

You Are God's Poem

1. You Are God's Poem

a. Ephesians 2:8- 10

b. In other words, we are not saved "by works", but we are saved "for works".

i. We are His workmanship

1. workmanship (*poiēma*) – [poy'-ay-mah]

a. Literally, a thing made, a work, workmanship.

2. A root of our English word "poem"

3. "You are God's poem!".

4. Only other usage is Romans 1:20

ii. created in (*ktisthentes*) – having been created

iii. works (*ergois*) - to work, accomplish" – a work or worker who accomplishes something. "Work" is a deed (action) that carries out (completes) an inner desire (intension, purpose).

1. An erg is approximately the amount of work done (or energy consumed) by one common house fly performing one "push up," the leg-bending dip that brings its mouth to the surface on which it stands and back up.

iv. beforehand (*proētoimasen*) - made ready in advance; hence, "ready, already prepared"

1. Only other usage is Romans 9:23

c. Ephesians 1:4

i. God not only prepared for our salvation in advance, but also prepared for the good works that follow.

ii. Walk worthy of the Lord – fully pleasing Him

iii. Being fruitful in every good work

d. Romans 12:1

i. spiritual (*logikēn*) – divinely reasonable

ii. worship (*latreian*) - service rendered to God, perhaps simply worship, but much more that God finds reasonable and pleasing.

e. Colossians 3:17

f. Romans 12:4-8

i. It is beyond coincidence that these functions are placed in close proximity to the idea of presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice.

- ii. Also underscores the teaching that one member cannot think of self as more important than another member.
 - iii. 1 Corinthians 12:15
 - iv. The church has a God-given organization, but may also be thought of as a living organism, with each organ serving an important purpose.
 - v. If it seems to you that you are not an important member, you may be a ligament that holds all the joints together, or a vessel that carries nutrients to different parts of the body.
- 2. Nature of Good Works - which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
 - a. Exemplary to the world
 - i. Matthew 5:16
 - b. Edifying to fellow Christians
 - i. Titus 2:6-8
 - c. Ministering to the needs of fellow Christians
 - i. Titus 3:14
 - ii. Galatians 6:9-10
 - d. We are to be “zealous” to do good works.
 - i. Titus 2:14
 - 1. zealous - fervent, ardent, fervid, fanatical, passionate, impassioned, devout, devoted, committed, dedicated, enthusiastic, eager, keen, avid, card-carrying, vigorous, energetic, intense, fierce;
 - 2. Romans 12:11
 - e. Good works bear fruit.
 - i. Colossians 1:9-10
 - f. Good works glorify God.
 - i. Matthew 5:16
 - ii. 1 Peter 2:11-12
 - g. Good works accompany faith.
 - i. James 2:14-26
 - h. Insist on good works.
 - i. Titus 3:8
- 3. An Example of Good Works
 - a. Acts 9:36-39b

- b. Some of our members don't get around much any more, but others are pleasantly surprised to receive a phone call or note of encouragement from them.
- 4. What Must We Do?
 - a. Bear One Another's Burdens, Watch for Each Other's Souls
 - i. Galatians 6:1-2
 - ii. James 5:19-20
 - b. The rich should be rich in good works
 - i. 1 Timothy 6:17-18
 - c. We need to stir up one another to love and good works.
 - i. Hebrews 10:24
 - d. Always abounding.
 - i. 1 Corinthians 15:58
 - ii. 2 Corinthians 9:8
- 5. Jesus made a distinction between the sheep and goats.
 - a. Matthew 25:33-46
 - b. We are saved to work!
- 6. You Are God's Poem!
 - a. Whenever an appeal is made to the body for a good work, make it rhyme.