



“God’s Amazing Grace” (Ephesians 2:1-10)

The Point: *Salvation is by grace through faith apart from works.*

Question: *How are you being a good steward of God’s amazing grace?*

Introduction: *The book of Ephesians is believed to be a Prison Epistle, written by Paul 60-62 A.D., to encourage believers at Ephesus to walk as fruitful followers of Christ and to serve in unity (Jews & Gentiles) and love in the midst of persecution. Scholars are divided regarding both the authorship and the intended recipients. Some believe that Ephesians was intended for circulation to a number of churches and was written by a follower of Paul, using his name after his death. While there may be a debate about the human scribe, we all can agree that it was God-breathed.*

- I. **“Requirement of Grace”** (*charis*): *Dead in trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1-3) [Reference passages: I Jn. 2:2; Gal. 5:24; I Cor. 6: 9-11a, Ro. 7:17-18]*
 - **Grace** is God’s unmerited favor, lavishly demonstrated by the sacrifice of His Son for our sins.
 - We were dead in our trespasses (*paraptoma, stumble*) and sins (*haratia, miss the mark*)
 - Paul paints a *Before Conversion (BC)* and *After Conversion (AC)* picture.
 - **Verses 1-3** describes the powerless, hopeless, lifeless condition of fallen men, enslaved by their own fleshly desires, and dominated by the world around them and by Satan.
 - **Spiritual Truths:** *Unbelievers sin because they are born in sin, imputed by Adam, subject to the influence of Satan, follow the dictates of the flesh and follow the world’s standards. (Prov. 1:8-19). The hopelessness of our sinful situation required the only antidote: Grace! Men and women dead in their sins are made alive exclusively through salvation(Christ’s work of redemption) by grace through faith (righteousness imputed by Christ). Man has no room to boast. Question: What is some evidence of your transformation before and after conversion, and what is the role of grace?*
- II. **“Revelation of Grace”:** *God made us alive through grace (Eph. 2:4-7) [Reference Passages: Ro. 6:8’ 8:18; 10:12-13; Jer. 14:6]*
 - *God’s grace is sufficient to cover even the most grievous of sins. God’s grace is unlimited (Matt. 18:22).*
 - **Definitions: Mercy** (*elos*) not receiving what you deserve-God is rich in mercy; **Grace** (*chalos*) unmerited favor-God’s grace is excelling, surpassing, exceeding and beyond measure; **Love** (*agape*) unconditional love, God’s perfect love is deep and abiding for us. (*other types: eros, philia, storage*)
 - **Being raised:** living relationship with God; **Being seated** speaks of our security in Christ, having been justified by faith, and also our authority as His ambassadors. We have **authority with Christ in prayer to enter into God's presence** to obtain the grace needed to fulfill our assignments.
 - **Question:** *How would you explain v. 10 to an unbeliever?*
Spiritual Truths: *Once we have experienced the full measure of God’s grace, our lives then demonstrate to others the possibilities of grace that are readily available to them through Christ. We are **stewards** and **ambassadors**. As credible witnesses (disciples and vessels of grace, our lives serve as beacons of light to impact the lost for Christ. Salvation rescues, resurrects and re-creates!*
- III. **“Reception of God’s Grace”:** *For by grace you have been saved through faith. (Eph. 2:8-10)*
 - Our faith is not the means by which we received grace but instead our grace is means for our faith
 - **We should follow the example of the Savior:** "As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me." **John 9:4** ; "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing,...**Jn 5:19**; "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work." **John 4:34**"; For those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God." **Rom 8:14**
 - **Question:** *What divine assignment has God given you and by what means are you accomplishing it?*
 - **Spiritual Truth:** God created us—breathed into us the breath of life and through the work of Christ, God has made us new creatures. God has created us to do good work, which **He prepared ahead of time** so that we should walk in them. God bestowed the inextricable gift of Salvation, Hallelujah!

