

What Is Compassion?

Description

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Matthew 25:31-46

Accumulating points earned by our good works does not save us. We are saved by grace through faith in Christ. In Matthew 25, however, our Lord reminds us that our life in Christ must, of necessity, produce good works. The absence of these acts of compassion tragically testifies to a hollow, hypocritical profession of faith. We claim to love Christ, but each time we refuse to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, or welcome the immigrant, we confirm that we are not true disciples of Jesus. We need to humbly examine the fruit of our lives to determine if we are sheep of the fold or selfish goats that will not inherit the kingdom of heaven.

What is compassion? “Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth” (1 John 3:16b-18).

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