

WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR? - PART 3
WE ARE HERE TO DO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY
EPHESIANS 4:11-12; 2:8-10

Introduction

For the last two weeks we've asked the question, "WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?" The first week of asking this question found that **WE ARE HERE TO BE PERFECTED!** Then last week we asked the question again and saw from our text that **WE ARE HERE TO DO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY!** We didn't get finished with that message, but we saw last week that:

- I. *EVERY BELIEVER IS CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS UNTO GOOD WORKS! (Ephesians 2:10)*
- A. *We Are The Workmanship Of Christ Jesus!*
The word "workmanship" means "a product."
A product shows or reveals the glory of the producer.
- B. *We Are Created In Christ Jesus! (Ephesians 2:10)*
2 Corinthians 5:17—"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
- 1a. *Death Has Passed Away!*
1b. *Eternal Life Has Become New!*
- 2a. *Condemnation Has Passed Away!*
2b. *Acceptance Has Become New!*
- 3a. *Bondage Has Passed Away!*
3b. *Freedom Has Become New!*
- 4a. *Guilt Has Passed Away!*
4b. *Forgiveness Has Become New!*
- C. *We Are Created Unto Good Works! (Ephesians 2:10)*
1. *The word "works" means that there is toil or labor.*
- a. *It Takes Labor To See Folks Get Saved!*
b. *It Takes Labor To Minister To The Saints!*
2. *The word "good" means that what we labor in is to be beneficial.*
- So, Every Christian Is Created In Christ Jesus Unto Good Works!*

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Tonight let's continue looking at this matter of **DOING THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY** or **DOING GOOD WORKS!**

II. THE BELIEVING WOMAN IS TO BE ADORNED WITH GOOD WORKS! (1 Timothy 2:9-10)

Instead of emphasizing the external person, more attention should be paid to the internal person!

The word "adorn" means to "to put in proper order, that is, to decorate."

The word "modest" means "orderly, decent."

The word "shamefacedness" means "with a modest bashfulness" or "an innate moral repugnance to a dishonorable act or fashion."

The word "sobriety" means "soundness of mind, or with sanity or self control."

The specifics that Paul mentions here (*broided [braided] hair, gold, pearls, costly array*) are not wrong in themselves so much as they are indicative of misplaced values.

It is believed that these styles may have been associated with the local pagan temple prostitutes of that time!

Believers must be careful about letting a pagan culture set their fashions! That goes for both males and females!

Instead of stressing external beauty according to the world's standards, women who are believers should manifest a different set of values!

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Believing women should depend on their faithful service in the name of Christ to render themselves attractive to others!

(e.g. Acts 9:36ff - Tabitha or Dorcas was full of good works)

Now understand that Paul wasn't saying for women to make themselves unattractive; he was simply giving an exhortation to reject the world's yardstick for measuring beauty and to adopt heaven's standard instead!

Good works are becoming to a woman who professes godliness!

*So, Every Believer Is Created In Christ Jesus Unto Good Works...
The Believing Woman Is To Be Adorned With Good Works...*

III. THE BELIEVER WHO HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH RICHES IS TO BE RICH IN GOOD WORKS! (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

A. The Rich Are To Be Charged To Not Be Arrogant!

1 Corinthians 4:7- "For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it."

B. The Rich Are To Be Charged To Not Place Their Trust In Their Riches!

Christians should put their hope and trust in God Who gave them all that they have and could just as easily take it all away!

The riches are not ours. They belong to God. We are just the stewards of what He allows us to have!

C. The Rich Are To Be Charged To Do Good!

Paul further elaborates on this thought by saying several things:

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1. They Are To Be Rich In Good Works!

Matthew 6:19-21- "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal. "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and where thieves do not break through nor steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

2. They Are To Be Ready To Distribute, Willing To Communicate!

This means that the wealthy Christian should make every effort to be generous and willing to share what they have. *(e.g. Acts 4:32-33)*

Luke 12:48- "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

*So, Every Believer Is Created In Christ Jesus Unto Good Works ..
The Believing Woman Is To Be Adorned With Good Works...
The Believer Who Has Been Blessed With Riches Is To Be Rich In Good Works!*

IV. THE BELIEVER IS TO BE THOROUGHLY FURNISHED UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS! (2 Timothy 3:17)

Man-Human being

- 1. Scripture Shows Us What Is Right-Doctrine.**
- 2. Scripture Shows Us What Is Not Right-Reproof.**
- 3. Scripture Shows Us How To Get It Right-Correction.**
- 4. Scripture Shows Us How To Keep It Right-Instruction In Righteousness.**

The Scripture contains the things that mature us and make us fully equipped to all good works! That gets back to that PERFECTING PROCESS!

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The key to being thoroughly furnished is found in making the Scripture effective in your life! *(2 Timothy 2:15)*

V. THE PASTOR IS TO SHOW A PATTERN OF GOOD WORKS! (Titus 2:7-8)

- 1. Doctrinally Pure**—Does it line up with the Scripture?
- 2. Gravity**—Tried virtue or integrity; honesty; truthfulness.
- 3. Sincerity**—Incorruptibility; genuineness.
- 4. Sound Speech**—True speech.

VI. EVERY BELIEVER SHOULD BE ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS! (Titus 2:14; 3:8)

Zealot – One who engages warmly in any cause, and pursues his object with earnestness and passion.

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.”

1 Peter 2:11-12

Conclusion

WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?

WE ARE HERE TO BE PERFECTED...

WE ARE HERE TO DO THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY!

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

The first matter of business is to be born again of the Spirit of God!
Have you placed your faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work at the cross of Calvary?

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If not, all the “*good works*” in the world will do you absolutely no good!

If you are a child of God, what are you doing for God? God saved you to be busy for Him? Are you?

Every Believer Is Created In Christ Jesus Unto Good Works!

The Believing Woman Is To Be Adorned With Good Works!

The Believer Who Has Been Blessed With Riches Is To Be Rich In Good Works!

The Believer Is To Be Thoroughly Furnished Unto All Good Works!

Every Believer Should Be Zealous Of Good Works!