

**“THE WORK OF GOD AND HIS CHILDREN”**  
**EPHESIANS 2:10**

**INTRO:** The concept of “WORK” is found throughout the pages of scripture. From the beginning of creation mankind has the responsibility to maintain a “GOOD WORK ETHIC.” Adam and Eve had to take care of the Garden of Eden even before their fall into sin. The Word of God teaches in 2 Thessalonians 3:10 that if “ONE DOES NOT WORK HE SHOULD NOT EAT.” **THAT IS GOD’S GENERAL PLAN FOR MANKIND.** Indeed, **GOD EXPECTS EVERY ABLE PERSON TO WORK!** But when it comes to SALVATION, **NO PERSON CAN WORK FOR IT AS IT IS ALL A TREMENDOUS GIVE OF GOD!** The text we have before us clearly explains THE WORK OF GOD FOR HIS CHILDREN AND HIS CHILDREN’S WORK FOR HIM in reference to the GREAT SALVATION He has to offer us all. What this verse teaches us is very basic to the Christian life but is also every essential for us all to understand thoroughly because there have always been many who think they can WORK FOR THEIR OWN SALVATION AND MUST WORK TO KEEP THEIR SALVATION and such a thought is not SOUND DOCTRINE.

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**SEVEN BASIC PRINCIPLES ON THE WORK OF GOD AND HIS CHILDREN**

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**NOTE:** Each one of these seven principles is clearly seen in the individual words of the verse.

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**I. PRINCIPLE ONE: “WE”**

**The word “WE” refers to EVERY BELIEVER IN JESUS CHRIST!**

A. No Christian is Exempt from the Work of God – Everything we have is a part of God’s gift to us.

1. Our Physical Life
2. Our Spiritual Life

B. No Christian is Exempt from Working for God – Our entire life is to be dedicated to working for God. **GOD EXPECTS THIS!**

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**II. PRINCIPLE TWO: “HIS”**

**The Word “HIS” speaks of God Himself.**

A. Every Believer is THE Possession of God.

B. Every Believer has the OBLIGATION to surrender his/her RIGHTS to God so as to be used by Him effectively.

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**III. PRINCIPLE THREE: “WORKMANSHIP”**

**The word “WORKMANSHIP” speaks of God’s CRAFTMANSHIP in providing our salvation and our individual lives. WE ARE WHAT WE ARE AS CHRISTIANS BECAUSE OF GOD AND GOD ALONE!**

A. God has Crafted Salvation for the World.

1. He Planned Salvation
2. He Provides Salvation
3. He Preserves Salvation

B. God has Crafted a Ministry for the Christian

1. God has Crafted the Individual Gifts for the Christian
2. God has Crafted the Individual Ministry for the Christian

**ILLUSTRATION:**

#### **IV. PRINCIPLE FOUR: “CREATED IN JESUS CHRIST”**

The phrase “CREATED IN JESUS CHRIST” speaks of the entire concept of the NEW LIFE every believer has in Jesus Christ. Cp. 2 Corinthians 5:17

- A. A New Spiritual Creature
- B. A New Destiny
- C. A New Purpose
- D. A New Master

ILLUSTRATION:

#### **V. PRINCIPLE FIVE: “UNTO GOOD WORKS”**

The phrase ‘UNTO GOOD WORKS’ speaks of the DIVINE OBJECTIVE God has planned for each believer.

- A. This is NOT GOOD WORKS to receive or maintain salvation.
  - 1. Ephesians 2:8,9 – Salvation is a Gift of God.
  - 2. 1 Peter 1:5 – Salvation is Maintained by God.
- B. This is GOOD WORKS of Life and Ministry – Cp. 2 Corinthians 5:20
  - 1. Note John 15:16
  - 2. Note Titus 2:7,14; 3:1,8,14

ILLUSTRATION:

#### **VI. PRINCIPLE SIX: “GOD HATH BEFORE ORDAINED”**

The phrase “GOD HATH BEFORE ORDAINED” speaks of the fact that even before we were born, God designed specific life and ministry for each Christian. Cp. Jeremiah 1:5

- A. God has a Plan for Every Christian.
- B. God has an Expectation for Every Christian

ILLUSTRATION:

#### **VII. PRINCIPLE SEVEN: “SHOULD WALK IN THEM”**

The phrase “SHOULD WALK IN THEM” speaks of the “round of Christian living” God has designed for us all. That is the PURPOSE FOR OUR LIFE!

- A. This involves Consistent Living for the Lord.
- B. This involves Consistent Ministry for the Lord

ILLUSTRATION:

#### **WHAT IS THE WORK OF GOD AND HIS CHILDREN ALL ABOUT?**

It is the fact that God HAS CRAFTED OUT A PLAN FOR EACH BORN AGAIN BELIEVER TO WORK FOR HIM ALWAYS!

- 1) That is what we are saved to do.
- 2) That is the basis of our rewards in Heaven.

GOD HAS WORKED FOR US IN SALVATION AND HAS WORKED IN US THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT WE WILL WORK FOR HIM AS THE RESULT OF OUR SALVATION.

QUESTION: HOW IS YOUR WORK FOR THE LORD TODAY?

APPLICATION: LET’S GIVE PRAISE TO GOD FOR THE WORK HE PERFORMED FOR US BY OBEYING HIM IN THE WORK HE HAS US TO DO FOR HIM.