

A New Identity in Christ

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

A masterpiece is a person's greatest piece of work.

A masterpiece is a work done with extraordinary skill.

A masterpiece is perfect, in that nothing could be added nor anything done to improve it.

I.

Our new identity says we are valuable to God.

Value is determined by who **created** the masterpiece.

Genesis 1:26 says, Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us".

Value is determined by whether or not there are any duplicates of the masterpiece.

Psalm 139:15-16 says, "You were there while I was being formed in utter seclusion! ¹⁶ You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe. Every day was recorded in your book"!

Value is determined by how much someone is willing to **pay** for the masterpiece.

1 Peter 1:9 says, "But he paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God".

II.

Despite our past, we have been given a new identity in Christ.

We have been restored back to God.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (TLB) says, "When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun"!

We have been **justified** by Christ.

Romans 5:1 says, "Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us".

We have been forgiven by God.

Psalm 103:12 (NLT) says, "He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west".

III.

We've been given a new identity in order to do good works.

We are saved to do good works, not by our good works.

Ephesians 2:8-9 NLT says, "God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it".

Good works are:

- Loving one another
- Caring for the poor and the widows
- Visiting those in prison
- Praying for the sick
- Leading the lost to Christ

*Rhema Christian Center
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Sunday, October 22, 2018, 11am*