

# **DOING GOOD**

## **Ephesians 2:10**

**We are not saved by good works but cannot serve without them**

### **I. EXHIBITING GOD'S DESIGN** (10a)

- Good works are a way of showing off God's work

#### **A. HIS WORKMANSHIP**

1. Especially formed: Workmanship
  - a. Personally brought together as God's poem
  - b. Corporately put together as God' poetry book - See I Cor. 12:14-25
2. Especially possessed: His workmanship
  - a. We belong to Him
  - b. We are: designed by Him ... collected by Him ... organized by Him ... interwoven by Him ... signed by Him ...

#### **B. CHRIST'S CREATION**

1. A Transformation
  - a. Made alive with Christ (see v. 5)
  - b. Made a new creation - II Cor. 5:17
  - c. Example: Paul's conversion - See I Tim. 1:12-17
2. The Transaction
  - a. Something never before seen ... this is brand new
  - b. Example: The reality of Pentecost in Acts 2:1-17

### **II. ENGAGING GOD'S WORK** (10b)

- Good works are a way of showing our commitment to God's work

#### **A. ACTIVE WORKS**

1. Put together and created for work
  - a. God created us to do something
    - Faith and works go together - James 2:18
  - b. God saved us to serve (work)
    - A non-serving saint is a disappointment to God and a discredit to Christianity
2. Expected to expend energy
  - a. Working not just thinking about it or intending to do so
  - b. Example: Epaphroditus in Phil. 2:29-30
    - See also the household of Stephanas in I Cor. 16:15-16

## B. GOOD WORKS

1. "Good" indicates that which is beneficial, useful and admirable
  - Consider the example of Dorcus in Acts 9:36
2. These bring glory to God - Matthew 5:16
3. These earn us a hearing with unbelievers - I Peter 2:12
4. Many charities are the outgrowth of Christian's good works

## C. PRESCRIBED WORKS

1. Those that are "prepared beforehand" or predetermined
  - a. Remember God's expectations
    - He has a particular plan in mind for us personally and collectively
  - b. Reflect on God's equipment
    - 1) What has He given you?
    - 2) What is your spiritual gift (or gifts)?
2. We must practice according to His preparation of us - I Peter 4:10

## D. FAITHFUL WORK

1. Walking in good works
  - Bearing fruit by being where we're supposed to be - John 15:5
2. Walking worthy of our calling - Eph. 4:2
3. Being zealous for good deeds - Titus 2:13-14
4. Being content and growing competent in the place and on the path where God has put you
  - a. Even when you want to leave! - See Phil. 1:23-25
  - b. Not growing restless or becoming jealous of other paths - Phil. 3:13-14
5. Staying on course
  - Not deserting like John Mark (Acts 13:13 and 15:28) or Demas (II Tim. 4:10)

## CONCLUSION:

**Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not *in vain* in the Lord.  
- I Corinthians 15:58**

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