, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, hatred, Col. 3:8. The same word “put off” in vs. 22. The timing of the aorist participle precedes the main verb.

τὸ ψεῦδος *to pseudos*

THE lie

***not* “lying” or
“falsehood”**

Eph. 4:25, “For this reason, because you have already put off the lie, let each one of you speak [the] truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.” [RD]

TRUTH = that which is derived from and is consistent with the teaching of God in the 66 Books of the Bible.

Eph. 4:25, “For this reason, because you have already put off the lie, let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.” [RD]

TRUTH = that which is derived from and is consistent with the teaching of God in the 66 Books of the Bible.

the LIE = The devil’s worldview

- **Denies the Creator-creature distinction**
- **Autonomy or independence of the creature**
- **Antagonism toward God**

Eph. 4:1, “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,

Eph. 4:2, “with all lowliness and gentleness, with patience, putting up with one another in love,

Eph. 4:3, “striving to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Eph. 4:4, “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

Eph. 4:5, “one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

Eph. 4:6, “one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

What is the way of life for our new identity, the new standards for the new citizenship?

In Ephesians 4

- 1. With humility and patience, Eph. 4:2a**
- 2. Put up with one another in love, Eph. 4:2b**
- 3. Working hard to maintain the unity of the Spirit. Why?**
- 4. There is one body, one Spirit, “just as you were called in one hope of your calling.”**

**Humility, not “me first,” not look what they did to me!
Biblical love for one another and anger cannot co-exist!**

First main paragraph: What is the key statement?

Php. 1:27, “Only let the way you live your life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, **that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,” [RD]**

What is the way of life for our new identity, the new standards for the new citizenship?

In Philippians 2

- 1. With humility and patience, Php. 2:2, 3**
- 2. Put up with one another in love, the same love, Php. 2:2**
- 3. Working hard to maintain the unity of the Spirit, “... nothing through self-centeredness” only in humility; Php. 2:3**
- 4. There is one body, one Spirit, “just as you were called in one hope of your calling.” Let this mind be in you which was in Christ.**

Humility, not “me first,” not look what they did to me!

Biblical love for one another and anger cannot co-exist!

The second command:

Php. 2:14, “Do all things without complaining and disputing,”

ποιέω poieō

**2 plur pres act
impera to do,
make; to work**

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Php. 2:14, “Do all things without complaining and disputing,”

ποιέω *poieō*
2 plur pres act
impera to do,
make; to work

γογγυσμός *goggusmos* masc plur gen
griping, complaining, grumbling,
expressing discontent

διαλογισμός *dialogismos*
masc plur gen
arguing, bickering

Php. 2:15, “that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,”

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**γίνομαι *ginomai* 2 plur
aor mid subj
expresses result/
purpose
to become, to become
something you were not**

Php. 2:15, “that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,”

**γίνομαι *ginomai* 2 plur
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expresses result/
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**ἄκέραιος *akeraios*
masc plur nom
unmixed, pure, as wine,
metals, b. of the mind, without
a mixture of evil, free from
guile, innocent, simple**

**ἄμεμπτος *amemptos*
masc plur nom
blameless**

**ἄμωμος *amōmos*
neut plur nom
unblemished, spotless**

Php. 2:15, “that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,”

**σκολιός *skolios*
fem sing gen
crooked, bent**

**διαστρέφω *diastrephō*
perf pass part fem sing gen
to turn; to pervert; *to*
pervert, corrupt:
they are crooked because
they have rejected THE
TRUTH**

Php. 2:15, “that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world [*kosmos*],”

σκολιός *skolios*
fem sing gen
crooked, bent

φαίνω *phainō*
plur pres mid indic
to appear, shine;
cause to shine

διαστρέφω *diastrephō*
perf pass part fem sing gen
to turn; to pervert; *to pervert, corrupt*;
they are crooked because they
have rejected THE TRUTH

φωστήρ (*phōstēr*), luminary,
brightness

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be pressed into the mold of acting and thinking like unbelievers [in Adam], but be completely changed, transformed, by the renovation of your thinking, that you may demonstrate that the will of God is good and acceptable and complete.” [RD]