



# God at Work

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Sometimes as we travel down the highway we come upon a sign that reads, “Men at Work.” Maybe believers should have such a sign on them that reads, “God at Work!” For far from being removed from the universe, our God is actively at work today!

“... God ... *worketh all in all*” (I Corinthians 12:6).

## God Is at Work in Us

God is actively at work in His children.

“For it is **God which worketh in you** ...” (Philippians 2:13).

“For we are **His workmanship** ...” (Ephesians 2:10).

“Now unto Him ... **the power that worketh in us**” (Ephesians 3:20).

“... His **power to us-ward** ... **the working of His mighty power**” (Ephesians 1:19).

God is at work in believers to such an extent that Paul calls us, “**the work of God**” (Romans 14:20).

Paul describes God’s own work in him.

“Whereunto I also labor, striving according to His working, which worketh in me mightily” (Colossians 1:29).

## **God is at Work in Us According to His Own Will**

God does not consult us on how He should work.

*“... Him who worketh all things **after the counsel of His own will**”* (Ephesians 1:11).

He accomplishes His own purposes in His own way and in His own timing.

*“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of **His good pleasure**”*  
(Philippians 2:13).

## **God Is at Work in Us Through His Word**

*“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works”* (II Timothy 3:16-17).

The purpose of God here is maturity (“*may be perfect*”) unto God’s “*good works*.”

God is at work to bring us from spiritual infancy (“*child of God*”) to maturity (“*man of God*”). He does this work through the power of His word.

## **God Is at Work in Us Through Faith in His Word**

*“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, **which effectually worketh also in you that believe**”* (I Thessalonians 2:13).

*“And what is the exceeding greatness of His power **to us-ward who believe**, according to the working of His mighty power”* (Ephesians 1:19).

God is everything to us. He is even our source of faith.

We thank God that He has graciously given us faith. Faith is God’s gift.

*“For by grace are ye saved through **faith; and that** not of yourselves: **it is the gift of God**”* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

We have no place of boasting, or shame, for “our” faith was a gift, given to us.

*“For unto you **it is given in the behalf of Christ**, not only **to believe on Him**, but also to suffer for His sake”* (Philippians 1:29).

God has given to each of us our own measure of faith.

*“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as **God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith**” (Romans 12:3).*

## **God Began, Continues, and Will Finish His Work in Us**

*“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” (Philippians 1:6).*

This work in us, God Himself began. He is its originator, He is its founder, but He is also its continuer, He is its sustainer. What He started, He will finish all the way through to its completion. For this we can have unwavering confidence in God – *“Being confident of this very thing ...”*

Past: *“He which hath begun”*

Present: *“will perform it”*

Future: *“until the day of Jesus Christ”*

Little wonder the author of Hebrews wrote:

*“Looking unto Jesus the **author and finisher** of our faith ...” (Hebrews 12:2)*

## **God Is At Work in Us Through the Trials of Life**

God is actively at work in us, even in the circumstances of life that we may dread the most. Do not be discouraged. Do not fret. Trust Him there. Rest fully and confidently in His work.

*“And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation **worketh** patience” (Romans 5:3).*

*“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, **worketh** for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory” (II Corinthians 4:17).*

The God who works *“**all things** after the counsel of His own will”* finds no challenge with the circumstances and details of life – not even the hard ones. Nothing poses an obstacle to Him – after all, He is the Almighty God.

Therefore, there is nothing that comes our way that God does not take and make an instrument of His work in our lives. Regardless of what comes our way our Father can *work* them together for good. After all He is the Master Workman, and we are His *Master-piece*.

*“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” (Romans 8:28).*

## **We Are Simply to Walk in His Work**

We have only been called to walk in His work.

When people often talk about the “*work of God*” all sorts of religious activity comes to mind; but it is us who are His work – “***the work of God***” (Romans 14:20). To walk in His work, is simply to walk as who we are, as what He has already made us in Christ Jesus – “***His workmanship.***”

*“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).

The “*good works*” here are not ours. They are His “*good works*,” since it is He who is the Workman, the Creator, according to the very context of the verse. We are His work, created – in Christ Jesus – simply unto His “*good works.*”

The word that Paul uses for “ordained” in this verse – “*God hath before **ordained** that we should walk in them*” – is the Greek word “*proetoimazo.*” The translators of the *King James Version* placed an alternate rendering of this word in their margin – “*or, prepared.*”

“*Proetoimazo*” is Strong’s Greek Lexicon #4282, and is defined as, “to fit up in advance.” It is a compound word meaning “to make ready” (#2090) “before” (4253). Bullinger defines the word as “prepared beforehand.” This Greek verb is only found in the Scriptures twice, both by Paul – here in Ephesians 2:10 and in Romans 9:23, where the *King James Version* translated this word as “*he had afore prepared:*”

*“And that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which **He had afore prepared** unto glory* (Romans 9:23).

The “*glory*” in this verse does not belong to the “*vessels of mercy*” intrinsically, or naturally. He simply prepared them beforehand for this “*glory*” – His own glory – thus making known the riches of His glory upon them.

Likewise, the “*good works*” in Ephesians 2:10 do not belong to us either. They are not intrinsically, or naturally our works. He simply created us unto His good works – which “He has before prepared” for us to walk in them. These “*good works*” are but His “*good works*” in us – thus making us “*His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus.*”

God is in the spiritual process of “preparing” us, of “fitting” us “up in advance” to the flow of His life in us. He is “making us ready beforehand” for His work of the ages. Don’t forget that we are only in the beginning stages of God’s work in us. His work will continue in us on into the “*ages to come*” –

*“That in the **ages to come** He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus”* (Ephesians 2:7).

*“Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen” (Ephesians 3:21).*

We are His work, and when we walk in His work, we are but making His work our work. Therefore Paul could say of himself and Timothy:

*“... Timothy ... worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do” (I Corinthians 16:10).*

### **We Are to Be Steadfast, Unmovable, Always Abounding in His Work**

*“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord” (I Corinthians 15:58).*

Paul does not here speak of “our work **for** the Lord” – but “*the work **of** the Lord.*” This is the work in which we are steadfast, unmovable, and always abounding – *the Lord’s* working in us!

God is busy at work *in us*. Thank Him that this is true. By faith rejoice that *you* are His *workmanship!* You are “*the work of God.*”

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