

Created in Christ for Good Works

Ephesians 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

Ephesians 2:5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

Ephesians 2:6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

Ephesians 2:7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

We have seen how much God loves us, even when we were unbelievers. He loved us so much He sent His own Son to the suffering of the cross.

Ephesians 2:4b-5...because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions (which He sent His Son to the cross)...(He) made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).

Here is the reason why we should love Him everyday and why we should serve Him everyday and why we should tell everyone over and over so that in the ages to come He might show the boundless riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. God loves.

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

Ephesians 2:6 and raised us up with Him, (raised up with Jesus Christ) and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus you.

This took us to the work of the Holy Spirit toward everyone who believes in Jesus Christ as Savior.

Ephesians 2:7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

This is absolutely wonderful, for more that we can anticipate from God for all eternity. We think that God did the most wonderful grace in our salvation, but God saved us and did some 34 things for us, so that in eternity He can give us even greater and eternal blessings. We can think through all eternity, of more and more of the blessings God can keep on giving us!

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Verses 8-9 are probably two of the most quoted verses in the Bible, second only to the single verse or John 3:16.

The mechanics of our salvation could not be clearer than, we are saved by the Grace of God plus the faith response of those who trust in Jesus.

For by Grace you have been and eternally saved by faith alone, Verse 8 shows us one more example of our eternal security in Christ. Never forget that Grace is given to us by God the Father because of His love of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, (from the Justice of God) but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Another declaration by the Love of God.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

We are saved by grace!

And we are created for work from Jesus Christ.

We should know we are Saved because of God's grace and received by faith, by those who trust in Jesus Christ as our Savior.

We now have in verse 10 what God wants from us as Christians us to have a lifestyle of **servicing God**

We actually are something God makes: we are His production. Remember, in Ephesians 2:1 we were found spiritually dead. That is, we were found as a set of problems, that we were completely incapable of works before God.

Then, verse 2 found us under the control of Satan, that is, there was an interruption of normal function. Then, in verse 3, were under control of the sin nature which found us mentally ill. And the Greek word for *workmanship* means that God takes us in a state of disorder and makes us into a state of order. We have studied that we were incurably sick (Jeremiah 17:9), we were 'full of evil' (Ecclesiastes 9:3) and we were insane (Ecclesiastes 9:30). But God put all of us into a state of order. By salvation we have to be "His workmanship" and only by His workmanship. At salvation we **receive** the work of God at the cross.

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus (that God worked on us at salvation, at the work of Jesus Christ.) for good works (for the purpose of good works,) which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

First, this refers to billions of years ago. The good works were designed by God long before you existed. Remember that God did not design who would not believe in Jesus but God knew exactly who would believe and who would not.

By which God prepared beforehand so what we would walk in them. God sent His Son to the cross, and then God gave to everyone who believed in Jesus Christ, His perfect Righteousness. So, everyone who believed in Jesus Christ was forgiven of all sins. God has imputed perfect Righteousness so that everyone could walk in the righteousness of God, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

I want you to grasp the work, and the design not of Jesus but of God the Father.

1. He made us alive together in Christ;
2. He raised us up with Him;
3. He seated us with Him;
4. He gave us His grace in Kindness toward us in Christ;
5. Our salvation is a Gift from God;
6. We are His workmanship;
7. God prepared us before hand so that we would walk in Him.

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

We know of the love and greatness of Jesus Christ in dying, paying for our sins. But please never forget that Jesus came to take us to the Father. Jesus teaches that He came from the Father and “I only do the Will of the Father,” and “I will go back to the Father.” All that I am and do was to reveal to man the Father. Then in

John 14:6 No man comes unto the Father but through me.

Jesus is the only way to get to God the Father.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

We are saved by Jesus that we might do the Will of the Father.

Matthew 7:21 Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

We are told in Ephesians 2:10 that God prepared us that we will walk in good works. Before we look at walking in the Word of God let’s note the ways that we might know God’s will.

1. Seek first His kingdom;

Matthew 6:32 For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

Matthew 6:33 But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you.

2. God's children are led by His Spirit;

Romans 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

3. Test and approve God's Will;

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

4. Understand what the Lord's will is:

Ephesians 5:15 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise,

Ephesians 5: 16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil.

Ephesians 5: 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

Ephesians 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,

singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord;

Ephesians 5: 20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God and Father;

5. According to His Good purpose;

Philippians 2:12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

Philippians 2:13 for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

6. God's will in Christ Jesus;

1 Thessalonians 5:16 Rejoice always,

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing,

1 Thessalonians 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

7. When you have done the will of God;

Hebrews 10:35 Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

Hebrews 10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised

8. Equipped to do God's will;

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, that is, Jesus our Lord,

Hebrews 13:21 equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to who

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them

Now, lets look at the

Doctrine of Walking

To Walk is used to indicate – *to live*

Words by Paul: **For me to live is Christ**

1st Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me

Then in Galatians chapter 3 it is about faith in the Holy Spirit.

