

Legacy Bible Church Sunday School
The Book of Ephesians Notes #3
By Reggie Fredericks
Ephesians 2:1-10

Made Alive By God's Grace: Eph 2:1-10

1. We Were Formally Dead In Sin (v. 1-3)

A. The term dead is the word "nekros" in the Greek, meaning corpse; we were dead, lifeless in our trespasses and sins

B. It is something we used to be; we "formally" walked:

1. According to the course of the world
2. According to the prince of power of the air
3. According to the lusts of the flesh and desires of the mind

C. We were, formally, like the rest of the world

1. We lived indulging in the sinful desires of the flesh and of our mind
2. While we deserved wrath, the word "a child" is the word teknon

(pronounced as it's spelled), a descendent or descendants, or a child (male or female) in the Greek; with the context, it means that we were by nature (origin) children of wrath (descendants of wrath); this is to say, then, we were by the nature course of our lives we were children of wrath

II. We Were Made Alive By God's Rich & Merciful Grace (v. 4-6)

A. Made us alive together with Christ

1. We were dead in our trespasses and sins
2. It was solely by God's grace

B. He has raised us with Christ

1. Seated us in heavenly places with Christ

III. We Were Created to Demonstrate & Walk in God's Grace (7-10)

A. God would show in the coming ages the surpassing riches of His grace (toward us) in Christ Jesus

1. It is by grace that we are saved

- a. Through faith
- b. It is the gift of God

2. Not as a result of man's works or efforts

- a. Therefore, no one can boast about earning or deserving it

3. We are God's workmanship (masterpiece)

- a. God prepared our good works (tasks, assignments, labor) in advance so that we would walk in them.

Conclusion:

We were made alive together with Christ created to demonstrate God's surpassing riches of His grace to the ages to come as we were formally dead in our trespasses and sins being children of wrath and lived by our sinful desires.

Application: What This Means For US

If we have been saved for the purpose to “*show in the coming ages the surpassing riches of His grace toward us who believe*” then what we do as a result of our salvation matters. The good works that we do glorify God and testify that our faith comes from God and not of ourselves. We were formally spiritual corpses (zombies) that walked around unresponsive to God’s love. We had no spiritual value and could not please God in whatever we did. But God was so rich in mercy made us alive and placed us with Christ in the heaven places so that we would experience His mercy and demonstrate it for all time. God graciously gave us His love, (His grace) because He desired to do and we did nothing to earn it or deserve it. Therefore, all the good we can do now belongs to Him and He has given to us the ability to do good works for Him, as He prepared these for us beforehand so we would walk in them.

Therefore:

1: Walk in the good works that God has prepared in advance for us.

*These are works that are as a result of salvation, not to gain it or His favor; we already have it the moment we come to faith. Thus, what good you do, it what’s God planned for you and us in the beginning.

2: Show love to all especially those who don’t have God’s mercy.

*The world is filled with spiritual zombies; love them, and show them God’s grace by the way you treat them (as we were formally like them). So, be compassionate and treat them with God’s love too!

3: Remember that our salvation, our “reanimation” is from God and not a result of what we have do or did not do; God gave us according to His love; He gets the glory.

*We were unable to respond to God and it took His Spirit and His love to reanimate us to spiritual life. Keep this in mind as we are witnessing. God’s power saves (reanimates) people, not our works. Therefore, do not take credit for what only God is responsible for.

4: Remember that we have every blessing God could possibly give to us and in the end will experience the fullness of it in Christ.

*We were raised up with Christ and seated in heavenly places with Him. Remember that our future status is assured and that we live for a higher purpose. You are God’s child forever and nothing you do will ever change that. Therefore, remember the purpose of God and worship Him as you walk in obedience and grace.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!!!