

## Introduction

1. Does the church do good to everyone?
2. Doing good is the idea of benevolence.
  - a. Benevolence is defined as “disposition to do good” or “an act of kindness” (Merriam-Webster’s collegiate dictionary).
3. It is good to be zealous in a good thing always ([Gal. 4:18](#)).
  - a. We must be committed to the church in the area of benevolence.
  - b. It is never wrong to do good and so we must make sure we are doing good.
  - c. **Who** defines good? God does ([Ps. 25:8](#); cf. [Ps. 86:5](#); [Lk. 18:19](#))!
  - d. **What** defines what is good? God’s Holy Word ([2 Tim. 3:16-17](#))!
  - e. Therefore, I can go to God’s Word, learn from it, and know exactly what good is and then practice it.

## I. The Gist of the Old Law

1. A lawyer could not keep his mouth shut ([Mt. 22:34-36](#)).
2. The first and great commandment ([Mt. 22:37-38](#)).
  - a. The first and foremost duty under the Old Law was to **completely** love God.
  - b. Under the New Testament this principle has not changed ([Mt. 6:33](#)).
3. The second commandment is similar ([Mt. 22:39](#)).
  - a. The next duty under the Old Law was to love their neighbor as themselves.
  - b. Under the New Testament we have the golden rule ([Mt. 7:12](#)).
4. This is what it is all about ([Mt. 22:40](#)).

## II. Who is My Neighbor?

1. Another lawyer tested Jesus ([Lk. 10:25](#)).
  - a. Jesus pointed him to the Scriptures ([Lk. 10:26](#)).
  - b. His reply was a good one ([Lk. 10:27-28](#)).
  - c. The lawyer wanted to justify himself and asked another question ([Lk. 10:29](#)).

2. The parable of the good Samaritan ([Lk. 10:30-37](#)).
  - a. We conclude that our neighbor is the one we have the **opportunity** and **ability** to help ([Lk. 10:33-36](#)).
  - b. We must do likewise ([Lk. 10:37](#)).

### III. Doing the Most Good

1. The church is God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works ([Eph. 2:10](#)).
2. The church does the most good because her Head did the same ([Ac. 10:38](#); [Eph. 1:20-23](#)).
  - a. Tabitha understood this ([Ac. 9:36-39](#)).
  - b. Pure and undefiled religion defined ([Jm. 1:27](#)).
3. The church does the most good by being eager to help the needy ([Gal. 2:10](#)).
  - a. Be a sheep ([Mt. 25:33-40](#)).
4. The church does the most good by loving her enemies ([Rm. 12:19-21](#)).
  - a. This is contrary to how many think but necessary nonetheless ([Mt. 5:43-48](#))!
5. The church does the most good by standing on the truth and teaching it ([Rm. 10:13-17](#)).
  - a. God wanted His Law heard by all so that they may fear and obey Him ([Dt. 31:12-13](#)).
  - b. We speak the truth in love ([Eph. 4:15](#)).

### Conclusion

1. The church is a benevolent organization.
2. The greatest good we can do for anyone is to teach them the gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - a. A soul is worth more than all the world ([Mt. 16:26](#)).
  - b. Let us be sure as we help with physical needs that we do not neglect the greater spiritual needs!
3. Be committed to the church in doing good.