

Revelation 22:14-21 — The Great Invitation

This week we conclude our study of the book of Revelation, looking at Revelation chapter 22:14-21. This week we study the parting words of the book of Revelation. We find a blessing and a curse, the ultimate invitation, and a very strong warning concerning adding or taking away from with God's words. Let's start by reading Revelation 22:12-21.

Revelation 22:12-21

¹² "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last."

¹⁴ Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

A Blessing and a Curse

Revelation 22:14-15

Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

It's not made clear just who is speaking here. It could be John, or the angel, or Jesus Himself. But regardless, the words are true.

v 14 **Blessed *are* those who do His commandments:** Some Greek manuscripts read "**Blessed *are* those who do his commandments,**" and other Greek Manuscripts read "**Blessed *are* those who wash their robes.**" The difference is only a few letters in a very long Greek word.

HOIPLUNONTESTASSTOLAS (washed their robes) or
HOIPOIOUNTESTASENTOLAS (do His commandments)

This is an example of a scribal error. David Guzik says, “This is a good example of how a copyist’s error can cloud a text in rather minor ways, without affecting the essential meaning of the passage. Even allowing for the small percentage of disputed texts, we can trust our Bibles.”

“In either reading, the reference is to those who qualify for entrance, and the resultant meaning is much the same. In one case, attention is being directed to the keeping of the commandments, which is characteristic of believers, and in the other case to their cleansing by the blood of Christ with its emphasis upon the grace of God. On the basis of both facts, believers have access to the tree of life and the right to enter through the gates of the city.” (Walvoord)

v 14 **Blessed are those who do His commandments:** As we learned last week, we don’t earn salvation and eternal life by keeping the ten commandments, but it is evidence that we have been granted eternal life. Notice it says here, “**Blessed are those who do His commandments,**” not “**Saved are those who do His commandments.**”

Remember the quote from Jon Courson that well summarises the relationship between faith and works as described so well in James 2:14-26:

“It is not faith and works that saves a man. It is not faith or works. It is faith that works.”

Works are the fruit of salvation, the result of our being transformed into the image of Christ because we have the Holy Spirit living inside of us and that fact that we have been given a new nature.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Besides this, there is an *inherent* blessing in doing His commandments, because they are good and right for us. Here’s an example: if you steal you will feel guilty and will be punished if you are caught. But if you give, then you will experience both the joy of giving and the sweetness of abiding, and you will have an eternal reward waiting for you. Jesus speaks in the Gospel of John of the blessing of walking in obedience and abiding in Christ:

John 15:7-11

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

⁹ “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

¹¹ “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.

Again, for someone who is already saved, the blessing of keeping the commandments, of abiding in the Love of God, with our motive being our love for God and thankfulness to God for all He has done for us, is joy, fullness of joy.

v 14 **Blessed are those who do His commandments:** Here is the seventh and last beatitude of the book of Revelation. Remember that Blessed means “happy.” Let’s go through the seven beatitudes of Revelation. They make a good summary:

1. Revelation 1:3

Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near.

Notice here again, we are exhorted that to be happy, we need to not just to listen, but to hear and to do what God says in the book of Revelation.

2. Revelation 14:13

Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Write: ‘Blessed *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’”

The context here is that the Antichrist has implemented the mark of the beast and is actively on a seek and destroy mission to eliminate believers (Revelation 13:6, 15). Earth will not be a happy place for the tribulation saints. They will be much better off in Heaven in the direct presence of God.

3. Revelation 16:15

“Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed *is* he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.”

Here we are told that we will be happy if we are watching for Jesus coming and staying pure so that when He comes we will not be ashamed.

4. Revelation 19:9

Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.”

Truely, the marriage supper of the Lamb, which will happen at the start of the 1,000 year Millennial reign of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 25:6), will most certainly be a happy occasion. It is definitely something we should all be looking forward to.

5. Revelation 20:6

Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Happy is the one who is born again and is a part of the first resurrection — the resurrection of life (John 5:28-29), reserved for those who have their names written in the Book of Life and the Lamb’s Book of Life. Remember that the only alternative is the second resurrection, which happens at the end of the 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ (Revelation 20:5), and is reserved for those who don’t have their names in both the Book of Life and the Lamb’s book of Life.

