**A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS: THE WEALTH AND WALK OF A BELIEVER**

*“Back to the Basics Part III”*

**REVIEW:**

* **WHAT WE WERE SAVED FROM: OUR PAST (Eph. 2:1-3)**
* **WHAT WE WERE SAVED BY: HIS LOVE (Eph. 2:4)**

**TODAY:**

* **WHAT WE WERE SAVED TO: HIS WORK**
* **HIS WORK IN US**

*Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

* **His Design**
* He wants to **conform** us into the image of His **Son**. (Rm. 8:29)

*Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

* He wants to **prepare** us to be **vessels** for His use. (II Tim. 2:21)

*2 Timothy 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.*

* **His Tools**
* **His Word (I Thess. 2:13)**

*1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.*

**We have to learn to think like Christ!**

* **His church (Eph. 4:11-12)**

*Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;*

*12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:*

**We have to learn to love and serve like Christ!**

* **Trials (I Pet. 4:11-14)**

*1 Peter 4:11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

*12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:*

*13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.*

*14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.*

**We have to learn how to endure suffering like Christ!**

* **HIS WORK THROUGH US**

**Note: God is working IN us so He can work THROUGH us!**

*Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

**The connection between faith and good works (James 2:14-26)**

*Galatians 5:6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.*

*Titus 3:8 (context of 3:5….)This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.*

*Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.*

*Titus 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.*

*Acts 26:20 But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.*

**Key words regarding good works…**

* We are to be **zealous** of good works (Titus 2:14)

*Titus 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

* We are to be **always** **abounding** in good works (I Cor. 15:58)

*1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*

* We are to be **provoking** one another to good works (Heb. 10:24)

*Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:*

* We are to be **glorifying** **God** with our good works (Mt. 5:16)

*Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

**CONCLUSION**

**Our Future “Judgment”….**

*2 Corinthians 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.*

*10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

*11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.*

*1 Corinthians 3:15 If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.*

*Revelation 7:17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.*