

Series: Behold the Lamb

GREATER WORKS THAN THESE

JOHN 14:12-16

Text: John 14:12

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¹² *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and **greater works than these** shall he do; because I go unto my Father.*

Introduction:

When you think of this statement our Lord made, one may ask how can this be?

The Lord walked on water.

The Lord raised the dead back to life.

The Lord restored sight to the blind.

The Lord fed the multitude with a lads lunch.

Though all these are certainly great what work did He really come to do?

Luke 19:10

¹⁰ *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

The truth is if we had the ability to raise someone from the dead, they would die again – but when we lead a person to the Lord, they will never die.

We can't all be preachers but we can all be pointer – pointing men, women, boys, and girls to the Saviour.

Notice with me three simple truths as we consider this statement our Saviour made – “Greater Works Than These Shall He Do.”

Note:

1. THE POTENTIAL (VS. 12)

John 14:12

¹² Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

This potential is contingent upon a key word found in this verse.

That word is believe.

Another word for believe is “faith.”

Faith is essential to the Christian life.

Note:

Habakkuk 2:4

⁴ Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but **the just shall live by his faith.**

Romans 1:17

¹⁷ For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.**

Galatians 3:11

¹¹ But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, **The just shall live by faith.**

Hebrews 10:38

³⁸ **Now the just shall live by faith:** but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

The first we see here is the potential, notice also:

2. THE PROMISE (VS. 12)

John 14:12

¹² Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do **shall he do** also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Again as we think about the works our Saviour did was to help people spiritually.

He won the woman at the well to Himself

He recruited Matthew the Tax Collector

He saved Zachaeus another Tax Collector

The Lord told us that we will do greater works.

We can lead people to the Lord.

We teach and encourage other Christians

Note not only the potential and the promise but not also:

3. THE PRAYING (VS. 13)

John 14:13

¹³ And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

The ONLY way to do greater works is to bathe ALL that we do in prayer.

Remember:

When we work we work – but when we pray God works.

4. THE PRACTICE (VS. 15)

John 14:15

¹⁵ *If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

We read in Matthew 22 the two commandments on which hang all the law.

Note:

Matthew 22:36-40

³⁶ *Master, which is the great commandment in the law?* ³⁷ **Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.** ³⁸ *This is the first and great commandment.* ³⁹ *And **the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*** ⁴⁰ *On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*

One can never do greater works if they do not love the Lord first and foremost and then love others as themselves.

Our love for the Lord is seen in keeping His commandments.

Many say they love the Lord and yet disobey His Word and Commands – but that is simply not true.

Notice not only “The Potential” “The Promise” “The Practice” but also:

5. THE POWER (VS. 16)

John 14:16

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

The Comforter or the Holy Spirit enables us to do greater things.

Note:

- He Is Our Comforter and Counselor

Isaiah 11:2

² *And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;*

John 15:26

²⁶ *But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:*

John 16:7

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

John 16:13

¹³ Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

He Is Our Guide

John 16:13

¹³ Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

1 Corinthians 2:14

¹⁴ But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

- He Is Our Intercessor

Romans 8:26

²⁶ *Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

- He Is Our Teacher

John 14:26

²⁶ *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

1 Corinthians 2:13

¹³ *Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.*

- He Convicts of Sin

John 15:7-11

⁷ *If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.* ⁸ *Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.* ⁹ *As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.* ¹⁰ *If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his*

love. ¹¹ *These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.*

Note His role in our lives:

John 16:7-11

⁷ *Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.* ⁸ *And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:* ⁹ *Of sin, because they believe not on me;* ¹⁰ *Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;* ¹¹ *Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.*

There are some signs that one is filled or controlled by the spirit.

Note:

- Joyful

Ephesians 5:18-19

¹⁸ *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;* ¹⁹ *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;*

Galatians 5:22-23

²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,* ²³ *Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

Philippians 4:11

¹¹ *Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.*

Another sign that an individual is controlled or filled with the Spirit is:

- Thankfulness

Ephesians 5:20

²⁰ *Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;*

One additional sign is:

- Submissiveness

Ephesians 5:21-33

²¹ *Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.* ²² *Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.* ²³ *For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.* ²⁴ *Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be*

to their own husbands in every thing. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; ²⁶ That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. ²⁹ For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: ³⁰ For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. ³¹ For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. ³² This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. ³³ Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Close:

What an amazing statement the Lord made. How can we do greater works?

We must see the potential, believe His promise, fervently and faithfully pray, we must practice keeping His commandments, and depend on His power.