

Readings from the Word of God

Sunday, 27 October 2021

Matthew 12:9-14

Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue. And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"—that they might accuse Him.

Then He said to them, "What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." Then He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and it was restored as whole as the other. Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him.

True Christian Religion §422

Charity Itself Is Acting Justly and Faithfully in Our Position and Our Work and with the People with Whom We Interact...

This is charity itself because it can be defined as follows: charity is doing good to our neighbour daily and constantly - not only to our neighbour as an individual but also to our neighbour collectively. The only way to do this is through practicing goodness and justice in our position and work and with the people with whom we have any interaction, because these are things we do every day. When we are not doing them, they still stay in our minds all the time; we think about them and intend to do them.

Luke 10:38-42

Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

True Christian Religion §329

Briefly put, we are not to intend, think, or do evil against God or against our neighbour.

We are not commanded to do things that directly relate to charity; instead, we are commanded not to do things that are the opposite of charity. This is because the more we abstain from evils because they are sins, the more we want the goodness that relates to charity.

In loving God and our neighbour, the first step is not doing evil, and the second step is doing good, as you will see in the chapter on charity.