

Saved By Grace To Do Good
Eph. 2:8-10

Question: Do you have the cart before the horse?

God saves us because of His grace not our works. 2:8,9

- These verses further explain the idea of *saved by grace* in 5b.
- Note that the antecedent for *this / that* in vs. 8 is not *faith* as is often taught but refers to the preceding section (2:4-8), as the pronoun does in 1:15, 3:1,14. Salvation (not *faith*) is the gift.
- Faith is our part in salvation, Rom. 5:1,2, Gal. 3:26, I Pt. 1:9.
- Works can't save us, Rom. 4:5, II Tim. 2:9, Titus 3:5.
- If works could save, one could boast, Rom. 3:27,28, Gal. 6:14.

Before salvation good works =

God saves us to be His workmanship to do good works. 2:10

- Actually God is doing the work (craftsman's efforts), and it's on us, which is no surprise in view of all He has done for us!
- *Created* recalls world's creation—Rom. 1:20, cf. II Cor. 5:17
- *Prepared beforehand* only elsewhere in Rom. 9:23, which also recalls God taking the initiative toward us as in 1:4,5,11.
- Importance of works, I Tim. 6:18, Titus 2:14, 3:1,8, Heb. 10:24. II Cor. 5:10 points out accountability for a believers' works.

After salvation good works =

