CAMP 2025
I am His Workmanship
Presented by Ty Robinson

Last years camp study in this session theme was: Who are you? This years theme is again personal, designed to reveal to each of us exactly "who are you?" Each of us must realize on a personal level that **I am His Workmanship.** We find this thought in EPHESIANS 2:10, and will look deeply into it shortly. "**I am His Workmanship**" is going to be the theme of our study this year. Before we get there please first realize that it took some time in THE SONG OF SOLOMON for the Shulamite to realize I am His, (2:16) and still more time to fully realize that His desire was towards her (7:10). The purpose of this study will be for each of us to realize that from the eternities past **I am His workmanship,** and from before the foundation of the world His desire was towards me. Make it personal to you, and know for yourself that "**I am His Workmanship.**" Specifically in this study we will zero in on the fact during this Church Age there is a Bride for Christ being prepared to reign with Him. Lest you think this is not for you, let me quote something Brother Hill said in his PHILIPPIANS study (lesson 13). "If you are a child of God and you are sitting in this meeting, God has laid a hold of you for this. It is as simple as that. It will have to be your negligence or your rejection if you don't have it. This is for you. He has laid a hold of you." {End of quoting Brother Hill.}

In last years camp study I mentioned that I like to begin my day reading PSALMS 139, which reminds me in a deeper way each time I read it that "**I am His Workmanship.**" Our Pastor Jesse O'Dorisio recently gave a rich series of Wednesday night Bible studies on this chapter. The thoughts contained in PSALMS 139 truly are deep, and endless, and rich in meaning to the full overcomer, and each child of God should also realize after reading this chapter that yes, indeed: "**I am His Workmanship.**" Before each study on PSALMS 139 Pastor O'Dorisio read PSALMS 138:8 as an introduction to PSALMS 139. PSALMS 138 was also written by that Old Testament worthy of faith, David, who also realized that "**I am His Workmanship.**" PSALMS 138:8 *The LORD will **perfect** that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.*

Follow along as we read PSALMS 139 with some of my comments. PSALMS 139 was written by David, a man after God's own heart, and a well documented Old Testament full overcomer.

PSALMS 139:1 ***O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me.*** (I am Your workmanship.) ***2 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.*** (You are before all things, and by You all things consist... from COLOSSIANS 1:17.) ***3 Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.*** (I am Your masterpiece.) ***4 For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.*** (You know all things.) ***5 Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.*** (You surrounded me in Your everlasting love before the foundation of the earth, and escaping Your love is impossible. Behind, and before, You have set a hedge about me.) ***6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it. 7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?*** (Nowhere.) ***8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there:*** (You dwell in the heavens.) ***if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.*** (You will never leave me or forsake me.) ***9 If I take the wings of the morning,*** (The best time of day to fly.) ***and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;*** (You created it all.) ***10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.*** (You are the Rock of my salvation.) ***11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.*** (You are always with me.) ***12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.*** (*The day is thine, and the night also is thine...* from PSALMS 74:16.) ***13 For thou hast possessed my reins:*** (You have laid the foundation of my being; body, soul, and spirit.) ***thou hast***

covered me in my mother's womb. (JEREMIAH 1:5 *Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee... .)* ***14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made:*** *(In His image, and in His likeness...* GENESIS 1:26) ***marvellous are thy works;*** (From the tiniest creation in the depths of the sea, unto the largest star in the farthest reaches of the heavens.) ***and that my soul knoweth right well.*** (You are the most High God – El Elyon) ***15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.*** (I am Your workmanship.) ***16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.*** (He had a plan for me from the eternities past.) ***17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!*** (PSALMS 92:5 *O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.)* ***18 If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.*** *(He has loved me with an everlasting love ...*JEREMIAH 31:3.) ***19 Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.*** (ISAIAH 54:17 *No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.)* ***20 For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain. 21 Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? 22 I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies. 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart:*** *(I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.* JEREMIAH 17:10.) ***try me, and know my thoughts: 24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*** (PHILIPPIANS 2:13 *For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.* Indeed **I am His workmanship**.)

As a further introduction to the subject "**I am His workmanship**" let's consider this first, the fact that we are instructed in 2 PETER 3:18 to ...***grow*** *in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.* We will spend time discussing on how to achieve this spiritual **growth** in this study. Obviously Peter learned this lesson, and we have learned from studying a little about Peter that he didn't always learn the lessons the Lord was trying to teach him on the first go around, or even the second. Peter's closing words in scripture are: 2 PETER 3:18 *But* ***grow*** *in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.* These words ...***grow*** *in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...* were inspired by the Holy Ghost, and have a Pauline ring to it. The verses that immediately precede 2 PETER 3:18 reference ...*our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood,...* ...2 PETER 3:15 & 16. Was Peter told to ...***grow*** *in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...* by the Apostle Paul? Perhaps he was, but only the Lord can answer that question. I find it interesting to note that the word "**grow**" is only found in thirty-seven verses of Scripture, and the number thirty-seven is the number associated with THE WORD OF GOD. (We will point out nine words or phrases in this study found thirty-seven times, and **grow** will be our first.) According to REVELATION 19:13 THE WORD OF GOD is Jesus!!! So by studying THE WORD OF GOD is how we ...***grow*** *in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.* Knowing these facts we could now expound 2 PETER 3:18 like this: But **grow** in **THE WORD OF GOD, grow** in the grace of God, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is **THE WORD OF GOD.** To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

For the purpose of this study, let's think of THE WORD OF GOD as our training manual; our study guide as to how we ...***grow*** *in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...* for the express purpose to prepare us to reign with Him as His Bride. Stated another way, we have a training manual, THE WORD OF GOD, to prepare us to reign with Him! He wants us to **grow** up into Him in all things according to EPHESIANS 4:15!

Our initial text of study in our training manual will be 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.* We are going to examine this verse very carefully in this study, and realize in the end that yes indeed "**I am His Workmanship.**"

Follow along in your training manual as I read Conybeare's translation of EPHESIANS 2:1-10.

EPHESIANS 2:1 *And you, likewise, He raised from death to life, when you were dead in transgressions and sins; 2 wherein once you walked according to the course of this world, and obeyed the Ruler of the Powers of the Air, even the Spirit who is now working in the children of disobedience; 3 amongst whom we also, in times past, lived, all of us, in fleshly lusts, fulfilling the desires of our flesh and of our imagination, and were by nature children of wrath, no less than others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love wherewith He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in sin, called us to share the life of Christ —(by grace you are saved), -- 6 and in Christ Jesus, He raised us up with Him from the dead, and seated us with Him in the heavens; 7 that, in the ages which are coming, He might manifest the surpassing riches of His grace, showing kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you are saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not won by works, lest any man should boast. 10 For **we are His workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God has prepared that we should walk therein.*

Conybeare's translation, and the King James Version, state the very same foundation in verses 1-9 upon which verse 10 is built, and that is *...by grace you are saved...* (verses 5 & 8), thus this statement is repeated twice, and becomes SUFFICIENT TESTIMONY to us that *...by grace you are saved.* Furthermore verse 8 instructs: *...For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.* There are no works involved here, no self effort on our part, ... *For by grace are ye saved through faith...* . Only believe. Lest you think that you can do something other than believe in order to be born again, verse 9 puts the lid on that, and teaches us that salvation is *...Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

With a clear understanding that there is nothing we can do to earn, or work for our salvation, we come to the whole point of these first ten verses of EPHESIANS 2, which is found in verse 10. 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.* Hold your place in EPHESIANS 2, and turn to 1 CORINTHIANS 3 for a moment where we see a little about building upon the foundation that was laid here. 1 CORINTHIANS 3:9 *For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, **ye are God's building**. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.* The foundation is Jesus Christ, the Rock of our salvation. Here in 1 CORINTHIANS 3:9 we further see that *...**ye are God's building**.* Paul then states it like this in our primary text of 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.* So we learn that we *...**are God's building**,...* and *...**we are his workmanship**.* We are to see this on a personal level, and know that **I am God's building; I am His workmanship,** and furthermore **I am His masterpiece**!!!

We have come to our second word or phrase found thirty-seven times in scripture, which is the word "**building**" mentioned in 1 CORINTHIANS 3:9. Again the number thirty-seven is the number associated with THE WORD OF GOD.

The phrase "**His workmanship**" is unique, meaning it is only found one time in scripture, that being here in EPHESIANS 2:10. Each one of us individually is also unique, for that is the way God created us. That is why we can individually say **I am His workmanship**. GENESIS 1:26 *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.* Brother Hill used to like to pause here and ask, "which

one of "us" was He talking about here when He *...said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...?"* The answer was Jesus, the Son of man, and the Son of God. Hold your place in GENESIS 1, and turn in your training manual to 1 JOHN 5. 1 JOHN 5:7 *For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.* This verse describes the trinity; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, the "us" spoken of in GENESIS 1:26. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are one, and they work in concert with each other. Have you ever gone to a concert, or a symphony? Which instrument did you go to hear? Even though individual instruments are played in a symphony, or a concert, and sometimes even highlighted for a moment or two, the thing that makes a symphony a symphony, or a concert a concert, is the harmony of the sounds of the many instruments blended in unison together. We are **His workmanship,** the harmony of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit working together in us a beautiful life time symphony of the *...all things that work together for...* our good; things *...which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them...* for the purpose of giving us God's best! {ROMANS 8:28 & EPHESIANS 2:10.} (If we have time we will further define God's best at the conclusion of this study.) While we are here in 1 JOHN 5, let's also read verses 11-13. 1 JOHN 5:11 *And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. 13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.* Now back to GENESIS 1:26 *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.* We are **His workmanship**; His symphony. Again PSALMS 138:8 *The LORD will **perfect** that which concerneth me...* .

Once more let's read again our text of study, 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.* You have had sometime now to ponder this next question: whose **workmanship** are we? We are back to our symphony analogy to answer this question. We are **His workmanship,** the harmony of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit working together in us a beautiful life time symphony of the *...all things that work together for...* our good; things *...which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them...* for the purpose of reigning with Him!

So whose **workmanship** are we? Turn over a page in your training manual to EPHESIANS 3:9 to further understand the answer to this question. EPHESIANS 3:9 *And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.* Whose **workmanship** are we? We are God the Father's **workmanship,** who created all things by His Son Jesus Christ! Jesus Himself stated in JOHN 10:30 *I and my Father are one.* When God said in GENESIS 1:26 *...Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...* the "us" God was talking about was Jesus Christ His Son. So we have established the fact that we are God's **workmanship,** *...created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

As we in this study learn more about **growing** *...in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...* our first point of **growth** that we will examine concerning the fact that *...**we are his workmanship**,...* is that He wants us to **grow up** into Him in all things according to EPHESIANS 4:15. The Bride of Christ will be like Christ having **grown up** in Him in all things to **full measure.** EPHESIANS 4 says it like this starting in verse 13: *Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a **perfect man**, unto **the measure** of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may **grow up** into him in all things, which is the*

head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

The phrase "**grow up**" (EPHESIANS 4:15) will be used several times in this lesson on "**I am His Workmanship,**" and it is important to note that the phrase "**grow up**" is only found eight times in our training manual. One of the more profound meanings of the number eight is BRIDE, as in the BRIDE of Christ! We will see this again later in this study. The emphasis here in EPHESIANS 4:15 is that the BRIDE of Christ will ...***grow up into him in all things***... for She shall be like Him! *For we are **his workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them...* EPHESIANS 2:10.

