

GRACE COMMUNION CHURCH



CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOUR

HYDERABAD

*Be Blessed
and
Become a Blessing*

What is the basis of Christian behavior / good works?

- Is it the ten commandments?
- Is it our conscience?
- Do we decide what is good and what is bad?
- Is it humanistic?
- Does science dictate good and bad?
- Does nature dictate good and bad?
- Is there anything such as good and bad? Everything is amoral! (postmodernism, relative like eating chicken or mutton)

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Is good and evil real?

- The tree of good and evil.
- Humans are made moral beings – with a sense of good and evil. (Rom 1:32, 2:15)
- But human goodness is relative, dependent on each individual; humans are limited – hence cannot be ultimate and objective.
- How is the ultimate objective good concluded?

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What is the ultimate standard of good?

- God Himself
- Mark 10:17 Only God is good. Jesus tells him to follow him – showing what is good – Hence Jesus is good.
- Translates into the Bible 2 Tim 3:16
- What does the Bible say about good behavior?

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Old Covenant / New Covenant Morality

- [Gal 3: 23](#) Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. [24](#) So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. [25](#) Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.
- [26](#) So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, [27](#) for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

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What governs new covenant Christians?

- **Rom 7:6** But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

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What is the new way of the Spirit?

- **Rom 13:8** Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. **9** The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” **10** Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

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- **Gal 5: 4** You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. **5** For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope. **6** For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

- **Acts 15: 10** Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? **11** No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”
- **19**“It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. **20** Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. **21** For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath.”

- **John 13 34** “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

- Christianity does not lead the believer away from the law into nothingness. It leads him to Jesus Christ. (Expositors Bible Commentary, J.M. Boice)
- The gospel should not be reduced to a law system. It is entirely relational.
- Entire Christian behavior is based on love – the very essence of God. “God is love.”