

(1) And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 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 --- 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.

(4) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ --- by grace you have been saved --- and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

(8) For by grace you have been saved --- through faith! And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

(10) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Think on these things:

- 1) How does Paul describe Christians before they were saved? Essentially, we all have the “same” past (vs. 1-2a).

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- 2) When we, “follow the course of this world,” are we following after God? If not, who does Paul identify we follow? So, who has been allowed authority in this world? What two phrases at the end of vs. 2 and 3 describe “the course of this world” followers?

Following? \_\_\_\_\_

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Two Phrases? \_\_\_\_\_

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- 3) V. 3 sheds light on everybody’s “past.” What is the cause of our sinning against God?

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- 4) V. 3 concludes that we were by nature “like the rest of mankind” before being saved. V. 4 calls this “being dead in our trespasses.” (We all could refer to ourselves as “*the walking dead!*”) What or who woke us up and “made us alive in Christ” (vs. 4-5)? Why?

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5) The end of v. 5, along with v. 8, presents a critical Church Doctrine on Salvation. What are we taught about “being saved? See that v. 8 says, “this is NOT of your own doing.”

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6) How do you understand “grace” as talked about in Q5 above?

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7) What are the three things God the Father has done for us because we are now “in Christ”?

v. 6 - \_\_\_\_\_

v. 7 - \_\_\_\_\_

v. 10 - \_\_\_\_\_

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8) How do you understand the beginning of v. 7? Is salvation only about the here and now?

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9) James had a lot to say about “faith” and “works” (James 2:14-18). Here in Ephesians 2:9-10, Paul teaches us the relationship between the two. Why are we told that God’s gift of salvation is not the result of our own good works (v. 9)? What do we need to understand about good works (v. 10)? What does the last phrase of v. 10 teach us about works? See also John 14:23-24.

Why not by works? \_\_\_\_\_

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Need to understand...? \_\_\_\_\_

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Good works demonstrate...? \_\_\_\_\_

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People and situations I want to pray for this week: