

## WHAT'S NEW? Ephesians 2: 1-10 Ephesians Series Week 4

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**Big idea:** New birth, new life, and a new purpose can all be ours in Christ.

Way we were (1-3)

But God (4-6)

Showing God's grace (7-10)

**The way we were** (1-3)

*<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.*

- Spiritually dead (1)

*“The reason we need a Savior is not just that we are in the dog house with God and need to be forgiven for offending his glory. We need a Savior because we are in the morgue. In the dog house you might whimper. You might say you are sorry. You might make some good resolutions. You might decide to cast yourself on the mercy of God. But what can you do if you are in the morgue?” (John Piper)*

- Enslaved (2-3a)

1. World
2. Satan

*“We were ruled by an alien prince, who was blinding our minds, filling them with ungodly desires, holding them captive to do his will, and then causing us to think all is well because we are right in step with the times”. (Wiersbe)*

3. Sinful nature

- Children of wrath (3b)

*“the deep-seated anger of God against sin. This anger arises from his holiness and righteousness. Because of His holiness God cannot overlook sin.” (Moody Handbook of Theology)*

### **But God (4-6)**

*<sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus*

### **Why he did it (4)**

1. Rich in mercy
2. Because of His great love for us

### **What He did (5-6)**

1. Made us alive with Christ (5)
  - Even when we were dead
  - By grace saved
2. Raised us up and seated us with Him in the heavenly places.

*Christ’s death and resurrection are not merely events that produce benefit for believers, they are events in which believers are included. According to Paul’s “spheres of influence” theology, people either live in sin and under its influence or in Christ and under his influence. It is a question of serving the tyrant sin or the Lord Christ. Conversion is a transfer from one sphere to the other, a change of lordships, and being raised with Christ is the language Paul uses to describe this transfer from the realm of death to the realm of life. Anything short of such a theology fails to understand Paul. (NIV Application Commentary)*

- New identity.
- New perspective
- New master

*<sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; <sup>15</sup>and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. (II Cor. 5:14-15)*

- New values

*Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. Let heaven fill your thoughts; don’t*

*spend your time worrying about things down here. You should have as little desire for this world as a dead person does. Your real life is in heaven with Christ & God. (Col. 3:1-3)*

*<sup>19</sup> "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Mt. 6:19-21)*

### **Showing God's grace (7-10)**

*<sup>7</sup>so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

Our salvation brings God glory (7)

*"So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus." (NLT)*

Salvation is by His grace (8-9)

- Grace
- Saved
- Faith
- Not your own doing/ gift from God
- Not a result of works/ no boasting

Salvation displays His grace (10)

- God's workmanship
- Created for good works
- God prepared beforehand

## **But God**

Spiritual death  
Slavery  
Children of wrath

Spiritual Life  
Freedom  
Trophies of Grace

### **Application**

1. Have you experienced the miracle of new birth?
2. Are you experiencing new life?
3. Are you living out God's new purpose for your life?

*State College Evangelical Free Church  
Message Outline*