

## What about Purpose? Matthew 11:28 / Ephesians 2:10 (The King and His Kingdom)

### King and Kingdom series - part 4

A)The King answers our questions – What about death – What about Hell?

B)What about Purpose?  
Pray!

The book the purpose driven life by Pastor Rick Warren has sold – 32 million **copies worldwide.**

A)It remains the bestselling hardcover non-fiction book in history

B)It is the second most translated book after the Bible.

C)Why was this book so popular with people across the world?

D)Answer: There is a deep seeded longing in the heart of every human being – **to Know WHAT IS MY PURPOSE IN LIFE.**

E)Jesus knowing that would be the case – He addresses that very thing in Matthew chapter 11

1)**A great INVITATION**

I have asked you to turn to Ephesians chapter 2 – I want to consider something the Apostle Paul declared

A)As a set up for the words that Jesus spoke in Matthew chapter 11

B)In Ephesians chapter 2 Paul is talking about Salvation.

C)Men were lost in their sin – Dead in trespasses wandering aimlessly

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, {Dead = separated from God 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the **lusts of our flesh**, fulfilling the **desires of the flesh and of the mind**, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

Dead in trespasses wandering aimlessly – seeking satisfaction by trying to fulfill lust and DESIRES

**4 But God,** who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 **even when we were dead** in trespasses, **made us alive together** with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, {**Position in Christ – and our Destiny** 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness **toward us** in Christ Jesus. 8 **For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.**

Here Paul makes it clear that Salvation is by **Grace alone – through faith alone.**

A)It is a work of God that – we simply respond to by faith - Not of works – **NO BOASTING –**

B)Nothing we can do to earn a right standing with God. – **JESUS DID IT ALL .....**

C)But in the very next verse Paul supports what the Apostle James taught  
1)**TRUE FAITH IS A FAITH THAT WORKS**

Ephesians 2:10 “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

D)**WE ARE NOT SAVED BY OUR WORKS BUT our faith is to be a faith of ACTION**

E)**TO PUT it another way: We were saved for a purpose; We were saved to make an eternal impact**

1)**This is the Key to experiencing a full Christ centered life – full experience of following Christ!**

**His WORKMANSHIP = POEMA – POEM**  
A)**ANY WORK OF ART – MASTERPIECE**

B)Here is what is interesting: When God says we are his Workmanship –

1)**What makes us His workmanship is not the fact that He made our bodies and fashioned us physically**

**In other words God is not talking Human Anatomy – when HE inspires Paul to call us his Masterpiece.**

A) Even though the Bible does say we are fearfully and wonderfully made –

B) **Study of Human anatomy is amazing** – The great design – Great Designer –

C) **The Brain: The brain contains 86 billion nerve cells joined by 100 trillion connections.**

1) That is more than the number of stars in the Milky Way. –

There are so many nerve cells in a human brain that it would take almost 3,000 years to count them.

Messages from the human brain travel along nerves at up to 200 miles an hour-  
National Geographic 2014

#### **Blood facts:**

A) The human body contains 6 quarts of blood.

B) The blood is circulated throughout by the heart every 23 seconds,  
1) or close to 3 times through the body every minute.

C) There is this Speedway race going on inside of us -

1) In one day, the blood travels the Equivalent of (12,000 miles)—that's **four times** the distance across the US from coast to coast.

D) **Your Heart is pumping that** – No wonder you are tired at the end of the day right ?  
1) TAKE CARE OF YOUR HEART!!!!

#### **Don't get me started on DNA**

A) If a human being's DNA were uncoiled, it would stretch 10 billion miles, from Earth to Pluto and back.

B) Random Facts

❖ Every hour, humans shed about 600,000 particles of skin, or about 1.5 pounds every year.

❖ By the time a person is 70 years old, they will have lost about 105 pounds of skin.

**C) Don't get too excited about weight loss: In a lifetime, a human body will process about 100,000 pounds of food.**

❖ The average human produces 25,000 quarts of saliva in a lifetime, enough to fill two swimming pools.

❖ A human sneeze can travel about 100 mph or more.-

D) Spend hrs talking about the intricacies of the Human body/ Fearfully and wonderfully made

**But the intricacies of the human body is not what Paul has in mind –when He says we are God's Workmanship**

A) Nor was he talking about the **the Imago Dei**

B) THE **Imago Dei** is a term theologians use when Describing Genesis 1:26

1) **Let us make man in our Image** – Imago Dei

C) Man was made UNIQUE and DISTINCT from the rest of Creation

1) Uniquely made with a MORAL COMPASS uniquely made to live in RELATIONSHIP

D) WITH GOD – and with each other!

Paul is not referring to the IMAGO DEI WHEN he uses the term WORKMANSHIP.

**You are His workmanship – because of redemption – Created IN CHRIST**

A) **IN CHRIST** is the key phrase there.

B) When Saved – brought into Christ – Christ in you and you in Christ – Covered – Justified!!!

C) THAT IS WHAT MAKES YOU His Masterpiece

1) Created in Christ – Redeemed – brought into Christ!

**THE Christian is God's greatest Creation! We ALONE are called His MASTERPIECE!**

A) Spoke the World into existence – 6 days HEAVENS DECLARE..... TRUE

B) **This world is not called His masterpiece!**

1) But we are! – WHY?

**C)What did it take to make a Christian?**

1)Jesus left heaven – Cross – Resurrection

D)Museum Tour - GALAXIES / Animals –  
Sea life-colors –

1)**The Cross – the Christian – Jesus came –  
JESUS PAID THE PRICE!**

**SO PAUL DECLARES – WE ARE HIS  
WORKSMANSHIP – MASTERPIECE...making!**

A)NOW THINK ABOUT THIS WITH ME.

B)Paul is telling us **GOD IS AN ARTIST –**

1)Study art you know – **THE art is often the  
expression of the ARTIST – RIGHT ?**

C) Sad = **Sad song – Achy Breaky Heart .....**

1)**Jordan – sad worship**

D)Happy ? – Happy Song .....

1)**DARK PAINTING – Meet the artist  
now I understand.**

**God is an Artist – He calls us HIS  
MASTERPIECE**

A)Here is what that means - **WE GET TO BE AN  
EXPRESSION OF WHO HE IS – HOW?**

**Created in Christ - REDEEMED – for a purpose:  
this is the purpose: for Good Works which He  
prepared before hand that we should walk in  
them.**

B)Part of **Our fulfillment** in life -comes from being  
engaged in those good works that He has prepared  
for us.

C)NOT JUST any good works – but ONE'S  
THAT are specific for you – **God loves you and  
has a Plan...**

1)God prepared before hand that you should walk  
in.

D)**Change from Season** to season in our lives

**MY POINT: We have been redeemed to be an  
expression of Jesus to the world around us.**

A)Salt and Light

B)Ambassadors – Represent a king in a foreign  
country.

C)YOUR personality – your distinct giftings

1)**And your purpose is discovered as you  
surrender yourself – DAILY TO CHRIST! -  
Matt 11**

**Why did Jesus Choose me – what is my purpose?  
How do I figure that out? – Each season of my life.**

A)Matthew 11 gives us the answer:

B)**The Great invitation:** Matthew 11:28-30

28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy  
laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke  
upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and  
lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.  
30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

C)Jesus was talking to People who were poor –  
hard working – agrarian society – farmers – field  
workers

D)People weary by financial pressures – People  
worried – Next meal –

1)People dealing with social pressures living under  
Roman oppression

**People today are weary and heavy laden – same  
reasons – LIFE CAN BE HARD**

I heard about a lady who had to go to the dentist  
for a root canal – she plopped down in the seat  
breathed a big sigh and smiled – the dentist looked  
at her puzzled and said – are you ok – she said yes  
– it is finally nice to just relax –

A)**You know that something is really wrong when  
a root canal is considered relaxing**

**B)Sarah's Smash Shack – San Diego**

1)\$20.00 – for a ½ hr – Unload some stress - Smash  
plates

C)PEOPLE are weary by the weight of sin – and  
the guilt they carry because of their sin – failings

D)People are weary- because living for self is  
EXHAUSTING

1)**SELF IS NEVER SATISFIED!**

**Jesus GIVES to the weary and heavy laden soul in  
his day and IN OURS - A Great invitation- 3  
Words**

A)**COME – TAKE – LEARN**

B)First is COME: *Come unto me* – This stands in awesome contrast to the religions of man

C)**Religion** basically says, **“DO!”**

1)Every religious system of man is all about what man must do in order to get to God.

C) **“DO!” was the mantra of the Pharisees**

1)FOLLOW THE LAW – to be right with God!!!

D)Jesus says Come because the work is DONE!!!

1)Repeat: -

E)He did the work – He paid the price

1)**IT IS FINISHED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Jesus says V. 28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

A)Literal translation –**I will rest you** – not arrest you

B)**I will rest you**

1)Shepherd: **I will lead you beside the still waters – I will restore your soul**

C)Psalm 107:9- **MY BOOK - He satisfies the longing soul, And fills the hungry soul with goodness.**

D)To the weary and heavy laden – Jesus offers Rest

1)COME TO HIM – quit fighting – running – Come

**BUT HE ALSO OFFERS PURPOSE: - TAKE**

A)The invitation to *COME* is followed by an invitation to *TAKE*. V.29 **Take My yoke upon you**

B)The yoke was that wooden harness that they put upon the oxen so that they could pull the plow.

C)Many Bible scholars believe that when Jesus was a CARPENTER:

1)HE PROBABLY MADE A LOT OF YOKES

D)A YOKE WAS CAREFULLY FITTED for the OX who would wear it.

**Common Custom:**

**In order to train a younger smaller Ox – a farmer would Yoke him with an older bigger OX**

A)The pressure and weight was put on the older ox – the younger ox – learned the ropes.

B)That **little OX is being broken** into the yoke but he is not actually pulling any weight.’

C)Jesus invites us – HIS REDEEMED – His Workmanship – His Masterpiece

1)To be YOKED TO HIM

**Because when we are yoked to Him – He can lead us in the direction we need to Go**

A)He leads us AND **He bears the BRUNT** of the load

B)We share in the joy and the accomplishment of the labor but without the burden of the yoke.

C)We end up doing things and being a part of things that we would never imagine doing on our own.

**The Invitation to take His Yoke is a call to be His disciple – A disciple is a LEARNER**

**Learn of me! –**

A)LEARN= to be increased in knowledge

❖ to hear, be informed

❖ "to learn by use and practice, to acquire the habit of, be accustomed to,-  
**EXPERIENCE**

B)**IT AFFECTS YOUR BEHAVIOR**

C)How do we do LEARN OF HIM? –

1)Study the gospels

D)Remain open to the Holy Spirit - Respond to the promptings – Respond to the conviction

E)**Remember when WWJD – craze-** What would Jesus do – great question:

1)**BETTER: Jesus is still alive – what will He do LORD WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO!**

**NOTE: WHAT He wants us to learn of Him?**

A)Key to discovering – our purpose in this season – Our expression –

B)Jesus says: **Learn of me for I am gentle and lowly in heart**

1)Lowly = Humble

C)Gentle is the same word translated Meek in the Beatitudes – blessed are the MEEK

**THINK ABOUT THIS: Of all the attributes that Jesus could have USED to DESCRIBE himself**

A)He chooses HUMILITY and MEEKNESS

B) He doesn't say: For I am mighty and powerful

1)He doesn't say I am all knowing and – ever present

C)He doesn't say- I am perfect in righteousness and holiness

**We are not those things: We can't be those things in and of ourselves.**

A)He uses two attributes that really are learned BEHAVIOR –

B)Two attributes that were at the heart of Jesus' life as a man – who was in submission to his father

C)Philippians 2: 5-8

<sup>5</sup> **Let this mind** be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a **bondservant**, and coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He **humbled Himself** and became obedient to *the point of death, even the death of the cross.*

D)In Humility – He lowered himself – He left heaven and came to this earth –

1)HIS PURPOSE: DIE – SACRIFICE – obedient unto death – WE COULD BE SAVD

**JESUS says: Learn of me – I am lowly – He is saying a key to discovering your purpose**

A)Humble yourself before the Lord - - His plan

B)Jesus also said **For I am I MEEK** – meekness is not weakness – Meekness is power under control

C)Describes one who is **yielded, teachable, responsive**

**This is what Jesus wants us to pay attention to**

A)Think about this - He is God in Human flesh – He is all powerful

B)And yet he made himself subject to his father

C)He is all powerful **but** He is submitted and led

1)**I do nothing apart from the father.**

D)His Power / His person is submitted to the father

**When Religious leaders are coming against him plotting to murder him – Accusing him – of the Devil**

A)He could have **destroyed them with the word of His power** – spoke – turned into pillars of salt

B)Calmed Storms and cast out demons and raised the dead –

1)He could have easily did away with the religious leaders – but he doesn't Why?

**C)He is submitted to His Father – His power has been brought under the control of the Father**  
**Yoked to his Father: Plan/ Purpose**

**Moments WHEN his popularity is SOARING**

A)Everyone is looking for you- Mark 1 - He could have been easily sidetracked –

B)After a long day and night of ministry – Exhausted

1)because he was **YOKED TO HIS FATHER**

C)He gets up early in the morning: Goes to a secret place to pray – sit with His father

D)Disciples come searching – everyone is looking

1)He has the wherewithal to say: Time to go – move on – NEXT TOWNS

**JESUS says Learn of me: Learn FROM ME the secret of being Yoked TO ME**

A)Learn what it means to be a person – yielded and responsive to me – MY PLAN

B)LISTEN: SOME OF US ARE EXHAUSTED

1)WE DON'T DO THIS –

C)Exhausted because we are constantly pulling against the YOKE – OUR PLAN

**Jesus graciously says: Take my Yoke and learn of me**

A)Yoke yourself to me – learn what it means to live humbly – and in Meekness

B)TAKE every part of your being – your gifts – your personality – your desires –

1)Bring them in submission under my leadership



C)That is the invitation: Trusting – I know what is best!

1)I love you – I redeemed you for a purpose – to be my workmanship

**D)To be a Unique expression of who I am in your Sphere of influence**

1)You discover that as you COME TO ME – Yoke yourself to me – Learn of me

E)Learn what happens – come in Humility and Meekness –

1)Bringing who you are under my care – my leadership

**RESULT:** Then Jesus adds this statement in V.30 V.30 For my Yoke is easy and My burden is light.

A)The word “easy” means “well-fitting.”

B)Why we can say – Jesus loves you and has a perfect plan – WELL FITTING

1)Tailored Suit – Fitted Dress – Perfect

**Take my wife Denise:** I love her – best friend – I am radically attracted to her.

A)But when we first met – if it would have been in a crowded room – I probably would not have noticed her

B)I grew up hanging out on the beaches of Southern California

1)That was my crowd –

C)When I met Denise: She was this country bumpkin from Oregon –

1)I met her – she was wearing Birks / Flannel Shirt and Overalls -

D)God brought us together: PERFECT FIT

**MY CALLING:**

A)I wanted to be a Coach – teach baseball – God says – I want you to be a different Kind of Coach

B)I can’t imagine doing anything else

1)Taken me all over the world – train Pastors

C)Inspired me to write a book about being a Pastor that – I keep meeting guys – Reading it / blessed by it

**Eric Liddell – Made me fast and I feel his pleasure when I run**

A)WHAT is it in your life – Feel his pleasure.

B)The Lord calls us to things in different seasons

**C)We feel HIS pleasure – when we settle into that**

1)Ok this is what he has for me right now.

D)Maybe for some of you ladies - It is being a Mom

1)Take care of and be the expression of who He is to your kids

E)Later that might Change: Kids grow up – new season –

1)Maybe Ministry – Maybe workforce – new sphere of influence – Expression

**Some of you ARE guys: Expression – As a Dad**

A)Teach your kid what it means to be a man – who loves Jesus!

B)Pray with them – they see you reading the word

1)Taking the lead in going to Church

According to data collected by Promise Keepers and Baptist Press, if a father does not go to church, even if his wife does, only 1 child in 50 will become a regular worshiper.

If a father does go regularly, regardless of what the mother does, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will attend church as adults.

**Another survey stated:** If the mother is the first to become a Christian, there is a 17% probability everyone else in the household will follow.

However, when the father is first, there is a 93% probability everyone else in the household will follow.

**Dads – Jesus says to you – Come to me – Yoke yourself to Me: Humility and Meekness – Learn of Me**

A)I will make you a great expression of who I am to your Kids

**B)MY DAD – TRANSFORMATION**

1)Reading the Bible – Crying – His transformation drew me to the Lord – to the Word

**C)Those of you who are Single: You are HIS WORKMANSHIP**

1)He wants your life to be an expression of who He is – what it looks like – Sold out to Jesus

D)Find your sustenance – Satisfaction from Him and in Him

**All of us who – Have a place where we work**

A)THAT WORKPLACE: Sphere of influence

**B)Jesus says: You are my workmanship – I want you to be an expression of me –**

1)Integrity – Your work ethic – your relationship with your co workers – I want to be glorified

**In every aspect of our lives: You are my workmanship – Shine for Him**

A)Come to Jesus – Yoke yourself – Learn of Him

B)Here is what you find – it is well fitting –

C)EVEN THE TRIALS - This is hard – but it is my opportunity to be an Expression –

1)His grace

D)NO LONGER COMPARING OURSELVES

1)WASTED SO MUCH TIME

**PETER: SUFFER – What about John – don't worry about him – You follow me!**

A)What Season are you in? – He wants your life to be an expression of Who He is

B)Come to Him – Rest –

1)Yoke yourself to Him – His power – His leading

C)Learn: Let Him mold you –

D)Lord this fits - AMEN