

Walking In Good Works

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph. 2:10).

I recently read that at the turn of the twentieth century, most of the roads in our country were only improved wagon trails. Only in larger cities were there paved highways, and most of these were made of cobblestone. In the 1920s road building became a very involved process. By 1925 there were over 250 named highways but there continued to be a great need for a central organization to determine standardized highways.

Although maps of superhighways were discussed and drawn in earlier administrations, it was President Dwight D. Eisenhower who championed The Interstate Highway System. Authorized by the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956, interstate highways began to be built. The first three of these highways were contracted in Missouri, Kansas, and Pennsylvania. The state of Pennsylvania refers to their turnpike as “The Granddaddy of the Pikes.”

As a constant traveler on the highways, I’m not only thankful that many of the historical footpaths and wagon trails have become excellent roads, but I am also appreciative of the interstate highways. Traveling on these good roads might be likened to walking in good works. Neither the roads nor the works seemed possible, but now they testify of a great plan and a gigantic undertaking. Here are a few more thoughts about this subject.

Walking in good works is realized through divine regeneration! There are no “good works” in the lives of unregenerate individuals. Of the natural man it is recorded, “there is none that doeth good, no, not one” (Rom. 3:12). Only those who have been saved by grace have been “created in Christ Jesus unto good works.” The new man in Christ gives evidence of new life through new works and actions.

Walking in good works is rooted in divine preordination! Our regeneration and the good works that follow our regeneration are not haphazard happenings. Earlier in this Epistle, we are told that we were “chosen” in Christ “before the foundation of the world” (1:4). Now, we learn that we are not only “created in Christ Jesus unto good works,” but that “God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” Anything good in our lives originated with Him.

Walking in good works is routed for divine glorification! Although it is not stated in the text, that which originates with God and that which is energized by God is that which presently and eventually glorifies God. Not only is everything He does “according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself” (1:9), but it is also “to the praise of His glory” (1:12). Oh, may He glorify Himself through our lives.

