

FULL OF GOOD WORKS

By Andy Laux

In *Acts 9:36-43*, we read of an early disciple of Christ named Tabitha (Dorcas). The scriptures tell us that she was “*full of good works and charitable deeds.*” It is evident that she was much appreciated, and even admired by the Christians in Joppa. She was appreciated because of her faith and her willingness to put her faith into action by ministering to others. She is so well known and appreciated that the name Dorcas is still even today, by some, synonymous with the one who does good for others.

Most congregations have their Dorcas. South Anchorage certainly does. Most of these ladies (and men) go about their daily work for the Lord with little fanfare or public recognition. That is the way they want it to be. However, we should be like the members of the church at Joppa and show our appreciation to them when we have the opportunity. The scriptures tell us that “*she became sick and died.*” It seems as though her church family was heartbroken because of this. Not because of the good deeds she *did* for them, but I believe, because of her faith and care for the things of the Lord. They were so devastated by her death that they sent for Peter because they believed he could help. You know the rest of the story, Peter came and through Jesus raised her back to life.

Dorcas was probably not a high profile member of the church in Joppa. She was merely a woman living in a “man’s world.” There were many opportunities open to men that were not open to her. Jesus said of the woman who anointed Him for His burying, “*she hath done what she could*” (Mark 14:8). The same could be said of Dorcas, perhaps making clothes for others does not seem like much to us, but it certainly was to the Christians in Joppa, also to Peter and the Lord. The Lord allowed Peter to raise Dorcas from the dead, not only to confirm the word Peter spoke, but I believe, to make her an example for all of us to follow in faith.

Let us, as Dorcas, practice our faith daily.