6. Revelation 22:7

“Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

This is very similar to the seventh and final beatitude in verse 14,

7. Revelation 22:14 **Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.**

It's a vast understatement, to put it mildly, that those who have access to the New Jerusalem and the Tree of Life will be happy. We have learnt about this over the last couple of weeks.

1 Corinthians 2:9

But as it is written:

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

v 15 **But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers:** This sounds confusing. I thought that by this time all the unbelievers are in the Lake of Fire. Well, they are. This is just another way of saying that there won't be any sinners/unbelievers in heaven, that to be allowed into heaven, we must have been made morally pure and right with God through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as the propitiation for our sins.

First of all, what does it mean by **dogs**? “Why does it say that all **dogs** will be outside? ... what is meant here is “Not literal dogs, but the morally impure ... Dogs in the Oriental cities are scavengers and excite unspeakable contempt (Matthew 7:6; Philippians 3:2).” (Robertson)

Matthew 7:6

“Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

Philippians 3:2

Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation!

What about those **outside**? David Guzik says: “We shouldn't think that outside the walls of heaven multitudes will throng, longing to get in.” Mounce says “The verse does not intend to teach that in the eternal state all manner of wicked men will be living just outside the heavenly city. It simply describes the future with the imagery of the present.”

v 15 ...**sorcerers (drug takers) and sexually immoral and murderers:** “As in the former description of the unsaved, the issue *is* not that they have at some time committed sins of this character but rather that these are the settled characteristics of their lives from which they were never delivered although the grace of God made possible that deliverance.” (Walvoord)

Jesus Verifies that the Book of Revelation is Directly from God.

Revelation 22:16

“I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”

Jesus here leaves no doubt about the supernatural origin of the Book of Revelation. This message and words originated from Jesus. All the more reason to hear and obey. There is no more powerful way to authenticate a book of the bible than for God Himself to declare that he is the source or origin of the message.

v 16 **To testify to you these things in the churches:** The Book of Revelation is written to **the churches**. It's important to understand that the book of Revelation is not just for those who have gone to bible college — it is for all believers — all believers in the church age will be blessed if they hear and do the words of this book (Revelation 1:3). It's also worth noting that this is the first reference to the *church* since the letters to the seven churches in Revelation 2–3. Again this takes us back to:

Revelation 22:10

And he said to me, “Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand.

We must be ready, living in anticipation, having our vessels filled with oil. Remember the parable of the ten virgins in:

Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Now five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. ³ Those who *were* foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. ⁵ But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

⁶ “And at midnight a cry was *heard*: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’ ⁷ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ But the wise answered, saying, ‘*No*, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

¹¹ “Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ ¹² But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’

¹³ “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

What is the main point of the parable of the ten virgins? If you are not saved, if you don't have the Holy Spirit in you, then you will not go up at the rapture. You will be left behind and will have to endure the horrors of the 7 year tribulation described in chapters 6-19 of the book of Revelation. Therefore, be ready and waiting so you won't be left behind when Jesus says, “Come up here!” and we meet Him in the air.

v 16 **The Root and offspring of David:** This is a very descriptive Messianic title which goes back to Isaiah 11:1. It shows that Jesus is both the *Creator* of King David and His *descendent*. Jesus explained this in:

Matthew 22:41–46

Then, surrounded by the Pharisees, Jesus asked them a question: ⁴² “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

They replied, “He is the son of David.”

⁴³ Jesus responded, “Then why does David, speaking under the inspiration of the Spirit, call the Messiah ‘my Lord’? For David said,

⁴⁴ ‘The Lord said to my Lord, Sit in the place of honour at my right hand until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.’

⁴⁵ Since David called the Messiah ‘my Lord,’ how can the Messiah be his son?”

⁴⁶ No one could answer him. And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

The point here is that Jesus is God, the Lord. David, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, was able to look ahead and see that one of his descendants, the promised messiah, would be divine, he would be God.

Jon Courson puts it this way: “Jesus says, “I am both root and offspring of David. David comes from Me, and I from Him.” How can this be? As the babe of Bethlehem, Jesus was the offspring of David; but as the Christ of eternity, He existed before David.”

v 16 **Bright and Morning Star:** Again, this is another Messianic title from the Old Testament (Numbers 24:17) and the New Testament (Revelation 2:28). How is Jesus the Bright and Morning Star? Well, just as the **Morning Star** (generally held to be the planet Venus) shines and welcomes the new day, so does Jesus.

