

Conduct Worthy Of The Gospel

Paul wrote in Philippians 1:27, “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.” In order to be saved, you must have conduct that “becometh the gospel,” or one that is consistent with the principles of righteousness and presents a good example to the world (2 Corinthians 6:3).

The fact that Paul had to exhort the Philippians to good behavior implies that there is behavior that is not worthy of the gospel. When we are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, we put off the “old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts” of sin and put on the “new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Ephesians 4:22-24). This means that we will no longer be a slave of sin. Jesus said, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin” (John 8:34). It also means that sin has lost its power over us. Romans 6:14 declares, “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

In a practical fashion, being “worthy of the gospel” demands that we stop committing sins such as idolatry, fornication, adultery, jealousy, lying, cheating, stealing, heresy, etc. (Galatians 5:19-21; cp. Matthew 15:19; Romans 1:29-31; 1 Timothy 1:9-10; Revelation 21:8; 22:15). Instead, our lives will bear fruit in such ways as attendance at worship assemblies, giving, praying, helping our fellowman, love, peace, meekness, gentleness, etc. (Galatians 5:22-23).

So what do you want for yourself? Which list of activities above best describes what you do every day? Is your behavior worthy of the One who died for your sins? If it is, you are to be commended and exhorted to continue. If it is not, you need to repent and bring forth good fruit (Acts 17:30-31; Matthew 3:8).

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