

How Good is Good Enough? (Part 1)

Luke 18:18-30

Series Summary: This sermon will address the modern day philosophy that is leading people down the wide path toward eternal destruction. The modern day view simply states: *All good people go to Heaven*. Throughout this message we will examine the definition and standard of goodness as well as wrestle with the question how good is good enough to get into heaven.

Jeremiah 6:16 – “Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, ‘We will not walk in it.’”

The Question: How Good is Good Enough?

- **Key Point:** This is the main question that our society as a whole wrestles with. Many religions teach that salvation or the blessing of an afterlife is based on what YOU do here on this earth not what has already been done for you by a heavenly creator.
- **Key Question:** What do you believe this simple question? What do your friends or family members believe?

Two Important Facts

Fact #1 – There is a Heaven

Fact #2 – There is a Hell

- **Key Point:** There are two important facts we must always keep in mind when dealing with *How good is good enough*. (90% of all Christians believe there is a Heaven but only 30% of all Christians believe there is a Hell. We must understand that the alternative to heaven is that of hell and all of mankind has the opportunity to decide which way they will go by the decisions they make on this earth. You are either for Jesus or against Him.
- **Key Question:** Why is it important to believe that there is both a heaven and hell? How does this impact your faith?

Two Opposing Views

- **View #1** – Good People go to Heaven
- **View #2** – Forgiven People go to Heaven

Key Point: This main point addresses the two main views that people hold in this world. The majority of the people, even Christians, believe that Good People go to heaven but the Bible teaches something radically different and that is *Forgiven People* go to heaven.

Key Question: Explain the difference between these two views.

Three Points to Ponder

Point #1 – Goodness is Defined by God (v. 18-19)

- Romans 3:23
- Isaiah 64:6

Key Point: It is a fact that no one will ever be able to buy, earn, or impress their way into heaven. You will never be good enough to get into heaven by what you do because God sets the standard. Salvation and eternal life is based upon what Jesus Christ has already done for you.

Key Question: How does the world define goodness? Explain.

Point #2 – The Standard has been Set by the Savior (v. 20-23)

- Romans 7:7
- 1 John 2:1-2
- **Key Point:** This point ties in directly to the first point. Jesus Christ set the standard of goodness and righteousness when He came and died on the cross for our sins. It is only through Him that you will receive eternal life.
- **Key Question:** Explain, in words that a *seeker* could understand, the standard that Jesus Christ set for the world. Why does this matter?

Point #3 – Assurance is only Found in the Savior

- John 1:29
- **Key Point:** The fact is that you can be certain of your eternal destination when you place your faith in Jesus Christ but when you rely on the world's standard of goodness you will always fall short.
- **Key Question:** How can you be certain of your salvation? Explain.

Questions to Consider

1. Why can I not buy, earn, or work my way into heaven? Explain in detail.
2. How would you define divine grace? Explain.

Memory Verse:

Psalm 18:2 – The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Challenge: Invite someone who believes they are *Good Enough to get into Heaven* to hear the alternative view coming next Sunday: ***Only the Forgiven get into Heaven.***



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