

#iam

You are not who they say you are. You are not even who you think you are. You are Who God says you are.

Who does God say i am in Christ?

#iamGodsworkmanship

(Ephesians 2:8-10) “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

1. By grace

1 Corinthians 15:10 “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them-yet not I but the grace of God that was with me.”

2. God’s workmanship

“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

(Illustration of a potter)

- a. **You have great value-** When God looks at you he sees what you could be and what you should be. Not just a lump of clay.

b. You were planned - you have been prepared to be partnered with Christ to do good works. You have skills and gifts that God plans to use. He has grown these in you for his own purposes.

c. You are re-created in Christ- In Christ you are his workmanship, Other translations Masterpiece, or handiwork
What does it mean to be “In Christ”?

You belong to him “wholly”

Is your occupation “In Christ”

Are your gifts/skills “In Christ”

3. God’s not finished

Phillippians 1:6 “And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ”

a. Not finished in you

Until Jesus comes back we will still be growing.

Spiritual growth is not instantaneous.

b. Not finished in others

We need to look at each other as the workmanship of God. We are all a work in progress.

In this world we are quick to demand others pay for their sins and slow to show mercy. Yet we are quick to expect mercy will be shown to us.

The second great commandment Jesus gives us is “Love your neighbor as yourself.” We need to show others the mercy that we expect to be shown.

**This world celebrates justice, heaven celebrates mercy.
Justice without mercy is condemnation**

Biblical Justice is taking a wrong and making it right. Mercy is necessary for redemption.

Good works are produced in us by the Spirit of God. God is in the process of making wrong people right.

Micah 6:8 “He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

God looks at each of us in Christ as his masterpiece, his handiwork, his Workmanship. He sees our imperfections but is still proud and looks at us with hope.