

**Who Am I Part 8**  
**EPHESIANS 2:7-10**

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There is a depressing downward direction in verses 1,2&3: Dead... Disobedient... Depraved... Doomed. It looks hopeless! **BUT GOD!**

*“But because of His great love for us **God** who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions. It is by grace you have been saved and God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.” Eph 2:4*

**God’s Magnificent Makeover:** Ephesians 2 is the Easter story made personal.

**THE NEW YOU:**

1. Alive – A new person You may not sense you’re a new model. But you are. That’s what it means to be born again. If you were going to give yourself a new name in Jesus Christ what name would you give yourself?
2. Raised – A new power He died on a cross so you and I could have a new power in our lives, the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.
3. Seated – A new perspective For some reason God allowed Paul to have a glimpse of that throne room once and it changed his life. He never lived the same again. He had a new perspective on life.

**Why did God do this?**

*“In order that in the coming ages he might **show** the incomparable riches of **His grace**, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.” Eph. 2:7 (NIV)*

**There is a definite purpose to this new life.**

**That God might show forth His GRACE !**

- Through all eternity we’ll be exhibit A of the grace of God.
- Question: What are the “coming ages”?

*“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – **not by works**, so that no one can boast.” Eph. 2:8-9 (NIV)*

**Notice carefully the place of works in these verses**

*“And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.” Rom. 11:6 (NIV)*

*“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” 2 Cor. 9:8 (NIV)*

*“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them – yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.” 1 Cor. 15:10 (NIV)*

*“As the body with the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.” James 2:26 (NIV)*

**1. From “not by works”**

*“Our good works do not put God in our debt, His love puts us in His.” William Barclay*

*“It is faith alone that justifies, but faith that justifies can never be alone.” John Calvin*

Why didn’t God offer salvation by works?

It is VITAL to understand the cause and effect relationship between grace and works... between faith and works.

*“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Eph 2:10 (NIV)*

## 2. to “workmanship”

We get our English word “poem” from the Greek word *poema*; idea of a workmanship or a masterpiece – a real work of art. This verse is saying you are God’s masterpiece.

The way the believes “renew their minds” for doing good works is by recognizing “I AM GOD’S WORKMANSHIP”

3. to “doing good works” There’s two truths I want you to understand about the good works God’s got for us to do.

**Good works are always prepared by God.** He got these things ready for us to do. We’re His workmanship and He’s got works for us to do. He wants to put us in the right place at the right time. So as a workmanship of God the perfect way to start every day is to look to Him and say, “God, what have You prepared for me to do today? Help me get involved in doing that.”

**Good works are always pre-planned by God.** Wouldn’t that change your day tomorrow if you wake up in the morning and thinking, “God has specifically prepared a few things in advance for me to do. There’s probably a whole bunch of things I could do with my day but I don’t want to miss whatever He’s prepared in advance for me to do.”

### What will I DO with this?

- Deeply praise God that He moved me from eternal death to eternal life!
- Better defend myself against the schemes through which sin worms its way into my life
- Begin to visualize myself in God’s way by seeing myself in the experience of Jesus Christ.
- Renew my mind for doing the things God has prepared for me to do by calling myself as His workmanship at the beginning of each day.