

Be Strong In the Lord – Episode 5 – Dave Weber

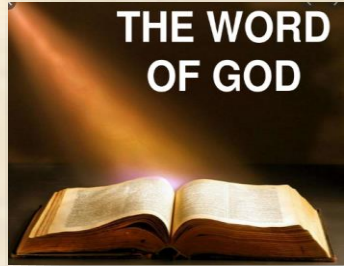
Made Alive in Christ

Ephesians Chapter 2:1-10

- **Book of Joshua:** God's people **taking physical possession** of the Land that God promised them
- **Book of Ephesians:** God's people **taking spiritual possession** of the spiritual ground God has promised us as **our inheritance in Christ** – we need to **actively possess it**

Ephesians Chapter 1 Topics – Also in Chapter 2

- **Foreknowledge** God's eternal **knowledge** & wisdom
- **Predestination** God's **plan** for us from eternity
- **Election** God's Divine **choosing** of us
- **Redemption** God's **price & plan** to redeem us
- **Adoption** God's **legally adopting** us
- **Blessings** God's **riches** for us in Christ
- **The will of God** God's **will for mankind** & us in particular
- **Mysteries (12)** God's **mysteries** being revealed
- **Dispensations** God's **sequence of events** & time frames
- **Forgiveness** God's **great love**, the steep price, His character
- **Inheritance** God's **inheritance** to us thru Jesus' death & Will
- **Sealing** God's **sealing** us with the **indwelling** Holy Spirit



Ephesians Chapter 1 Topics

Source: Chuck Missler, with edits



Foreknowledge God knows what is going to happen
Foreknowledge determines Election

Election God's Divine choosing of us
Election looks back to Foreknowledge

Predestination God's plan for us from eternity
Predestination brings Election to pass
Predestination looks forward to destiny:
Redemption, Adoption,
Sanctification, Glorification

Our part is ...

Agreement with God and our Response: Repent & Believe

Ephesians 2:1

“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.”



Ephesians 2:1

“And you hath he quickened”



- **Quickened: made alive**
- **Made alive from what?** spiritual **deadness**
- **Made alive to what?** spiritual **life**
- **Is there enough evidence to prove in a court of law that I am a Christian, a changed person, I have been made alive?**

The Bad News:
The Truth about
Our Natural State



Ephesians 2:1

“who were dead in trespasses and sins”

- **Trespasses: omission, commission**
- **Sins: we are by nature law breakers**
Nature...and thoughts, words, actions
- **Deceived? Yes. Deliberately rebellious? Yes**

Ephesians 2:2

“Wherein in time past you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the sons of disobedience”

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Our Natural State

- Walking in **agreement** this fallen, sinful world
- In **partnership** and under that **dominion** of the prince of the power of the air (the Devil)
- In the **rebellious** spirit that now works in the sons of **disobedience**

Psalm 2:1-2



*Blessed is the man who
walks not in the council of the **ungodly**
nor stands in the way of **sinner**s
nor sits in the seat of the **scornful**,
But his delight is in the law of the Lord...”*

Ephesians 2:3

“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.”

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- Our carnal nature; sin is our natural instinct
- The world says “do what feels good” – the desires of our flesh and mind
- But the end is wrath, eternal separation
- Our Holy God cannot allow the evilness of sin to continue to ruin His universe

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags...and our iniquities...have take us away.”

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

Ephesians 2:3

“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.”

- “once...” – used to, but not anymore
- “were...” – by our old nature
- “were...” – born destined receive wrath

The Good News:

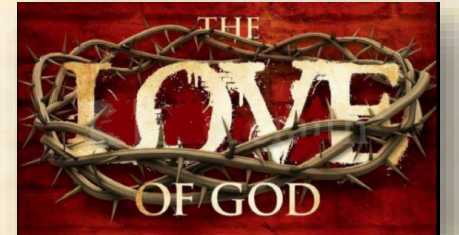
***God is the Solution. God is our Remedy.
God paid a dear price to rescue us.***



Ephesians 2: 4-5

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),”

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- **But God !!!!**
- **His great love with which he loved us**
- **When? – while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”**

Titus 3: 5-7

5. “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy, He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

6. Which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior

7. That being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

Ephesians 2: 4-5

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),”

- From death to life, from wrath to mercy, from alienation to adoption
- Individually dead, made alive together
- **The Church**, the Gentile & Jewish body of believers in Christ, the Bride, is one of the Mysteries not revealed in the Old Testament

Ephesians 2: 6

“and raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus,”

- Raised spiritually for purpose, for relationship, for holiness & destiny--glorification
- To sit “in the **heavenlies**” in Christ
 - When? Now...and in the future
 - Really? Not worthy to approach God, we have been transformed and given His righteousness to sit in God’s holy presence

Ephesians 2: 7

“that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Chris Jesus.”

Ephesians 2: 7 *“that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”*

- God promises “**ages to come**” – physical death does not bring non-existence, but a more real eternity
- **How vast, unmeasurable, spectacular** must the “exceeding riches” of His grace be!!
- For eternity God will **continuously** show **us** the kindness of His heart to us “in Christ Jesus”
- God will immensely **transform our minds**, giving us the **ability to better comprehend and appreciate** Him, His wisdom, His great love to sacrifice His own Son

Ephesians 2: 8-9

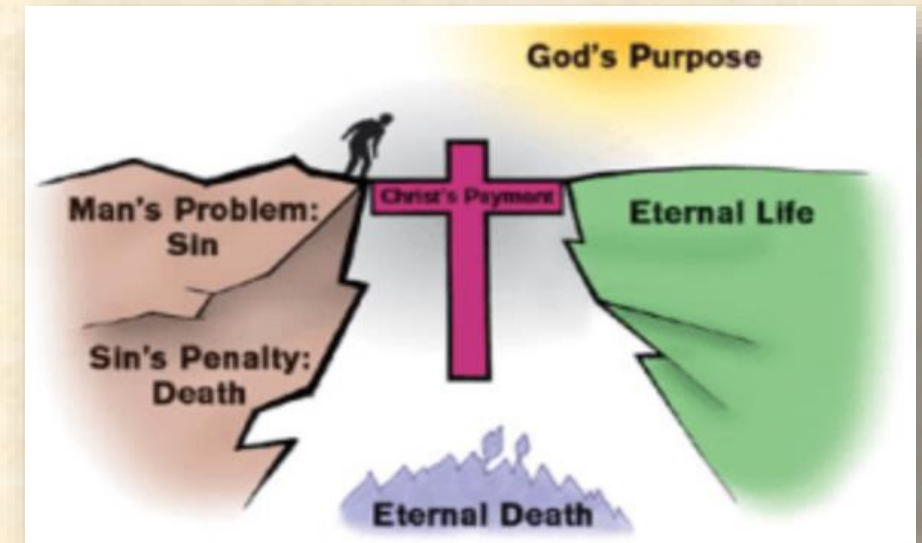


“For by grace you have been saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, (9) and not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Ephesians 2: 8-9

“For by grace you have been saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, (9) and not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

- How are we saved?
 - By **GRACE** alone
 - Through **FAITH** alone
 - In **CHRIST** alone



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.”***

Ephesians 2: 10

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before hand that we should walk in them.”

- His workmanship – the Master potter
- Created “in Christ Jesus”
- Why are we saved? To do good works
- Good works that God prepared? Hmm?
- Am I producing spiritual fruit, good works?

What about me?

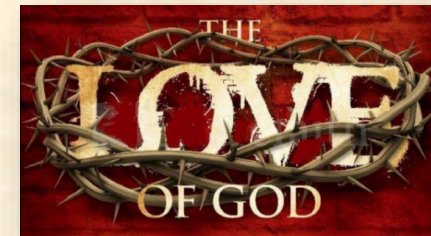
Am I saved?

Will I go to heaven?

What assurance can I have?



God's Solution for my sin

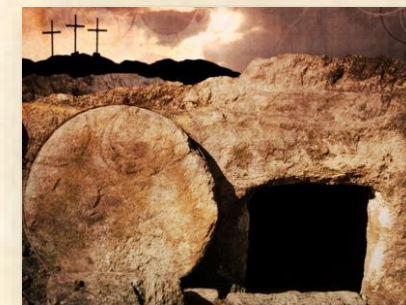


Rom 5:8 “For God commends His love toward us, in that **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us**”

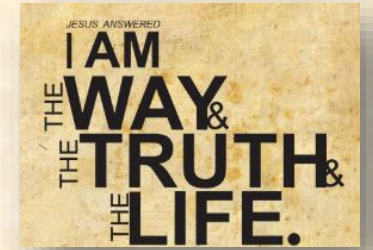
2 Cor 5:21 For He hath **made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him

Col 2:14 **Blotting out the handwriting of the ordinances** that were against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way **nailing it to the cross**

Jn 19:30 When **Jesus** therefore had received the vinegar, he **said, “It is finished”**; and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.



Our Response



- **Rom 10:9** That if you will **confess** with your mouth **the Lord Jesus**, and will **believe** in your heart that God hath raised him from the dead, you **shall be saved**.
- **1 John 1:9** **If we confess our sins**, he is faithful and just to **forgive** us our sins, and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.

God's Promise for the Believer

1 Peter 1:3,4



Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.