2nd 2 Corinthians 5:14 For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died;

2 Corinthians 5:15 and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf

3rd Romans 14:7 For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself

Romans 14:8 for if we live we live for the Lord, or if we die we die for the Lord; therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and the living.

4th Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

1. The word 'to walk' is a most applicable word for living a life pleasing to God. While 'running' is often used for acceleration of Christian growth, no one '*runs*' all the time. Just as walking requires one step at a time, so living each day worthy of the Lord requires living *one volitional decision at a time*.
2. Let us develop the analogy of this word from the standpoint of the *mechanics* of walking. Whether you aware of it, your body is *off balance* for a split second until you put your foot down and move forward. And as you put your foot forward and down you *move forward* on balance.

As we walk each day in the Angelic Conflict we can most easily become off balance, but *stabilized by continuing to walk by faith in the power of the Holy Spirit and growing in wisdom and understanding from the Word of God*.

This also brings up the mechanical point of *momentum*. As we continue to walk in one direction, we build up *momentum in walking*.

It is most interesting to watch and observe either a baby beginning to walk or to watch someone re-learning to walk after an accident. Not that certain of lifting the foot and planting it and then lifting another, but soon they both learn to develop momentum in walking.

So it is in the Christian walk, we should desire *momentum* in our walk to please God the Father. We build this *momentum* by continually walking by faith and continually growing in Wisdom and Understanding from the intake of the Word of God.

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

3. Now we look at four spheres of the believers walk in *walking worthy of the Lord*.
- A. In the Holy Spirit. Galatians 5:16.
 - B. By faith 2 Corinthians 5:7; *for we walk by faith, not by sight*. This one is most interesting, for when we physically walk we walk by sight, but Spiritually we walk by faith—that is by means of Faith in the Holy Spirit.
 - C. We *walk in Truth*, that is we walk in the knowledge of the Word of God as seen in

2 John 4 I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth.

- D. *We are to walk in Spiritual Love*. So we are to walk in the Holy Spirit, in Truth and in Spiritual love, which means we walk by Faith. It is impossible to walk worth of God the Father so as to please Him, without walking by faith in the Holy Spirit.

Colossians 2:6 therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him. (And we received Christ by faith.)

4. Walking, therefore is a description of the Filling of the Holy Spirit. Galatians 5:16 and Romans 8:2-4.
5. There are some *strong warnings* concerning how we walk in the Father.
- A. Therefore be careful how you walk, not as **unwise** men but as wise. How does a wise man walk? By the power of the Holy Spirit, guided by doctrine in the soul.
 - B. Be careful and not walk in darkness.

1 John 1:6 If we say/claim that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not proclaim the truth; (What about walking in Darkness?)

John 15:35 So Jesus said to them, “For a little while longer the Light is among you (That is Jesus Christ, the Light of the world) **Walk while you have the light, so that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes.**

I am afraid that the epitaph of many Christians will read ‘*he never knew where he was going.*

John 8:12 then Jesus again spoke to them saying, **I am the light of the world**, he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.

C. Walk naked

Revelation 16:15 Behold I am coming like a thief, Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that **he will not walk about naked** and men will not see his shame.

So, we are not to *walk* as *unwise* but as *wise*, that is by wisdom from the Word of God;

not to walk in darkness

not walk about naked of our position in Christ

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

6. There are many description in God's Word of how a believer is to walk before God.
 - A. Walking worthy of the Lord. Colossians 1:10 and Ephesians 4:1.
 - B. Walking to please the Lord. Colossians 1:10.
 - C. Walking in the Newness of life. Romans 6:4.
 - D. Walking worthy of your calling in Christ. Ephesians 4:1.
 - E. Walking in good works. Ephesians 2:10.

7. We will look at some points on walking in a manner that is worthy of the Lord

- A. Confidence of walking with the Lord:

Isaiah 43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire (severe testing) and you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you.

- B. The love of God calls for us to walk in a manner that pleases Him.

Jeremiah 6:16 thus says the Lord, "Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths (His Word) Where the good way is, and walk in it; and (result) you will find rest for your souls. But they said , 'we will not walk in it'"

8. Three Summary Points

Created in Christ for Good Works
Ephesians 2:10

First: You have to know Jesus Christ and God the Father to please Him. This can be accomplished through the study of the Word of God.

Second: You have to desire to please Him not please yourself. This desire comes from the power of the Holy Spirit.

Third: And important, Be ready to Sacrifice!

Often to please someone else will require sacrifice on your part. Are you ready to sacrifice to please God”

Often people do not mind sacrifice of money, just don't ask them to sacrifice time! On the other hand others have time but do not ask them to sacrifice money!

Are you ready to sacrifice a self-pleasing life to live a life that is pleasing to God the Father?

Love: to live your life to please God the Father you must love God the Father but that requires the filling of the Holy Spirit and to know the Father and His Son.