

First Love, Part III

Revelation 2:5

*Remember the height from which you have fallen!
Repent and do the things you did at first. (NIV)*

Last week we looked at scriptures that would enlighten us on how to change and create a mindset that is representative of Christ and His kingdom. In this study I want to look at this phrase in the verse above, “do the things you did at first.”

The Greek reads like this, “Do the first works.” The New American Standard Bible reads, “Do the works you did at first.” What I wanted you to see is that “things” is really translated “works.”

So many of us forget what an important part works play in our faith. So, today we will do a study on the word “works” in scripture. First let me give you a little Greek word instruction. The word “works” in Greek is the word *ergon*. There are a few different definitions for this word. Look at the scripture up and let’s learn together. These are word translations from the NIV Bible:

Ergon

1. deed or action Luke 24:19; II Thessalonians 2:16-17; James 2:14-17 & 3:13; John 3:19-21
2. walk Colossians 3:7
3. doing good Acts 9:36; Colossians 1:10
4. work(s) Ephesians 4:11-12; I Thessalonians 1:2-3; John 6:27-29
5. purpose II Thessalonians 1:11
6. miracles John 7:3 & 21 & 10:25
7. laborers, workers Matthew 9:37-38 & 20:1-16; I Timothy 5:18

Now also we need to think about this: the word “first” does not always mean *what you did in the beginning*. It also means foremost, most important, most prominent, priority. The Greek word for first is *prōtos*.

Look up these scriptures:

Matthew 20:26-28

Mark 12:28-34 (most important)

Luke 13:28-30

I Corinthians 15:3

Ephesians 6:2

In the light of this study, write a paragraph on what “first works” could mean to your life.