The ultimate invitation: The Spirit and the Bride say to all: Come!

Revelation 22:17

And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

“The invitation to come is given to a world that is lost and dying, doomed and damned. It is the Spirit who woos people to Jesus; but we, as the bride, have the privilege of issuing the invitation” (Jon Courson). Remember what our main purpose is as believers:

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸ Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not

imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

Are you inviting others to come? Remember that this is not the first time in Scripture that God has invited us to "Come." "Come" has always been the invitation...

- "Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord..." (Isaiah 1:18).
- "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;" (Isaiah 55:1).
- "Come unto Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest..." (Matthew 11:28).
- "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children" (Mark 10:14).
- "Come and see..." (John 1:39)."

Back to:

Revelation 22:17

And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

v 17 **Come!** "The invitation to come is an urgent command, for the day will arrive when it is too late to come. Now is the day of grace. The hour of judgment is impending." (Walvoord)

"Who can **come**? **Him who hears** can come to Jesus, but they can't come unless they hear. **Him who thirsts** can come to Jesus, but they can't come unless they feel their thirst. **Whoever desires** can come, but they can't come unless God works in their heart to desire Him.

So how do you know if God has worked in your heart? Go through a little checklist. Have you heard? Are you thirsty for God and eternal life? Do you want Him? Then **come!**" (David Guzik)

v 17 **Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely:** I love this, **whoever desires...** This is an open invitation to freely receive salvation from Jesus. All are welcome. However, an invitation is both an opportunity *and* a responsibility. If we decline an invitation, we can only blame ourselves. Jesus has made the way of salvation open to all men, but we must choose to walk in it. We can choose the highway to hell (the wide road), or the gateway to life (the narrow road).

Matthew 7:13-14

“You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. ¹⁴ But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.

v 17 ...**freely**: This reminds me of what Jesus said in:

Matthew 10:7-8

And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ ⁸ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

This teaches us another motive for reaching out to the lost, and giving sacrificially to the kingdom of God, is that what we received, we received freely or without cost. Therefore, we should freely share what we have freely received.

Here is an encouraging quote from David Guzik concerning “**Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely**”: This is an invitation so great that we can glory in it. *Anyone* who **desires** salvation in Jesus Christ can **come** to Him and **take the water of life freely**.

One might say, “I don’t understand all the Christian doctrine and theology”—come anyway, because it doesn’t say *whoever understands, let him take the water of life freely*.

One might say, “I can’t repent the way I should. My heart is hard and I can’t even weep over my sins or feel bad over them as I should”—come anyway, because it doesn’t say *whoever feels, let him take the water of life freely*.

One might say, “I don’t know if I can live the Christian life the way that I should”—come anyway, because it doesn’t say *whoever can, let him take the water of life freely*.

One might say, “I don’t know if I am worthy to live the Christian life”—come anyway, because it doesn’t say *whoever is worthy, let him take the water of life freely*.

It is really this simple: do you **desire** Jesus and His salvation? Then **come**. Can you say, “Now, Lord, I desire to be saved, give me a new heart; I desire to give up my sins; I desire to be a Christian; I desire to believe and desire to obey. But I have no strength to do this. I have the desire, give me the power.” If this is your desire, then you are freely invited to come, if you are only willing. There is no barrier between you and Jesus except your stubborn will.”

v 17 **Let him take the water of life freely**: “Take” means to receive, accept, take hold of, select, take up, or take possession of. Remember that all religion is man seeking to earn favour with God by some form of good works. But true christianity, in contrast, is God seeking relationship with man by freely giving Himself as the payment for our sins. This is clearly stated in:

Ephesians 2:8-9

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

v 17 **Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely:** What a way to finish the book of Revelation; inviting us to freely receive His Salvation. Spurgeon puts it this way: "All the prophets of the Bible, all the apostles of the Bible, all the threatenings of the Bible, all the promises of the Bible, gather themselves up, and focus themselves into this one burning ray, 'Come to Jesus. Come, and take the water of life freely.' "

A severe warning!

Revelation 22:18-19

For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

It's very simple. Those who tamper with the word of God generally, but especially with the Book of Revelation, will pay an exceedingly high price for their folly and pride. Walvoord puts it well:

"What a solemn warning this is to critics who have tampered with this book and other portions of Scripture in arrogant self-confidence that they are equipped intellectually and spiritually to determine what is true and what is not true in the Word of God."

