THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

PAUL'S PRISON EPISTLE

CHAPTER 2:10

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TITLE:

"GOD'S AMAZING WORK" - PART 1

SEATED IN THE HEAVENLIES IN CHRIST JESUS

THEME:

Ephesians 1:3
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

INTRODUCTION

SALVATION COMES

BY GRACE, THROUGH FAITH - ALONE

"When Martin Luther announced such a biblical truth as this to the Roman Catholic Church, the leaders sought to kill him for heresy because they thought that he had introduced a foreign doctrine into the ears of the people..."

Ignorance to The Grace of God will Only Leave you frustrated and Burned Out

Ephesians 2:8-9
For **by grace** you have **been saved**..... **through faith**, and that not of yourselves; **it is the gift of God**, :9 **not of works**, lest anyone should boast.

SALVATION IS…. "GOD'S AMAZING WORK"

Hebrews 12:2
Looking unto Jesus, the **author** and **finisher** of our **faith**

In Our Last Study...

1.) Salvation Excludes all Human Achievement v.9a

WHY DID GOD SELECT PAUL OF ALL PEOPLE
(According to the flesh. He had to be the most self-righteous man on the block)

2.) Salvation Is Eternally Secure in God v.9b

YOU CAN NEVER LOSE YOUR SALVATION BECAUSE
it was Never Found!

(It was Given to You as a Free Gift)

You Can Never Lose Your Salvation Because
Your salvation was given apart from Good Works
(Which means it cannot be lost because of Bad Works)

Grace Produces Strength to Continue v. 9

A Because Grace Can Be Depended Upon

B Grace Assumes That There's a Need

God's Grace Will Never Run Out *on This Side* vv. 9

Romans 5:12
Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned

Sin Has Paralyzed the Creation. The Creation is Unable to save itself
BUT AS LONG AS THERE ARE SINNERS IN NEED OF FORGIVENESS
GOD'S GRACE WILL FLOW

As long as I'm Alive - I can tell you that Grace will not be running out!

Murietta Hot Springs

And the seemingly never ending flow of hot mineral water

Revelation 22:1
Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

1.) What does it mean to be His Workmanship? v.10a

For we are His...

Just Pause on That Truth for Moment

There is nothing like the feeling of Belonging - of Family...
...Of Ownership

Jeremiah 31:3
The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."

What Does it Mean to be His Workmanship?

a) #1 - That God the Father is The Workman

The "His" here is in reference to the Father

For we are His (workmanship - ARTWORK)

*** Workmanship 4161 poiema (poy'-ay-mah)**
To make from the thought, to manufacture from an idea, to create from a passion (A WORK OF ART) - A POEM or SONG

ART IS THE EXPRESSION OF THE ARTIST

...what is in his mind is what comes out
(THAT'S GREAT IF YOU ARE LOOKING A REMDBRANDT, BUT A PICASO?)

BEETHOVEN
TOOK WHAT WAS IN HIS HEAD AND SHARED WITH THE ORCHESTRA

We are the Expression of God here on Earth

Genesis 1:27
So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

The Original Creation Model

In God's Natural Artwork we should be able to see what is in His Heart by observation. We can look at the data in hand and be able to look back in to His mind...

`The Beach - The Mountains - The Clouds - The Platypus`

Why is the sky blue & why are the trees green?

Fruit & Vegetables
Their coloring - their packaging - their shapes

Psalm 19:1
The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.

Even Our Fallen World Around Us Has Reminders of a Greater Time!

THE ANIMAL WONDERS - THE NATURAL WONDERS - THE HUMAN WONDERS

Expressing the Mind of the Creator

His Expression is Being Revealed Again in the Life of His People
by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit

If the Artist is Painting and in front of Him is a model...
(THEN I CAN TELL YOU WHAT OR WHOM HE IS PAINTING)

The Recreation of Man Can Only Be Performed by "Redemption"

THE BUYING BACK & OUT OF...

The Fallen Creation is Beautiful
The New Creation is His Crowning Achievement!

