THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

PAUL'S PRISON EPISTLE

CHAPTER 2:10

MEDIA REFERENCE # WNX 202 ~ DATE MAY 29, 1996

TITLE:

"GOD'S AMAZING WORK" - PART 2

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

The Declaration "In the Heavenlies, or In Him, or In God demonstrates the passion that Paul had to convince the church that they were a people far removed from this earthly plain in living and in faith."

What dominates the author's joy?

Of this expression more than any other is his pronouncement that we are;

"In Christ"

Colossians 3:1

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is **hidden** with Christ in God.

To keep as a secret, or to have someone secretly hidden from view

(To someone else in view as a cover)

@@@@@@@ Mat Ruska Doll Demonstration @@@@@@@

So “If You Be In Christ” - Then For You...

SALVATION HAS COME

BY GRACE, THROUGH FAITH - ALONE !!!

Which excludes all other “righteous works or additions” that man may want to attach to the finished work of the cross of Christ.

Hebrews 10:10
By the will of God we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. - in a moment's time practically & (in eternity positionally)

Romans 6:1
What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? Romans 6:3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Last Time:

We Were Asking (2) Key Questions Regarding Verse 10

1.) What Does it Mean to be His Workmanship v.10a

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

Understanding that God has begun in you “A Work of His Own Doing” that continues on today

Our Situation is much like that little boy in Sunday school who weekly frustrated the teacher and disrupted his classmates until the teacher shouted out “why do you act the way you do - don’t you know who created you?” Yes replied the little boy, ‘God did - and He’s done with me yet.’

***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

That "Poiema" - a work of art
is an expression of the artist or the creator

Verses 10a

What Does it Mean to be His Workmanship?

a) #1 - That God the Father is the workman

For we are His...

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

What Does it Mean to be His Workmanship?

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

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

We Were Asking (2) Key Questions Regarding Verse 10

1.) What Does it Mean to be His Workmanship? v.10a

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

So now

This “Poiema” - this work of art
will express the artist - the creator’s desire

Which is

That we be “created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

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

Created in Christ Jesus for good works,

this is our purpose for being, for living

being created “in Christ”

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

The Potter

At the Wheel would use water, tools of variation, spit temperature

Romans 9:20
But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, `Why did you make me like this?"' Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?

A Handle Here - a Spout There - a Long Neck Like This

In Ancient Times & Cultures Hand-Crafted Wares

"MARKED" a civilization (plain or decorated, Signed or Not spoke of the wealth and the standard of living for any given people)

COMMON-WARES

Were used to house whatever product was needed. The contents gave name to the pot - to "get the flour" was to get the pot of flour

Very used Common-wares were often busted up for the pieces or the pot was used for some other use based upon the master's need. **(1 Example)**

Judges 7:16

Then he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet into every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and torches inside the pitchers. And he said to them, "Look at me and do likewise; watch, and when I come to the edge of the camp you shall do as I do: "When I blow the trumpet, I and all who are with me, then you also blow the trumpets on every side of the whole camp, and say, `The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!'" So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outpost of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just as they had posted the watch; and they blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers that were in

their hands. Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers-- they held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing-- and they cried, "The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!" And every man stood in his place all around the camp; and the whole army ran and cried out and fled.

God Uses COMMON-WARE - Cracked Pots for His Glory

2 Corinthians 4:5

For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

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."

In Psalm 119:73 the Psalmist Declares;
Your hands have **made** me and have **fashioned** me;
You **give** me (poured into me) understanding,

Salvation, Like Creation,
is A Work That God Alone Performs

Verses 10b

Created in Christ Jesus **for good works**,

THIS IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO MY CREATOR TO DO WHAT I WAS CREATED TO DO

- When is a **hammer** at its best? - while being used by **the carpenter**
- When is a **car** at its best? - while being used by **the driver**
- When is an **airplane** at its best? - while being used by **the pilot**
- When is a **human** at their best? - while being used by **the creator**

UNTIL THAT HAPPENS...
YOU WILL FEEL MISFITTED IN THIS LIFE

"Works" - Reveal God's Work in You
(We are Like an Advertisement)

Verses 10c

Which God (**prepared beforehand**)

We are to "Enter into"
What He has Determined For Us

!!! God is Control !!!

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

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

Romans 9:23-24
And that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels (containers) of mercy,
which He had **prepared beforehand** for glory, even us whom He called, not of
the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

I Hate Surprises - I Love Anticipation

1 Corinthians 2:9
But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into
the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

HEAVEN WILL HAVE BEEN PREPARED IN ADVANCE FOR US…. AND IT IS AWAITING US !!!

John 14:2
"In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to
prepare a place for you. "And if I go and **prepare** a place for you, I will come again and receive
you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

"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...

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!

Verses 10d

That we should **walk** in them

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

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

Understanding That Works cannot save you...

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

Do you FEEL like you should be serving God - Do It!

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..

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.

c.) To Know that All of it - is a Life Long Work

Awake in his likeness

2 Timothy 4:7
I have fought the good fight, I have **finished the course**, I have kept the faith.

It's All Part of the art work-Poem

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