



water from rock

Selah: Stop, Look, Listen – July 11, 2024

The Lord be with you.

Mark Twain said that the two most important days in your life or the day that you're born and the day that you find out why. How about you? Have you found out your "why" yet? Have you found out why you were born? Why, why God put you here at this time and place with Bible in hand? I want to take the next few moments to explore the why, why you were born but why God put you and me here.

I'm looking in my Bible at the New Testament Book of Ephesians chapter two verse 10 where I read for we are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do. Now, this verse comes in that wonderful section of scripture that tells us about our salvation. Perhaps, you know the verses. It, it, it says that it is by grace that we are saved through faith, not of ourselves. It is the gift of God, not by works that no one can boast so our salvation. It's, it's all of God. It's grace, God's undeserved, unmerited favor which takes us to our verse for to day, verse 10.

For we are God's handiwork. It's all about God. We are God's handiwork. The Greek word translated handiwork is Poiema. That's P O I E MA. And you know, it's actually the word from which we get po you and I, we are God's poiema, God's handiwork. Other Bible versions translate this as we are God's workmanship. We are God's masterpiece. The Jerusalem Bible translates it as we are God's work of art.

So you see you, you and I, we we're not here by accident. We're not just some random accidental aimless creature. We are God's handiwork as God has invested his love and creativity in you and me. We are God's handiwork created, it says created in Christ Jesus to do good works. The Bible tells us that when we turn in faith to Jesus Christ, that we become new creations in Christ. Christ is at work in us, shaping us, forming us, empowering us for our, our reason for being here, the purpose for which God designed us for. We are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works.

Notice again that we were not saved by good works, but we are saved for good works, not just any works but good works work sort of pleasing to God works that will last eternally works that will win God's well done, good and faithful servant created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do. You see, God has not only created us for good works, but it says that God has prepared these good works in advance. They are all part of God's eternal plan for your life, for my life. Yes, I, I, I know that sometimes we can feel so inadequate, so uncertain about our gifts, our abilities.



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Well, what we could ever do for God, but notice that God has already prepared the good works for us to do. I like what Oswald Chamber says in his daily devotion on my utmost for his highest chamber says, the goal of faithfulness is not that we will do work for God, but that God will be free to do his work to us.

The two most important days in your life. Yes, the day you were born and the day you find out why. Well, here's why for, for you and me as we would follow Jesus, it says for we are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do. And I, I find that this takes all the pressure off of us and takes away the strain, the stress as it is all about God. God at work. And you and me for is just like what Jesus said. Without me, you can do nothing.

Loving Father, thank you. Thank you for creating us, your masterpieces, your handiwork. Thank you for the new life that we have in Christ and the good works that you have prepared in advance for us to do today. So guide us today as we seek to fulfill your purpose in our lives. For this day, we pray this for your glory and for our eternal good. Amen.

I am Tim Smith, a fellow traveler. Thank you for listening. Until next time.