



Midweek Meditation



*“Well done, good and faithful servant... Enter into the joy of your master.”
Matthew 25:21*

*We should learn that just as God saves us out of pure goodness, without any merit of works, so we in our turn should do the works without reward... A son serves his father willingly and without reward, as his heir, solely for the father's sake. But a son who served his father merely for the sake of inheritance would indeed be a wicked child and would deserve to be cast off by his father... So it is between God and us with regard to eternal salvation. God rewards our good works, not because of our merit but because of His own promise, according to which He has pledged Himself to reward our works out of pure grace. **Martin Luther***

A Christian understands that his good works cannot help him, but only his neighbor. He does good works, therefore, not to gain a reward from God, but because love for God dwells in his heart. When God will say to him on the Last Day, *“Well done, good and faithful servant...”* he will rightly see these words as being addressed to Christ who did His good works in him and through him. We are like the dust rag at the end of a day of house cleaning. It was Jesus who did all the work. We are privileged to have been the rag which He used. To God alone be the glory!

Not unto us, not unto us be glory, Lord; not unto us but to Your name be praise; not unto us but to Your name all honor be given for matchless mercy, forgiveness, and grace. Amen.