

Ephesians 2:10

Introduction

We often think of our Christianity in terms of our activity, but we often forget that God is very active in the works we do.

Thesis: there is a God who is at work in our lives and has prepared good works for us

The Passage

I. Context

A. Ephesians 2:1-10

We were dead, but God made us alive in Christ
There is no boasting!

B. Scripture as a whole

We see a God who was active in creation, active in calling Abraham, Moses, active in building the tabernacle, active in calling the apostle Paul

II. Ephesians 2:10

A. What does being “God’s workmanship” mean?

1. “workmanship”: that which is made
Story of walking by a furniture store with grandson
“I like the lines of that store”
He enjoyed the design
Implies a designer, creator, workman, planner
2. “created in Christ Jesus”
v. 1-9: we were dead, but God made us alive
Gave us spiritual life in Christ
His purpose: to conform us to the image of his son!

B. How does God do it?

It’s a process. He does it through Jesus. We’ve received Jesus’ life

1. The goal: Christ formed in you
“The hope of glory”, “we will be like him”
But for now, it’s a process
2. The process: 3 ingredients
 - a. The Holy Spirit
 - b. The Word of God
1 Peter: “we are born again by the abiding word of God”
The importance of studying and meditating on Scripture
 - c. Circumstances and Suffering
Suffering produces the “peacable fruit of righteousness”
2 Corinthians 4: “momentary light affliction is achieving an eternal weight of glory”

Are you suffering right now? Rejoice. You are in the hands of a loving God

3. Personal testimony

His experience of Christianity involved

- a. A greater desire to know the Word
- b. A life that got turned upside down so that he was aware of his sin
- c. A value system that changed so that he slowly learned contentment, wanted righteousness, and looked forward to eternal life

“He who began a good work in you will be faithful to bring it to completion”
There is nothing you can do to mess up your salvation. You will be made like Christ.

Discussion Questions

1. Opening questions: What struck you most about the sermon/the passage? What surprised you? What confused you? What did you disagree with?
2. How does the idea that you are God’s workmanship (God’s work of art) impact the way you view yourself and the way you go about your days?
3. Three things were identified as “tools” God uses in our sanctification process: the Holy Spirit, the Word, and our circumstances. Which of those has seemed the most obvious and important in your own experience? Be as specific as possible.
4. Discuss the following statement: “Paul says in Philippians, ‘He who began a good work in you will be faithful to bring it to completion.’ Based on that promise, there is nothing you can do ultimately to mess up your salvation because God will see it through to the end.”