We read in REVELATION 19:7 this statement about the BRIDE of Christ. REVELATION 19:7 *Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of **the Lamb** is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.* Much of what we are talking about in this study is how the Lamb's wife makes herself ready to be His BRIDE. What I want to point out here in REVELATION 19:7 is a clue on how the BRIDE makes herself ready. Note the phrase "**the Lamb**" here, which is a reference to Jesus Christ. The phrase "**the Lamb,**" as in "**the Lamb of God,**" *...which taketh away the sin of the world...* JOHN 1:29, is also found in thirty-seven scriptures! In REVELATION 19:13 we find that **THE WORD OF GOD** is another name for Jesus, "**the Lamb of God,**" a fact we noted earlier. REVELATION 19:13 *And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called **The Word of God**.* That *...vesture dipped in blood...* points back to Calvary where Jesus was **crucified**. Jesus Christ was **crucified** on the cross of Calvary, where He died for our sins according to **THE WORD OF GOD**. The word "**crucified**" is also found exactly thirty-seven times in **THE WORD OF GOD**. Do you think the BRIDE of CHRIST will know **THE WORD OF GOD**? I will give you a couple more examples that **THE WORD OF GOD**, another name for Jesus, is emphasized in a very special way by the Holy Ghost inspired scripture to kind of underline the importance of the number thirty-seven pointing to so many things being found in scripture thirty-seven times that point to Jesus. The phrase "**his word**" is found thirty-seven times in scripture, and in all thirty-seven instances "**his word**" means the word of the Lord, which is **THE WORD OF GOD**, who is Jesus "**the Lamb of God.**" The word "**authority**" is another word found thirty-seven times in **THE WORD OF GOD**, and again **The Word of God** is Jesus. By His God given **Authority**, Jesus is before all things, and by Him all things consist as we read in COLOSSIANS 1:17. These words also magnify "The **Author and Finisher**" of faith mentioned in HEBREWS 12:2, who is Jesus, the **Authority** on faith, and the **Authority** of faith. So we see that faith cometh by hearing **THE WORD OF GOD**, and the word of God expounds unto us Jesus, who also is the **Author and Finisher** of faith. HEBREWS 11:6 *...without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that **diligently** seek him.* The word "**diligently**" is another word found exactly thirty-seven times in **THE WORD OF GOD**. We are up to seven words or phrases found thirty-seven times in scripture. We will cover a couple of more a little later. Thus we begin to see that there are a lot of things concerning Christ Jesus, "**the Lamb of God,**" and His infinite love for us that go into **I am His Workmanship**.

Another word that will come up again and again in this study is the word "**perfect.**" We first saw it in this lesson when we read PSALMS 138:8 *The LORD will **perfect** that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.* And we just saw "**perfect**" again in EPHESIANS 4:13. The **perfect man** spoken of in EPHESIANS 4:13 has **perfect** love, which is referenced in verses 15 & 16. Such **perfection** can only happen by yielding to the good working of the Holy Ghost in you until the day of Jesus as is told in PHILIPPIANS 1:6. PHILIPPIANS 1:6 *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will **perform** it until the day of Jesus Christ.* The word "**perform**" here in PHILLIPIANS 1:6 is epiteleo {ep-ee-tel-eh'-o}, number 2005 in The Strong's Greek Concordance, and means to carry forward to completion; to make **perfect**. We are talking about SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION, and SPIRITUAL COMPLETION here. The Amplified Version of the Bible expounds PHILIPPIANS 1:6

like this: *And I am convinced and sure of this very thing, that He Who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], developing [that good work] and **perfecting** and bringing it to full completion in you.* **We are His workmanship**. Make it personal and realize for yourself that **I am His Workmanship**!

We just read in PHILIPPIANS 1:6 *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you **will perform** it until the day of Jesus Christ.* Who is "He which hath begun a good work in you?" This is not a trivia question, but rather a question we should all be able to answer. So when did this good work begin in you? The moment you confessed with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believed in your heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, was the moment you were born again. That was the moment you got saved! That was the point in time that He "**the Lamb of God**," began a good work in you. 1 JOHN 5:11 in our training manual, which we read earlier, expresses it as follows: *And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.* JOHN 6:29 *Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.* HEBREWS 13:20 *Now the God of **peace**,* (The Holy Ghost) *that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you **perfect** in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.* So again we see in these scriptures the orchestration of God the Father, God the Holy Spirit, and God the Son working the ...*good work in you*... right up until the day our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ comes to catch us away! Yes indeed we are **His workmanship**; His symphony!!!

Back to our text of study. 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.* There is a number that defines SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION or SPIRITUAL COMPLETION, and that number is the number seven. **PERFECT**ION speaks to being **perfect**, free from flaws or defects. A great work of art or craftsmanship is called a masterpiece, and master craftsmen create such masterpieces after considerable thought and planning using their God given talents and skill. The ultimate Master Craftsman of course is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. A brief summary of His many skillful talents is found in COLOSSIANS 1. COLOSSIANS 1:16 *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.* What does this information have to do with EPHESIANS 2:10 *For **we are his workmanship**,* {Masterpiece} *created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them...* ? The word "**workmanship**" is found in our training manual, (the Bible) seven times! **We are His workmanship**. We that are called to be the Bride of Christ are the Master Craftsman's Masterpiece! SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION. We are His handiwork. **We are His Masterpiece**! We are **perfect**, free from flaws or defects in His eyes. HEBREWS 2:10 *For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation **perfect through sufferings**.* If Jesus was made ...***perfect through sufferings***... what about His wife? Paul instructed us in PHILIPPIANS 1:29 *For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to **suffer** for his sake.* We will say more about this shortly.

Back to the word "**workmanship**" found seven times in our training manual. In EXODUS we read of the making of the tabernacle in the wilderness, and certain parts of it contained masterpieces made by cunning working hands. Imagine the value of the Ark of the Covenant, just one component of the tabernacle in the wilderness, what a **priceless** masterpiece! As a whole, and individually, each and every part of the tabernacle in the wilderness, in types and figures, points to Jesus Christ.

During the building of the tabernacle in the wilderness in the book of EXODUS we read in several places of certain workman given guidance by the Holy Spirit in all manner of **workmanship**. We learn in studying EXODUS that the one of the main workman on the tabernacle was Bezaleel, whose name means "in God's shade," or "in the shadow (i.e. protection) of God." This particular

Bezaleel is found mentioned eight times in scripture! (There's that number eight again!) Bezaleel's qualifications for making the different parts of the tabernacle are listed in EXODUS 31. EXODUS 31:1 *And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri,* (my light) *the son of Hur,* (a hole; white) *of the tribe of Judah: 3 And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of* ***workmanship****, 4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, 5 And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of* ***workmanship****. 6 And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee.* Aholiab was given by God to assist Bezaleel, and Aholiab's name means: tent of the father. Aholiab is mentioned five times in our training manual, showing us that he pictures GRACE, the GRACE of God, ...*which is given you by Jesus Christ*... 1 CORINTHIANS 1:4.

