

## Doing Beautiful Things

I. **Shortly before Paul was martyred he wrote to Titus exhorting him to continue his work on Crete. He used several phrases in this letter to Titus that are particularly revealing about the love and power the Spirit releases through ordinary believers to the world around them.**

- A. In Titus, chapter 3, Paul addresses the attitude believers should have to rulers, authorities and everyone else. He also reminds the Church of the amazing transformation, mercy, and love we receive in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:1-7).
- B. In Titus 3:8, Paul mentions that God’s people should “devote themselves to doing what is good,” using the Greek word “kalos” for “good.”
- C. Kalos means “attractively good: good that inspires (motivates) others to embrace what is lovely (beautiful–praiseworthy)” (Helps Word Studies).

II. **The Greek word “kalos” is also used in Mark 14 to describe the “beautiful” thing Mary of Bethany did to worship Jesus (Mark 14:3-9).**

- A. When the disciples were indignant, Jesus said, “Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me” (Mark 14:6).
- B. The word translated “beautiful” is “kalos,” the word described earlier in Titus 3:8. William Barclay says that “kalos” means “winsome and lovely, with a certain bloom of charm upon it. Love not only does good things; love does lovely things. If love is true, there must always be a certain extravagance in it. It is not concerned to see how little it can discreetly give. There is a recklessness in love which refuses to count the cost.”
- C. Jesus already knew what was going to happen with His death, resurrection, and the preaching of the Gospel. It is remarkable that a beautiful act of love like this is given a special place in history as an example for all of us (Mark 14:9).

III. **Fortunately, we are not left alone to do beautiful (kalos) things. We can receive the beautiful love of the Father as part of our normal experience with God, just as the disciples did (Romans 8:14-16).**

- A. No fear—just Abba Daddy, Father (Romans 8:15)
- B. Strong testimony of the Spirit that we are beloved children (Romans 8:16, 31-39)
- C. A strong love for the people of the world as a result of this encounter of love. “We know and rely on the love God has for us...We love because He first loved us” (1 John 4:16, 19).
- D. From this place “Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives” (Titus 3:14).
- E. Examples of learning to devote ourselves to doing good among the weak
- F. New beautiful opportunities in the world beckon us (example of Ukraine).

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March 13, 2022*