

LOVE SO AMAZING  
GRACE SO AMAZING

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Eph. 2:1-10

Eph. 2:1 And you *hath* **he** quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But **God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,**

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (**by grace ye are saved;**)

6 And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come **he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace** in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8 For **by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Last week, we began looking at our new theme, *Grace So Amazing*, by considering the Book of Ephesians. We began with...

## I. THE PAST EXPOSED, 2:1-3

- A. Sinners Were Spiritually Dead, 2:1
- B. Sinners Were Spiritually Deluded, 2:2a
- C. Sinners Were Spiritually Disobedient, 2:2b
- D. Sinners Were Spiritually Defiled, 2:3a
- E. Sinners Were Spiritually Doomed, 2:3b

Our passage encapsulates many major doctrinal truths: holiness, sin, love, mercy, grace, faith, and peace. Look for these topics while we consider this passage on *Grace So Amazing*.

This morning, we continue in chapter two to see God's perspective of His *Grace So Amazing*.

- ❖ Everything begins with God.
- ❖ Everything is “**to the praise of the glory of his grace...**” (1:6.)

Eph. 1:6 **To the praise of the glory of his grace,**  
wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.  
7 In whom we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of sins, **according to the riches of  
his grace;**

- ❖ Our relationship with God begins with the redemption of sins, through His blood – 1:7 – which is “...according to **the riches of his grace;**”
- ❖ As we continue in chapter two, we will see how *Grace is So Amazing*, in the present.

## II. THE PRESENT EXERCISE, 2:4-6

### A. God's Love Shown to Us, 2:4-5a

#### 1. Its Richness, 2:4

Eph. 2:4 **But God**, who is rich in mercy, for **his great love wherewith he loved us**,

- ❖ In spite of the degeneracy of man, “**But God...**” – consider the connection of what has been recorded, and God's intervention for mankind as an amazing contrast.

**Disjunctive conjunction are one of the coordinating conjunctions that link words, syntactic groups, or sentences, in which there is no relationship between the linked elements, even if they are of the same level.**

<https://englopedia.com/disjunctive-conjunction/#:~:text=Disjunctive%20conjunction%20are%20one%20of%20the%20coordinating%20conjunctions,even%20if%20they%20are%20of%20the%20same%20level.>

- ❖ “But God...” introduces us to the “*Grace So Amazing*” that magnifies the greatness of the power of the Gospel, transforming souls from spiritual death to spiritual life.
- ❖ God exhibits “...his great love...” because He “...is rich in mercy...”



❖ Note the adjectives, *great* and *rich*:

**Original Word:** πλούσιος; **Part of Speech:** Adjective;

**Transliteration:** plousios

**Definition:** wealthy; **Usage:** rich, abounding in, wealthy; subst: a rich man.

*ploúsios* **properly, fully resourced**; *rich* (filled), **by having God's "muchness"** – i.e. His *abundance* that comes from receiving *His* provisions (material and spiritual *riches*) through faith.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/4145.htm>

**Original Word:** πολύς; **Part of Speech:** Adjective;

**Transliteration:** polus

**Definition:** much, many; **Usage:** much, many; often.

*polýs* – many (high in number); **multitudinous, plenteous, "much"; "great" in amount (extent).**

*polýs* ("much in number") **emphasizes the quantity involved.** (*polýs*) "signifies 'many, numerous'; . . . with the article it is said of a multitude as being *numerous*" (Vine, Unger, White, *NT*, 113,114) – i.e. **great in amount.**

❖ “But God” – “...rich in mercy...” – “...for his great mercy...” – “...wherewith he loved us,”

❖ What a picture of *Grace So Amazing!*

2. Its Reality, 2:5a “Even when we were dead in sins...”

Rom. 5:8 **But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

- ❖ Another “But God...” intervention of contrast and comparison.
- ❖ A believer should appreciate this specific truth – great love covered great sinners!

Prov. 10:12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: but **love covereth all sins.**

Rom. 4:7 *Saying*, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and **whose sins are covered.**

(Psa. 32:10)

1 Pet. 4:8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for **charity shall cover the multitude of sins.**

B. God's Love Shared with Us, 2:5b-6

❖ *Grace So Amazing* transforms sinners with the triumph of fellowship with Christ.

1. It Plucked us from the Tomb, 2:5b-6a “...hath quickened us together **with Christ**, (by grace ye are saved;) 6a And hath raised *us* up together...”

- ❖ Because of God’s great love for us, with the riches of His mercy, He changes sinners from being spiritually dead to spiritually alive, “by grace ye are saved,” and reserved us a place in eternity with Him.

Jn. 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that **where I am, there ye may be also.**

2. It Placed us on the Throne, 2:6b “...and made *us sit together* in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:”

❖ The term “heavenly *places*” is only found in the Book of Ephesians.

Eph. 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ: ...**

20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and **set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,**

Eph 3:10 To the intent that now unto **the principalities and powers in heavenly *places*** might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

- ❖ The term emphasizes the believers' destiny.
- ❖ Sinners go from a path of destruction to a place reserved in eternity with Christ.
- ❖ An unbeliever is identified as a person of this world. A believer is identified as "in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:"

Gal. 1:3 Grace *be* to you and peace from God the Father, and *from* our Lord Jesus Christ,  
4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might **deliver us from this present evil world**, according to the will of God and our Father:

1 Jn. 5:4 For **whatsoever is born of God** **overcometh the world**: and this is **the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith**.

- ❖ Those walking by faith do NOT identify with the world, but confess to being strangers and pilgrims on the earth.



Heb. 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and **embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.**

1 Pet. 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* **as strangers and pilgrims**, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

❖ The believers' focus is upon citizenship in heaven, not earth:

Phil. 3:20 For **our conversation is in heaven**; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

❖ Believers identify with Christ and His kingdom.

1 Cor. 15:48 *As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.*

49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

## Summary

- ❖ Believers are no longer spiritually dead, but spiritually alive.
- ❖ Believers are no longer under the dominion of the prince and power of the air – Satan.
- ❖ Believers are no longer under the condemnation and wrath of God.
- ❖ Believers are now enabled by God's amazing grace to enjoy God's love and fellowship.
- ❖ Believers now have assurance of an eternity WITH Christ.
- ❖ Believers now are saved by God's grace, and will always be saved by God's grace.
- ❖ Believers allow Christ to live through them. He IS the life of the believer.

Deut. 30:20 That thou mayest **love the LORD thy God**, *and* that thou mayest **obey his voice**, and that thou mayest **cleave unto him: for he is thy life**, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

Phil. 1:21 For **to me to live is Christ**, and to die is gain.

Col. 3:4 When **Christ, who is our life**, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

## Conclusion

- ❖ The contrast between spiritual death and spiritual life are seen in other passages:

Gal. 2:20 **I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Rom. 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, **even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

❖ A believer knows if a radical change has greatly affected an outlook on life:

Jn. 9:24 Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner.

25 He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner *or no*, I know not: **one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.**

Eph. 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

19 And what *is* **the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,**

❖ Knowing that *Grace IS So Amazing*, the believer accesses the heavenly places and yet lives a life of purpose on earth for God's glory!

Heb. 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, **boldness to enter into the holiest** by the blood of Jesus,

20 **By a new and living way**, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;

22 **Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.



**23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)**

**24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:**

**25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.**