Note what Moses says of Bezaleel in EXODUS 35. EXODUS 35:30 *And Moses said unto the children of Israel, See, the LORD hath called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; 31 And he hath filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of* ***workmanship****; 32 And to devise curious works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, 33 And in the cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of wood, to make any manner of cunning work. 34 And he hath put in his heart that he may teach, both he, and Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach,* (brother of support) *of the tribe of Dan. 35 Them hath he filled with wisdom of heart, to work all manner of work, of the engraver, and of the cunning workman, and of the embroiderer, in blue, and in purple, in scarlet, and in fine linen, and of the weaver, even of them that do any work, and of those that devise cunning work.*

In our day who is our teacher, our guide into all the truth, the same one that filled Bezaleel and Aholiab with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of **workmanship**? The answer is the Holy Spirit. Bezaleel too is representative of the Holy Spirit. Out of a single solid piece of pure gold Bezaleel fashioned the mercy seat with a cherub on each end. This was in accordance with the instructions given of God in EXODUS 25:18 *And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.* Gold is an emblem of purity, a metal least tarnished, and speaks to us of deity (the divine nature of God), divine life, and Godly **perfection**. The beaten gold is representative of the **suffering** of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, of whom Paul said this before King Agrippa in ACTS 26:23 -- *That Christ should* ***suffer****, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.* In HEBREWS 2:9 Paul writes again: *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the* ***suffering*** *of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.* The joint-heirs with Christ, His Bride, those that will rule and reign with Him, have learned that the only way they can be joint heirs with Him is to also **suffer with Him**. We just read this fact in PHILIPPIANS 1:29 *For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to* ***suffer*** *for his sake.* ROMANS 8:17 *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we* ***suffer with him****, that we may be also glorified together. 18 For I reckon that the* ***sufferings*** *of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.* 2 TIMOTHY 3:12 *Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall* ***suffer*** *persecution.* 2 TIMOTHY 2:12 *If we* ***suffer****,* (with Him), *we shall also reign with him:... .*

Again let's read the last verse of PSALMS 138:8 along with EPHESIANS 2:10. *The LORD will* ***perfect*** *that which concerneth me:... ...For* ***we are his workmanship****, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

Those that will be called the Lamb's wife will be His SPIRITUAL **PERFECT** Masterpiece. *For* ***We are His workmanship****, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.* The Bride of Christ will be like Him, His Masterpiece. SONG OF SOLOMON 7:1 *How beautiful are thy feet with shoes, O prince's daughter! the joints of*

thy thighs are like jewels, the work of the hands of a cunning ***workman***. Not all who are born again will be in the Bridal company, contrary to popular teaching. Not all who are saved have been filled with the Holy Ghost also contrary to popular teaching. The Holy Ghost is the promise from God the Father that Jesus told His disciples about in LUKE 24:49 and ACTS 1:4, who was sent by our resurrected Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on the day of Pentecost in ACTS 2. Jesus told His eleven Apostles on the night of the last supper about the Holy Ghost, saying in JOHN 14:16 & 17 -- *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.* JOHN 14:26 goes on to inform us: *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.* These same eleven Apostles received the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, and that was when the Holy Ghost went from being with them, to being in them. It is important to understand this very point that is misunderstood by millions of believers. The Holy Ghost dwelleth with all believers, but not all believers have received the gift of the Holy Ghost. The Apostle Paul asked believers in ACTS 19:2 *...Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?* They had been saved, but they hadn't yet received the Holy Ghost, and this was more than twenty years after Pentecost! Simply put the Bride of Christ will be full of the Holy Ghost! The Holy Ghost was sent on the day of Pentecost to be our guide, our teacher, and our instructor, our Comforter, the One who makes us ready and qualified to be the Bride of Christ. The Holy Ghost is the agency of the Trinity who was sent unto us for the express purpose to **grow us up** in to Christ in all things as we read earlier in EPHESIANS 4:15. EPHESIANS 4:15 *But speaking the truth in love, may* ***grow up*** *into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.* What did we learn about the phrase "**grow up**" earlier in this study? The phrase "**grow up**" is found eight times in our training manual, and as such points us to the BRIDE of Christ! To **grow us up** in to Christ in all things doesn't take place all in one day either, but is a life long process that takes place as we yield our lives over to walk in the steps, *...which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them...* ...EPHESIANS 2:10.

Let's begin to understand another important verse in our training manual found in LUKE 4:1. LUKE 4:1 *And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.* If Jesus was full of the Holy Ghost, and led by the Holy Spirit, which He was as we read here in LUKE 4:1 before He began His ministry, and if His wife will be like Him, which she will be, then we must acknowledge that the Bride of Christ too will be full of the Holy Ghost.

I will share a little of my testimony of when I got filled with the Holy Ghost as a teenager in 1967 at a youth camp in Robber's Cave, Oklahoma. I was 16 years old. I knew that some of the functions of the Holy Ghost was to be my guide into all truth, and my teacher, and to show me things to come according to JOHN 16:13-15. So When I got home the next week, I asked for His guidance into some verses of scripture that I wasn't yet familiar with, and I opened my Bible to the book of JAMES and began to read. I had never read JAMES before. JAMES 1:1 *James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. 2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh* ***patience***. *4 But let* **patience** *have her* ***perfect*** *work, that ye may be* ***perfect*** *and entire, wanting nothing.* I stopped reading there for the Holy Ghost began to open these verses to me. I first needed to understand what verse 2 was saying. It was like Brother Hill was looking over my shoulder explaining these verses as I began to study what was being said. What was "divers temptations" I wondered, and then discovered it meant various tests, and trials. I don't remember having a lot of tests and trials when I was 16, but I knew if the Lord tarried I would have many different kinds of tests and trials as I grew up. But how was I to count it all joy when I was in times of trial, and being tested I wondered. Verse 3 explained to me that these tests, and trials were something from God to test my faith in God. I didn't realize then what I now know to be a fact, that the tests, and trials, and temptations I was to face down the road in life, were designed especially for

