

WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED FOR GOOD WORKS (Ephesians 2:8-10)

I. INTRODUCTION (1:1-2)

II. THE BELIEVER'S POSITION IN CHRIST (1:3-3:21)

A. OUR PRIOR CONDITION IN ADAM (2:1-3)

B. OUR PRESENT POSITION IN CHRIST (2:4-7)

C. OUR SALVATION- HOW IT WAS RECEIVED IN CHRIST (2:8-9)

1. Now the statement made parenthetically back in verse 5 ("*by grace you have been saved*") is repeated, _____ and _____ by the apostle of grace.
2. The objective _____ of your salvation is " _____ " alone. (Rom. 5:14-15)

* What does grace mean?

* The word "*saved*" is in the perfect tense in the Greek, how does this underscore the believer's eternal security?

3. The subjective _____ by which we receive salvation is "*through faith*" (i.e., personal trust in Christ); it is the _____ element that the sinner _____ to the great transaction of salvation. (Rom. 3:22-25; 5:1-2; Gal. 2:16)

* Faith must have an object. In the context of verses 8 & 9, who is the object of the believer's faith in those verses?

4. The pronoun "*that*" ("*that not of yourselves*") has proven to be very problematic in theological circles, especially among Calvinists.

a. The pronoun "*that*" (neuter gender) _____ refer back to "*grace*" (feminine gender), because the pronoun _____ the noun that it modifies.

- b. Rules of _____ matter, the same thing is true for the word “*faith*” (feminine gender), it does _____ match the pronoun “*that*” (neuter gender).
- c. The pronoun “*that*” _____ refer back to the wonderful _____ by grace “package” that was just mentioned in the immediate context, found in verses 4-8a.
5. No one is saved by works, no one can _____ God to give him heaven as a _____. Faith on the other hand, is a non-meritorious act; it is _____ a work. (v. 9, cf., Rom. 4:2-5; 11:5-6; Gal. 2:16, 21; Titus 3:5)

D. OUR PRESENT PURPOSE IN FULFILLING GOD’S WILL (2:10)

1. Believers are considered God’s “*workmanship*” (Gr. *poiema*), the Greek word is where we get the English word _____; we are God’s work of _____, His _____. (v. 10a)

2. The phrase “*created in Christ Jesus*” explains the words “*a new creation*” found in 2 Corinthians 5:17 & Galatians 6:15; the word “_____” is only used of God because it speaks of that which _____ can do. (v. 10b, cf., Eph. 4:24)

3. Here is the balance of faith and works: We are not saved _____ good works, but we were saved _____ good works. (v. 10c, cf. Col. 1:9-10; 2 Tim. 1:8-9; Titus 2:14; 3:8)

4. Regarding these good works, Paul did _____ say we are to “work in them” but that we are to “walk in them;” it is not doing a work _____ God, but God doing a work _____ and _____ the believer (v. 10d, cf. 2 Cor. 9:8; Gal. 2:20; Philip. 2:12-14)

* How can you personally apply this truth today?