

EPHESIANS

IN CHRIST

Sermon Points

Week 7 - 10.30.22 | Tyler Wilson

Title: Crafted for Good Works

Scripture: Ephesians 2:10

Main Point: In saving us, God has personally crafted us for a new life of specific good works.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:10 ESV - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.

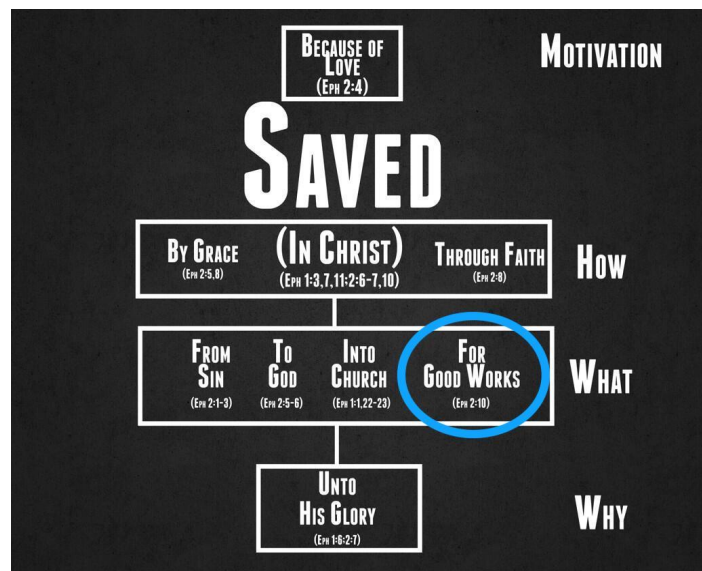
These verses show that works do not save:

- Galatians 2:16 ESV - yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.
- Galatians 3:10 ESV - For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them."
- Romans 3:20, 28 ESV - For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. ... For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Jesus + Nothing = Everything
Jesus + Something = Nothing

Saved FOR Good Works

We're not saved as a result of good works, but saved with good works as the result.



2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:10 ESV - For we are his **ποίημα**, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

ποίημα = ποιēma

1. that which has been made
2. a work
 - a. of the works of God as creator

Salvation is a **work of God**.

We are his poetry, his unique creation.

You were saved for a purpose!

- James 2:18 ESV - But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.
- Luke 6:43-44 ESV - "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.

Good works - Faith-filled acts of love to others done in joyful obedience to God.

Yes Good works require a ready posture, yes we are to be zealous in them (Titus 3), but they are less about us preparing for them and more about us walking in what God has already prepared for us.

- What commands has he already laid out - GO!
- Where has he placed you - your home, your work, your neighborhood, your friends, your GC - GO!
- What needs are around you - GO!
- What natural skills and passions has he given you - GO!
- What spiritual gifts has He placed within you - GO!
- What open doors is He providing you - GO!

What good works would you have for me....

1. Today - immediate, changing, and mainly responsive
2. Season - longer, committed until further notice, proactive & responsive
3. Lifetime - unchanging calling on life, mainly proactive

We are...

#1 - CREATED - rely on His work, not ours - (GOSPEL)

- Implication - to know I'm saved by grace alone liberates me from the pride of imagining I can save myself or the terror of realizing I can't.

#2 - CRAFTED - rejoice in His workmanship of you - (IDENTITY)

- Implication - to know I am a good work liberates me from ever feeling insignificant and worthless or lacking awe in worship.

#3 - CALLED - respond with your specific good works - (ACTIVITY)

- Implication - to know I've been saved for good works liberates me from a lazy and loveless disengagement from the world or from ever feeling useless and without purpose.