me from before the foundation of the world by a loving God, who has always had my best in mind. If I were ever to reign with Christ as His Bride I would have to have my faith tested. Certainly Jesus Christ Himself as a man had His faith tested. As a 16 year old I did not yet understand all of that, but the Holy Ghost at that time allowed me to see *...that the trying of your faith worketh **patience**.* Now almost 60 years later I realize that this portion of scripture has been a theme in my life, for the many test and trials I have had certainly tried my faith, but in the end, by faith in God, and with the careful guidance of the Holy Ghost, these manifold tests, and trials in my life also worked **patience** in my life. The Bride of Christ will have **patience**, for Christ Himself has had a lot of **patience** waiting for the split second in time when God the Father will tell Him to go catch His Bride away! Then as a 16 year old The Holy Ghost allowed me to see the purpose of these first four verses of JAMES, and that would be the fact found in verse 4 -- *But let **patience** have her **perfect** work, that ye may be **perfect** and entire, wanting nothing.* I then began to see that there was a **perfect** work to be accomplished in my life through **patience**. Furthermore I noticed a second "**perfect**" in this verse that explained more of the why **patience** was important in my life, and that being that I (the Holy Ghost made it personal to me) *...may be **perfect** and entire, wanting nothing.* I looked these words up and saw that the word "**perfect**" meant complete, and my Scofield reference Bible had me look up Scofield's note found in MATTHEW 5:48, which in part stated that the word "**perfect**" ...implies full development, growth into maturity of godliness... . Well is that not a description of the Bride of Christ? She will be fully mature, full of the Holy Ghost, a full overcomer, having *...let **patience** have her **perfect** work...* in her life, and having let the Lord direct her heart into the love of God, and into the **patient** waiting for Christ as 2 THESSALONIANS 3:5 states. 2 THESSALONIANS 3:5 *And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the **patient** waiting for Christ.* The word "entire" in JAMES 1:4 means 100% complete, and the phrase "wanting nothing" means: lacking nothing. Do you think the Bride of Christ will be lacking anything? What I now realize these almost 60 years later is that from the eternities past **I am His workmanship,** and from before the foundation of the world His desire was towards me. He designed all of the unique tests, and trials I have faced in my life for the purpose of giving me God's best, and His desire is toward me... ...SONG OF SOLOMON 7:10.

One last thought before we move on from JAMES 1:1-4, and that is note the words "**patience,**" and "**perfect**" are found each found twice in these four verses. Two (twice) is the number of SUFFICIENT WITNESS, or SUFFICIENT TESTIMONY, and both of these words speak volumes to my life. JAMES 1:1 *James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. 2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh **patience**. 4 But let* **patience** *have her **perfect** work, that ye may be **perfect** and entire, wanting nothing.* The words **patience** and **patient** are bookends to the Book of James, and in total we find these two words seven times in JAMES, pointing us again to SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION and SPIRITUAL COMPLETION. The Bride of Christ will be SPIRITUALLY **PERFECT**, having her **patience perfectly** tested here on earth. JAMES 5:7 *Be **patient** therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long **patience** for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. 8 Be ye also **patient**; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.*

So the words "**patience,**" "**patient,**" and "**perfect**" have spoken volumes to my heart, and life, and each time I hear teaching on "**patience,**" "**patient,**" "**perfect,**" and SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION my ears perk up. Let's go back to PSALMS 138:8 for a moment to again see something else in this outstanding verse. PSALMS 138:8 *The LORD will **perfect** that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.* The Hebrew word translated "**perfect**" here is gamar {gaw-mar'}, number 01584 in The Strong's Hebrew Concordance, and gamar is only found five times in Old Testament scripture. Five is the number of GRACE, and the GRACE of God is exceeding abundant in all our lives as *...The LORD will* (by His GRACE) ***perfect** that which concerneth me.* Gamar {gaw-mar'} also has five different meanings, each of which can be discerned by it's usage in the text. Here in PSALMS 138:8 gamar

means: to **perfect**, or bring to an end, or **to complete**. In other words gamar here points us to SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION and SPIRITUAL COMPLETION. In PSALMS 57:2 gamar means to **perform**. PSALMS 57:2 *I will cry unto God most high; unto God that **performeth** all things for me.* Perhaps PSALMS 57:2 was Paul's inspiration for writing PHILIPPIANS 1:6 *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will **perform** it until the day of Jesus Christ.* Let the words "**perfect**," "**patient**," and "**patience**" also speak volumes to your own heart.

Back to our text of study: 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 phrase "**good works**" is found sixteen times in scripture. Sixteen in the number associated with **LOVE**, and the emphasis of **LOVE** is the **LOVE** of God. And recall what the Apostle Paul wrote concerning the **LOVE** of God in ROMANS 5:5 *...the **love of God** is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.* The **love of God** was shed abroad (poured out, exceedingly abundantly more than we could ask or think poured out) in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto us. 1 JOHN 4:8 and 4:16 tell us **God is love**, and the full manifestation of the **LOVE of God** is in those full of the Holy Ghost. ROMANS 8:27 *And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.* Who is *...he that searcheth the hearts...* ? We read in REVELATION 2:23 these words of Jesus *...I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts...* . This was a quote from JEREMIAH 17:10 which reads: *I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.* The He *...that searcheth the hearts...* is none other than our Bridegroom Jesus Christ. Who maketh intercession for us? ROMANS 8:34 *Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.* He that *...also maketh intercession for us...* is our Bridegroom! The heart of the Bride of Christ will be a heart that is especially sensitive, and in tune with Christ's own heart. The joint-heirs that will reign with Christ will manifest this quality, for her first **LOVE** is Christ. Such a heart will be full of the Holy Ghost! First **LOVE**, that is first in value **LOVE**, is the kind of **LOVE** that the Bride of Christ will have for Jesus.