Remember what James says about those who teach:

James 3:1 NKJ

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

Now we know just how strict the judgement will be for those who teach the word of God who pervert or misrepresent God and the gospel of grace through false teaching. He who **adds** or **takes away**...**God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.**

However, this especially applies to prophecy, which many pastors and bible teachers either ignore or allegorise, both to their own detriment, and also the detriment of their hearers. A good example of this **adding** and **taking** from the word of God is the false teaching called "replacement theology," which teaches that God has permanently rejected the nation of Israel because they rejected the Messiah. They have taken away or removed Israel from God's prophetic plan and added the church in her place. They say all God's unconditional, covenant promises previously given to Israel are now transferred to the church. But this is in direct contradiction to the many promises and statements that God makes that He will never, ever, ever, break His covenant promises with Israel. Here is just one:

Jeremiah 31:31-37

“The day is coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. ³² This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. **They broke that covenant,** though I loved them as a husband loves his wife,” says the Lord.

³³ “But this is the new covenant **I will** make with the people of Israel **after those days,**” says the Lord. “**I will** put my instructions deep within them, and **I will** write them on their hearts. **I will** be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ And they will not need to teach their neighbours, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, ‘You should know the Lord.’ **For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already,**” says the Lord. “And **I will** forgive their wickedness, and **I will** never again remember their sins.”

³⁵ It is the Lord who provides the sun to light the day and the moon and stars to light the night, and who stirs the sea into roaring waves. His name is the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, and this is what he says:

³⁶ “I am as likely to reject my people Israel as I am to abolish the laws of nature!”

³⁷ This is what the Lord says:

“Just as the heavens cannot be measured and the foundations of the earth cannot be explored, so I will not consider casting them away for the evil they have done. I, the Lord, have spoken!

Not only will God not forget Israel, but He will establish the New Covenant with them — this is still future. Notice all the “**I will**” statements; these are all unconditional promises that God is making with the nation of Israel. Israel as a nation has not yet returned to God, but they will, by the end of the 7 year tribulation. Romans 9-11 speak about Israel’s national restoration as the people of God. This is the main purpose of the Tribulation, for God to work with and purify and refine the nation of Israel. When Jesus comes back at the end of the seven years, Israel will once again say, “blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Luke 13:34-35

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen *gathers* her brood under *her* wings, but you were not willing! ³⁵ **See! Your house is left to you desolate;** and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until *the time* comes when you say, ‘*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!*’ ”

In context, Jesus is referring here to His second coming.

In summary, everyone who teaches the bible should take these verses from 2 Timothy 2:15-17 to heart:

2 Timothy 2:15-17

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. ¹⁶ But shun profane *and* idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. ¹⁷ And their message will spread like cancer.

Final Words

Revelation 22:20-21 He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.”

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

v 20 **Surely I am coming quickly:** What is one of the most important lessons that we learn from the book of Revelation? To be ready and watchful. Remember:

1 John 3:3

And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He (Jesus) is pure.

v 20 **Even so, come, Lord Jesus!** This phrase is the Aramaic expression that was well known in the ancient church: *Maranatha!*

After describing many prophetic events throughout the book of Revelation, the focus again comes back to the church (v 16) and the rapture (v 20). As a church and individually, we should be “looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13). Remember what we learned last week, that, according to the scriptures, this is our main source of hope.

v 21 **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen:** The book (and the Bible) closes by reminding us of the main theme of the entire bible — grace — God’s undeserved and unmerited favour in His dealing with a sinful, fallen, unworthy and undeserving mankind. There is **grace** for **all**. How sweet God’s grace is. There is nothing so beautiful as knowing that God loves me, even though I don’t deserve to be loved. I am loved even though I am unworthy of His love. When I was weak and a sinner, Christ died for me (Romans 5:6,8).

“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.”

There is a striking contrast between the end of the Old and New Testaments:

“The last verse of the Old Testament contains a curse: *Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse* (Malachi 4:6). Fittingly, the last words of the New Testament speak of **grace**, because **grace** describes God’s dealing with man on the basis of the New Covenant” (David Guzik).

To close, I would like to read Titus 2:11-14 which is a beautiful summary of the main application that we get from the book of Revelation:

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people. ¹² And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ¹³ while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, will be revealed. ¹⁴ He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds.