

Week 6

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

¹And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ²in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. ³Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Observation:

1. Highlight these key words/phrases:
 - **In Christ /In Him/God/Lord/in Him/Spirit/Father**
 - **Love/grace/redemption**
 - **glory/riches/power**
 - **In the heavenly places**
 - **Body/church/One/fullness**
 - **Gentiles/flesh/formerly/devil/powers/rulers/authorities**
 - **walk/according to/therefore**
2. Reflect on the words you have highlighted. What themes do you see Paul writing about?

Consideration:

1. Notice the use of the terms “you”, “we” and “us” in these verses. What does this indicate in regards to God’s purposes in salvation?

2. Who does “and you” refer to? vs 1, 2
 - a. In what ways did they “formerly walk” prior to Christ? vs 2

 - b. How is the prince of the power of the air described in verse 2?

 - c. What role does Satan play in the life of those who are spiritually dead? vs 2, 3; Eph. 6:12; John 14:30; 2 Cor. 4:4; 1 John 5:19

3. What was our spiritual reality prior to salvation and as such the current reality of every unbeliever? vs 1-3
 - a. What does it mean to be “dead in trespasses and sins”? vs 1, 5; Rom. 3:23, 6:23, 8:6; Col. 2:13

 - b. What is the believer’s current spiritual reality because of what God has done? vs 5-6

4. Verse 4 begins with those amazing words, “but God.” What motivated God to act towards us?

5. What was our condition when God intervened? vs 5

6. What three things did God do on our behalf? vs 5, 6

7. Why did He do this for us? vs 7

8. By what means are we saved? vs 5, 8

9. Define Grace. vs 8
 - a. What do these verses teach us about God's grace? John 1:14, 16, 17; Romans 4:16; 5:21; Hebrews 4:16

10. In regards to vs. 5-6:
 - a. What does it mean to be "made alive together with Christ"? Gal. 2:20; 2 Cor. 5:21

 - b. What does it mean to be "raised up with Him"? Rom. 6:1-10; Col. 2:12-13

 - c. What does it mean to be "seated with Him in the heavenly places"? Col. 3:1-3

11. Why is it so important that we not boast in our salvation? vs 8-10

- a. Why/how is mankind tempted to “boast” in an attempt to save themselves?
- b. What are the consequences for boasting about something that can only be attributed to God?

12. Eph. 2:10 declares “we are God’s workmanship.”

- a. What does that mean? Romans 8:28-30

- b. How was this demonstrated in Paul’s life? Acts 9:15-16; Acts 22:10

10. What do these verses tell us about our role in salvation?

- a. About God’s role in salvation?

13. How does this passage help you understand what salvation means?

Prayer:

- Praise God for rescuing you from your former way of life.
- Pick a specific work that God has shown you to do and ask Him for His help in obedience to it.

Hymn of Reflection:

“It’s Your Grace”

By Bob Kauffin and Doug Plank

1 You will save whom You will save
We’re the lost and helpless ones
The rebels and the renegades
Who spurned Your holy love
 You will save whom
 You will save
 Mercy will be magnified
Everyone has gone astray
And followed after lies
But You have loved us
and opened our eyes

 Chorus
 It’s Your grace
From beginning to the end
 It’s Your grace
We will never comprehend
Why You drew the ones
 who ran from You
 What can we do
 but offer You praise?

2 You will save whom You will save
 We were captive to our wills
And if our hearts had not been changed
 We’d flee Your mercy still
You will save whom You will save
Who can question what You do?
You’re the potter, we’re the clay
You can make us as You choose
 And there is no one
who boasts before You [Chorus]

3 You will save whom You will save
Yet the promised hope remains
 You will rescue anyone
 Who calls upon Your name
You will save whom You will save
Faithful love won’t be denied
Christ has overcome the grave
 And for our sins He died
 And when He comes back
His glory will shine [Chorus]