We are discussing the phrase "**good works**" which is found sixteen (**LOVE**) times in scripture. 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.* Here is an important question to ponder: Are the "**good works**" referenced here our "**good works**," or His "**good works**?" Let's look at some scriptures in our training manual that help answer this question, and earlier we actually already answered this question, but sometimes we don't see it until the second or third time. PHILIPPIANS 2:13 *For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.* 2 TIMOTHY 3:16 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be **perfect**, throughly furnished unto all **good works**.* There's that word **perfect** again, and here we learn that this Godly **perfection** comes from learning and knowing **the word of God**, which *...is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.* These are some of His "**good works**" that the word of God *...worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.* Again in REVELATION 19:13 we find **The Word of God** is another name for Jesus. EPHESIANS 2:10 *For we are **his workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus* (**The Word of God**) *unto **good works**.* The "**good works**" mentioned here are His "**good works**," which flow out of the life of a full overcomer. HEBREWS 10:24 *And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to **good works**.* **We are His workmanship**.

Again let's look at the Amplified Version of PHILIPPIANS 1:6 *And I am convinced and sure of this very thing, that He Who began a **good work** in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], developing [that **good work**] and **perfecting** and bringing it to full completion in you.* Here again we see that the "**good works**" are God's **good works**, working in us. EPHESIANS 3:20 *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or*

think, according to the power that worketh in us, 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. PHILIPPIANS 1:6 *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a **good work** in you will **perform** it until the day of Jesus Christ.*

A couple more points to notice in our primary text of study, which is 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.* Let's spend a moment looking at that word "**ordained**" mentioned here in EPHESIANS 2:10. (This is rich with meaning to the Bridal Saints!) The Greek word translated "**ordained**" here in EPHESIANS 2:10 is proetoimazo {pro-et-oy-mad'-zo}, number 4282 in The Strong's Greek Concordance, and proetoimazo is only used twice in scripture, and means: to prepare before, to make ready beforehand. The other time proetoimazo {pro-et-oy-mad'-zo} is found is in ROMANS 9:23 where it is translated "**prepared.**" ROMANS 9:23 *And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore **prepared** unto glory.* The same Holy Spirit that guided Bezaleel to make the vessels for the tabernacle in the wilderness, works in us *...the vessels of mercy, which he had afore **prepared** unto glory.* **We are His workmanship.** 2 CORINTHIANS 4:7 *But we have this **treasure** in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.* The word "**treasure**" found there 2 CORINTHIANS 4:7 is our eighth word, or phrase, found thirty-seven times in scripture, and the number thirty-seven again is the number associated with **THE WORD OF GOD**, who is Jesus! All believers can say: "I am His **treasure** for Christ liveth in me." ...GALATIANS 2:20. **We are His workmanship.**

One more thing about the word "**ordained,**" and that is we find "**ordained**" in thirty-five verses of our King James Version of the Bible, and the number thirty-five is the number associated with **HOPE.** There are several sermons to be preached on just the word **hope,** for the word **hope** is mentioned 130 times in scripture. Let's look at a few of the "**hope**" scriptures that point out our **hope** is in Christ. PSALMS 39:7 *And now, Lord, what wait I for? my **hope** is in thee.* PSALMS 71:5 *For thou art my **hope**, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth.* PSALMS 71:14 *But I will **hope** continually, and will yet praise thee more and more.* PSALMS 119:114 *Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I **hope** in thy word.* PSALMS 146:5 *Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose **hope** is in the LORD his God.* JEREMIAH 17:7 *Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose **hope** the LORD is.* COLOSSIANS 1:27 *To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the **hope** of glory.* 1 TIMOTHY 1:1 *Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our **hope**.* TITUS 2: 13 *Looking for that blessed **hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 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.* 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.* **We are His workmanship**; He is our **hope**!

The word "**ordained,**" as it is used here in EPHESIANS 2:10 again means: to prepare before, to make ready beforehand. 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.* Yes indeed **we are His workmanship**. **THE WORD OF GOD** is Jesus, and furthermore **THE WORD OF GOD** is the tool used of the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, and to make us ready to be the Bride of Christ. **THE WORD OF GOD** is our training manual, and *...we are **his workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus unto **good works**, which God hath before **ordained*** (to prepare before, to make ready beforehand) *that we **should walk** in them.*

Lastly in our text of EPHESIANS 2:10 notice the phrase "**should walk.**" 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 phrase "**should walk**" is found eight times in the Bible, twice in Paul's epistles. There's that number eight again, and again one of the more profound meanings of the number eight is BRIDE, as in the BRIDE of Christ! We are **His workmanship**; His symphony; His symphony of manifold tests and trials as well as His symphony of mountain top high calling experiences, *...created in Christ Jesus unto **good works**, which God hath before **ordained** that*

*we **should walk** in them.* The second time Paul uses the phrase "**should walk**" is found in ROMANS 6:4 *Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also **should walk** in newness of life.*

The Greek word that translates to "**walk**" is peripateo {per-ee-pat-eh'-o}, number 4043 in The Strong's Greek Concordance, and is found 96 times in the New Testament. Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words explains that the Apostle Paul always used this word peripateo {per-ee-pat-eh'-o} in the figurative sense signifying the whole round of the activities of the individual life. Paul writes that the Christian is to **walk** in newness of life in ROMANS 6:4; to **walk** after the Spirit in ROMANS 8:4; to **walk** in honesty in ROMANS 13:13 & 1 THESSALONIANS 4:12; to **walk** by faith in 2 CORINTHIANS 5:7; to **walk** in the Spirit in GALATIANS 5:16; to **walk** in the before ordained good works here in EPHESIANS 2:10; to **walk** in love in EPHESIANS 5:2; and to **walk** in wisdom in COLOSSIANS 4:5. These are eight of the positive effects of **walk**ing with the Lord. 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.* Again the "**good works**" we are talking about in EPHESIANS 2:10 are His "**good works**" that **The Word of God** *...worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure...* PHILIPPIANS 2:13. Once again we reference PHILIPPIANS 1:6 *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a **good work** in you will **perform** it until the day of Jesus Christ.*

The word peripateo {per-ee-pat-eh'-o} commonly translated "**walk**" is one time translated "**occupied**" that being in HEBREWS 13:9 where the inference is not to be occupied with earthly things that have no eternal value. HEBREWS 13:9 *Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been **occupied** therein.* We should **walk** in newness of life ROMANS 6:4 tells us, and as HEBREWS 13:9 informs us that this happens with the heart that is established with grace. Remember that man named Bezaleel back in EXODUS who was filled with the Spirit of God in all manner of **workmanship** for making the different parts of the tabernacle in the wilderness? EXODUS 38:24 tells us what he was "**occupied**" with. EXODUS 38:24 *All the gold that was **occupied** for the work in all the work of the holy place, even the gold of the offering, was twenty and nine talents, and seven hundred and thirty shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary.* I asked an expert to help me here, and to sum it up in today's dollars, with the price of gold around $3,315/troy ounce, Bezaleel was working with 33,846.38 troy ounces of gold, worth in today's market $112,200,750! The *...two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat...* found in EXODUS 25:18 would have an additional **priceless** value as a work of art, as would all the pieces of the sanctuary made of gold. All were masterpieces. **We are His workmanship,** His Masterpiece, His **priceless** treasure in an earthen vessel!