The First Creation - Adam was prone to Sin
The LAST Creation - You are freed from the even the possibility of sin

2 Corinthians 5:17
Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- THE WORK OF GOD IS GREATER THEN OUR FAILURES
- THE WORK OF GOD IS GREATER THEN OUR SINS
- THE WORK OF GOD IS GREATER THEN OUR FEARS
- THE WORK OF GOD IS GREATER THEN OUR PAST LIFE

What Does it Mean to be His Workmanship

b) #2 - That God the Son is The Pedestal

The "in Christ Jesus" is where we are on display

Jesus left, leaving the 11 to await the coming of the PROMISE

The Holy Spirit Is Now Promoting the Son through Us

His Feet, Hands & Eyes

This is how God does this new work

What Does it Mean to be His Workmanship

c) #3 - That God the Holy Spirit is The Power

Though not mentioned, the Holy Spirit is the one behind the scenes

John 16:13
"When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; **for He will not speak on His own authority**, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

The Doctrines of God

Philippians 2:12
Therefore, my beloved, 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; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

"God's Work in Us is a Work that Produces Work through Us"

"God's Work in Us is a Work that Produces Work through Us"

So we must never doubt our value

Man may devalue us in his economy
Man may reject our worth as nothing

2 Corinthians 8:9
For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

GOD SAYS, IF YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT WORKS - I'LL TALK ABOUT WORKS... - I'VE DONE IT ALL

Created in Christ Jesus for good works

This is our purpose for being, for living

* **Created** **2936 ktizo (ktid'-zo)**
Through the idea of proprietor-ship of the manufacturer); to
ROOT = 2932 **acquire (by any means** or at all costs)

Isaiah 43:7
Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."

Psalm 119:73
Your hands have made me and fashioned me; give me understanding,

Salvation, Like Creation, is the Work of God and Him Alone

THAT LIVED OUT PRACTICALLY IS....

Matthew 5:13
"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

John 13:35
"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

"The Works" Announce God's Labor

(We are Like an Advertisement)

Romans 8:29
For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son

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

Which God (prepared beforehand)

We are to Enter into What He has Determined

!!! God is Control !!!

* **Prepared Beforehand** **282 proetoimazo (pro-et-oy-mad'-zo);**
To fit up in advance (like a tailor preparing a suit that IS TO BE worn

"I am Confident that my life is right on target,
moving toward His master plan"

As The Years Go By
I now see a little clearer then when I was in the thick of it

My Life, the People in My Life,
The Places in My Life...

It's All Part of the Artwork-Poem

Michelangelo once slowly and carefully chipped away at a huge block of stone and when asked what he was doing he said "I am Setting an Angel free"

GOD HAS CREATED US AND HAS GIVEN US NEW LIFE SO THAT WE MIGHT BECOME HIS MUSIC, HIS PAINTING, HIS STATUE

There will be an element of boasting in heaven....
IT WILL BE BY GOD HIMSELF

If in Genesis the creation was pronounced very Good... then the completed act of not only Creation, but the work of Redemption will be crowned as God's greatest masterpiece!!!

- BECAUSE THE UNLOVABLE - WAS LOVED
- BECAUSE THE WICKED - WAS WASHED
- BECAUSE THE INSECURE - WAS MADE SECURE
- BECAUSE THE LOST - WAS FOUND

He will have not only Made it All
- He Will Have Saved it All

2.) What is My Responsibility to My Creator v.10b

a) To Be a Yielded Lump of Clay

UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD'S WILL IS

Jeremiah 18:6
"O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?" says the LORD.
"Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!

Romans 9:20
But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?" Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

#1
Jesus is the Model or Prototype of where He is taking us in this life

#2
The molding and shaping that is going on right now is to bring you to the image of His Son

What The Lord Can Do With Just A Lump!

In Genesis 2:8 He formed Adam from the Dust of the Earth (Just add Water)

Example - John 9:1-15

That we should walk in them

John 17:4
"I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do."

Works cannot save you...

But the fruit of you being saved is the works that flow from your life

Good Works

They vindicate the Kingdom of God to the World

Titus 2:7
In all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility

Good Works

They confirm the work of Christ

John 15:8
"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

Good Works

They demand that glory be brought to God

1 Peter 2:12
Having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Good Works

They reveal who we really are in the end

1 Timothy 5:25
In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not cannot be hidden..

* **Walk 4043 peripateo (per-ee-pat-eh'-o);**
To tread all around, i.e. Walk at large. To go and be going

A Christian is a Person who has Asked God

To Take Control of His Life and to begin the work of completion -
Adams sin, our sin pulled us away from God's work

- **Recreation** begins with coming back to the creator
- **Renovation** begins with receiving the Holy Spirit's Baptism Power
- **Revelation** begins when the Creator again walks with His Creation in new life

God wants to Express Himself through You

And The Church is to be Hard at Work to This End

Ephesians 4:11
And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

Why is That Important?

John 14:9
“He who has seen Me has seen the Father”

John 17:20
"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; :21 "that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. :22 "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: :23 "I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.