

## Right and Wrong

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality” (Col 3:23-25).

What did Paul have in mind when he commanded, “*Whatever* you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord”? Paul certainly was not implying that Christians may do wrong and still be serving the Lord.

So what is the standard for determining right and wrong? “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for...instruction in *righteousness*” (2 Tim 3:16). God intended that His Scriptures educate us in the behaviors that are right, in addition to exposing those that are wrong (cf. Rom 7:7; Matt 5-7).

King David was aware of that fact. He prayed to God saying, “My tongue shall speak of Your word, for all Your commandments are righteousness” (Psa 119:172). “Righteous are You, O Lord, and upright are Your judgments. Your testimonies, which You have commanded, are righteous and very faithful” (Psa 119:137-138).

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to guide the apostles into “all truth” (John 16:13), which we may read in the New Testament (cf. Eph 3:4; 1 Cor 14:37). When God’s truth is followed, right conduct will prevail. If our thoughts, words, and actions are right, then they are in harmony with God’s word; if not, then they are wrong.

Why is being right so important? God has made us responsible beings, and accountable to His Son the final Judge (cf. Rom 14:12; 2 Cor 5:10; Rev 20:12-15).

Green Meadow church of Christ  
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Sunday: 9:30; 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.