Do we have any clues in our training manual how *...we **should walk**...* in the *...**before ordained**... ...**good works**...* that *...God hath prepared for them that love him...* EPHESIANS 2:10 along with 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9? Of course the answer is yes, and I have 1353 pages of scripture to reference in my training manual, and so do you. We have already discussed briefly the secret on how *...we **should walk**...* in the *...**before ordained**... ...**good works**...* that *...God hat prepared for them that love him...* EPHESIANS 2:10 along with 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9, and this is **by faith**. The phrase "**by faith**" is our ninth word or phrase found exactly thirty-seven times in our training manual, and thirty-seven is the number associated with THE WORD OF GOD, who is Jesus according to REVELATION 19:13, a fact we have now pointed out four times in this study. The just shall live "**by faith**" ROMANS 1:17; GALATIANS 3:11; and HEBREWS 10:38 all tells us. "**By faith**" in God all of the Old Testament worthies of faith became overcomers. "**By faith**" in Jesus Christ all the New Testament worthies of faith will be the full overcomers known as the Bride of Christ, which is the better things offered to us of this church age that Paul wrote about in HEBREWS 11:40. The fact of the matter is the BRIDE of CHRIST will have lived her life "**by faith.**" 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...* "**by faith.**"

We have said a lot already about faith in this study, and walking with God **by faith** is probably the most important fact we have covered. HEBREWS 11:1 states: *Now **faith** is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.* A translation of this verse that Scott Pawelka read to us in his class reads: **Faith** – the absolute assurance of things hoped for, the proof of the reality of things we cannot see with the natural eye. Additionally we should know that **faith** is no respecter of persons. **Faith** is our foundation! **Faith** is not being dismayed. And **faith** is a fight. {See 1 TIMOTHY 6:12.}

Let's spend a few minutes looking at one example in our training manual of one who walked **by faith**. In GENESIS 5 we find the first man translated in scripture, and his name was Enoch. Twice in GENESIS 5 we find that *...Enoch walked with God,...* and that is recorded in GENESIS 5:22 & 5:24. AMOS 3:3 in our training manual asks the question: *Can two walk together, except they be agreed*? Of course the answer is no, for in order for two to walk together they must be in agreement. Furthermore when two walk together in agreement, they usually have conversation together also. Enoch didn't have a training manual like you and I do, but he knew that he **should walk** with God, and **by faith** he did, and GENESIS 5:24 informs us that *...Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.* HEBREWS 11:5 & 6 further explains what happened to Enoch. HEBREWS 11:5 ***By faith** Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that **diligently** seek him.* "**Diligently**" means: very earnestly, whole heartily, painstakingly, with careful and steady perseverance, and is done early and often by a seeker of the Lord. The word "**diligently**" again is found exactly thirty-seven times in **THE WORD OF GOD**. Obviously Enoch **diligently** sought God, which was part of his walking with God. There will be Saints from this Church Age, like Enoch of old, who will be translated that they should not see death, and the next group to go this way will be those who are alive at the coming of the Lord who are in the rank known as the Bride of Christ.

We discussed earlier a little about SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION and SPIRITUAL COMPLETION. SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION and SPIRITUAL COMPLETION will be attained by the Bride of Christ, but how? The Old Testament worthies of faith also attained SPIRITUAL COMPLETION and SPIRITUAL PERFECTION **by faith**! The New Testament full overcomers found in the Bride of Christ will be found to have achieved SPIRITUAL COMPLETION and SPIRITUAL PERFECTION **by faith** also. Enoch walked with God according to GENESIS 5:22 & 24, **by faith**. We just spent a lot of time studying EPHESIANS 2:10, and read exactly how we can too can achieve SPIRITUAL COMPLETION and SPIRITUAL PERFECTION. 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.* Now let's read 2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 *(For we walk **by faith**, not by sight:).* Stated another way, none of us will ever be in the Bride of Christ by our own efforts. Rebecca never would have been bride to Isaac without following her guide Eliezer, who brought her unto Isaac. Our guide during this church age is the Holy Ghost, which is the agency of the Godhead to work *...in you both to will and do His good pleasure...* according to PHILIPPIANS 2:13. The Holy Ghost is **filled with wisdom** to give you individually <u>God's best</u>!

Back to Enoch, who walked with God **by faith**. We last read of Enoch in the short 25 verses of JUDE, written by the much younger half brother of Jesus, who didn't even believe in Jesus until after Jesus resurrection! {Study JOHN 7:5.} After Jesus resurrection, Jesus appeared unto His brother James (according to 1 CORINTHIANS 15:7), and sometime during the first forty days after His resurrection Jesus appeared to the rest of His family, for we find them in ACTS 1:14 being with their mother Mary in Jerusalem awaiting the promise of the Holy Ghost. Jude, this younger brother of Jesus wrote an epistle where some unique things are mentioned in this short book of 25 verses. Jude mentions in verse 9 of Michael the archangel contending with the devil as he disputed about the body of Moses. In verses 14 & 15 Jude writes: *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute judgment*

upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. When Enoch walked with God, God told him of the things recorded in JUDE 1:14 & 15.

