

## ***Created For Good Deeds (Ephesians 2:10)***

Outline 7/15/18 AM

### **Introduction**

1. In chapter one Paul discussed our spiritual possessions in Christ making us aware of how truly rich we are as Christians. In chapter two Paul compliments our riches with our spiritual position in Christ. We were looking at them in four different works...
  - a. Sin's work against us (2:1-3) which leads to death.
  - b. God's work for us (2:4-9) through His grace we have eternal life.
2. Let's examine two more...

### **I. God's Work In Us (2:10a)**

- a. "For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus."
  - i. "Workmanship" (*poiema*) is not just a result of effort or labor. It is a result of artistic skill and craftsmanship. If we could earn salvation by our own good works, we would not be a work of God but a work of our own selves. God is at work! (2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:29)
  - ii. How does God work in us? – Holy Spirit (Philippians 2:13)
    1. Christ has finished our redemption now He is perfecting His church (Ephesians 4:7-16; Hebrews 13:20-21).
  - iii. Christ is equipping us for our walk and work on earth through three special tools...
    1. The Word of God (1 Thessalonians 2:13)
    2. Prayer (Ephesians 3:20-21)
    3. Suffering (1 Peter 4:11-14)
  - iv. Good examples of this is found in men like Moses, Joseph, David, the Apostle Paul, etc.

### **II. God's Work Through Us (2:10b)**

- a. We are "created in Christ Jesus for good deeds."
  - i. We are not saved by faith plus good works but by a faith that works (James 2 faith is demonstrated by our works).
  - ii. We are saved completely by God's grace but our works, "become a core characteristic of those who walk in that grace." – Mike O'Neil
  - iii. Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-8 - Good words define the life of those who have been saved by Christ.
- b. What kind of works?
  - i. They contain two special characteristics in 2:10. First, they are good works in contrast to "works of darkness" or "wicked works." (Matthew 5:16; Philippians 1:20-21; 2 Corinthians 9:8; Colossians 1:10; 2 Timothy 3:17; Titus 2:14; Hebrews 13:16; 1 Corinthians 15:10)
  - ii. Second, they are not only good but "prepared." This is the will of God for us and it comes from His heart (Psalms 33:11; 1 Corinthians 2:9-13)