Since we don't read these statements anywhere else in scripture, where do you suppose Jude came up with this information? Jesus when growing up with His brothers could have very easily revealed to His own half brothers the words spoken by Enoch, and facts about Michael the archangel contending with the devil as he disputed about the body of Moses, even though at the time He made known these facts His brothers didn't believe in Him. However Jesus knowing the end from the beginning, also knew that after His resurrection His brothers would become believers, and the Holy Ghost would remind them of the words they heard from Jesus as He carried on conversations with them during His many years growing up with them. I believe that is where Jude came up with the information he wrote in his little epistle of JUDE. Recall that part of the Holy Ghost's job is to *...bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.* These were Jesus words according to JOHN 14:26. Jude wrote some of the things the first man translated knew from his walking with the Lord, and one of these things was about the **coming** of the Lord, which we read a minute ago: ... *Behold,* ***the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints***... JUDE 1:14. Were there ten thousands of His saints in Enoch's day? Probably not, for had there been we would have read of more than just Enoch walking with God. Enoch didn't have a Bible, but he did know the principles of ROMANS 10:17 *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* Obviously Enoch, who is a noted Old Testament worthy of faith, walked with God, and talked with God, and had the hearing ears of faith to hear the word of God, as do all full overcomers. Thus we find a very happy ending to our story of Jesus brothers reaffirming what is said in ISAIAH 55:11 *So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

Before we run out of time there are a couple more points that we briefly touched on in this study that I would like to enlarge upon. The scripture indicates that the Apostle Paul spent the better part of three years teaching and preaching in Ephesus. As he concluded his third missionary journey Paul called for the Ephesian elders to come meet with him one last time, this was in ACTS 20. In ACTS 20:32 we find Paul's final commendation to these Ephesian elders. ACTS 20:32 *And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.* Paul here pointed them to their training manual, which again is **THE WORD OF GOD,** *...the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.* Then four years later our Apostle Paul wrote them a letter, which we now know as The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the EPHESIANS. Brother Hill called EPHESIANS the high water mark of the Bible because of the so many high calling points found therein. We have only extensively covered one verse from EPHESIANS, that being 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.* But in studying this text we have brushed over many other scriptures written by Paul, and some of them were also from EPHESIANS. In fact we have one hundred chapters in our training manual written to us by our beloved Apostle Paul. The number one hundred is the number of COMPLETION, and the Bride of Christ will be 100% complete having learned from her training manual what it is to have <u>God's best</u>! <u>God's best</u> is Jesus of course, and the Bride of Christ will be married to Jesus, that is what it is to have <u>God's best</u>!

So briefly I want to break it down to seven highlights found in **The Word of God** of what <u>God's best</u> is. Would you know God's best if you seen it? These seven highlights will help you, and me, appreciate what <u>God's best</u> is.

1. <u>God gave us the best</u> when He gave us His only begotten Son to be our Lord and Saviour. In short, God's best is Jesus.

JOHN 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

EPHESIANS 2:4 *But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

ROMANS 10:10 *For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

1 CORINTHIANS 3:11 *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

Since God's best is Jesus, those who have accepted Jesus Christ into their own heart as their own personal Saviour, now have **God's best** living in them.

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.*

GALATIANS 3:26 *For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.*

GALATIANS 2:20 *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

2. God gave us the best Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth, our Guide into all truth.

On the night of the last supper Jesus told His disciples some things about the Holy Ghost. JOHN 14:16 *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. ...26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.* ...15:26 *But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:... .* ...16:12 *I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.*

In short, the Holy Ghost is the power that enables the believer to **grow up** unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ; to help us have **God's best.**

EPHESIANS 4:13 *Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:... .*

ACTS 1:8 *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

ACTS 19:2 *...Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?*

3. God gave us the best Apostle.

HEBREWS 3:1*Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; 2 Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.*

ROMANS 11:13 *For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:... .*

2 TIMOTHY 1:11 *Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.*

1 CORINTHIANS 4:15 *For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.*

1 CORINTHIANS 11:1 *Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.*

1 CORINTHIANS 4:16 *Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me.*

PHILIPPIANS 3:17 *Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.*

4. <u>God gave us the best</u> pastors and teachers.

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: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:... .*

And what do they teach? Paul's gospel as inspired by the Holy Ghost, which magnifies our lovely Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! If your pastor, or teacher isn't following these guidelines, then they are not showing you the correct path that leads to having **God's best.**

5. <u>God gave us the best</u> (...fill in the blank here for yourself...) **Mom, Dad, Step-mom, Step-dad, Grand mother, Grand father, brother(s), sister(s), aunt(s), uncle(s), husband, wife, children, friends, boss, supervisor, co-workers, neighbors etc.** Before you take issue with this statement, realize that these people were fore ordained to be on your pathway in life, to aid you in your pursuit to be a full overcomer, and to have **God's best.** Did you ever look at it this way? Did you ever ask God for <u>His best</u>? Again would you recognize **God's best** if you seen it?

PSALMS 37:23 *The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.*

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.*

6. <u>God gave us the best</u> individually prepared trials. The full overcomers truly latch onto this fact.

1 PETER 1:6 *Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, <u>if need be</u>, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: 7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.*

1 PETER 4:12 *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.*

ROMANS 8:28 *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

7. <u>God gave us the best</u> opportunity during this church age. This opportunity wasn't given to any of those in the ages past. This unique opportunity that we have during this church age is to be in the Bride of Christ!

In ACTS 15:14 we read: *Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.* "A people for His name" can most simply be defined as Christians. Out of this "people for His name" comes also a rib portion of people who will be called "Mrs. Jesus," "The Bride of Christ," "The Lamb's wife." In REVELATION 19:7 we read: *Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.*

How does the Bride of Christ make herself ready? She recognizes these seven points of having **God's best** that we mentioned here. She knows Christ to be **God's best** of everything, and in everything. She knows 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.*

We just discussed seven highlights of what it takes to have God's best. Remember what the number seven points to? SPIRITUAL **PERFECT**ION or SPIRITUAL COMPLETION. We also discussed the word "**perfect**" in this study, and gave as one reference HEBREWS 2:10 *For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation **perfect** through sufferings.* If Jesus was made *...**perfect** through **sufferings**...* what about His wife? Paul instructed us in PHILIPPIANS 1:29 *For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to **suffer** for his sake.* "To believe on Him" for everything is how one lives "**by faith.**" Ask yourself: "How hard is it to believe on Him, who is before all things, and by whom all things consist?" {Study COLOSSIANS 1:17.} To be a full overcomer requires living "**by faith.**" Again 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....* "**by faith.**"