



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.

A few weeks ago, 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

II. THE PRESENT EXERCISE, 2:4-6

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

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

III. THE PROSPECT EXPECTED, 2:7-10

A. Unstinted Grace, 2:7-9

1. Eternally Revealed Through Us, 2:7

2. Eternally Revealed To us, 2:8-9

This morning, we continue in chapter two to see how the believer is to live as a redeemed child of God. *Grace So Amazing* is responsible for a spiritual transformation from “dead in trespasses and sins” to be “quickened us together with Christ, (**by grace ye are saved**;)” Such a changed life is indicated in 2 Cor. 5:17:

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Is there any more important statement for a believer than stated in Eph. 2:10 “**For we are his workmanship...**”? This verse eloquently states a monumental premise of what it means to be a believer! The radical change is explained in a similar way in Eph. 2:10:

B. Unstunted Growth, 2:10

Eph. 2:10 For **we are his workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

❖ A born-again believer, changed by the grace and power of God, lives a life focused upon glorifying the Savior.

2 Cor. 5:14 For **the love of Christ** constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

15 And *that* he died for all, that **they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**

Mt. 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, **that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father** which is in heaven.

❖ A believer is not, and cannot be, a result of being a *self-made Christian* – “not of yourselves...not of works.”

❖ A believer is God’s “workmanship.”

Phil. 2:13 For **it is God which worketh in you** both **to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.**

❖ GOD IS THE WORKMAN!

Phil. 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that **he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:**

Col. 1:27 To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**:

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.**

❖ The Bible is replete with revealing God's activity toward mankind:

Gen. 1:1 **In the beginning God** created the heaven and the earth.

❖ As the Workman, He is active and personal in the believer's life.

Rom. 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being **understood by the things that are made**, [G4161] *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

ποίημα = made, workmanship

Isa. 64:8 But now, **O LORD, thou *art* our father; we *are* the clay, and thou our potter; and we all *are* the work of thy hand.**

- ❖ As clay, the believer is to be submissive in the hands of the Potter.

Rom. 9:20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? **Shall the thing formed say to him that formed *it*, Why hast thou made me thus?**
21 **Hath not the potter power over the clay**, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

- ❖ The believer is God's workmanship, and explicitly, "...created in Christ Jesus..."

- ❖ The word for “created” in Gen. 1:1, is *bara*: a word which means He created the universe *out of nothing*:

Original Word: בָּרָא

Transliteration: bara'

Definition: to shape, create out of nothing

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/1254.htm>

- ❖ Where once there was nothing, God created something masterful and wonderful.
- ❖ Where once there was nothing but a lost, depraved sinner, the Lord Jesus created something masterful and wonderful → a child of God!

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore **if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature**: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- ❖ A believer's life is to portray a reflection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gal. 4:19 My little children, of whom I travail in birth again **until Christ *be* formed in you,**

- ❖ From salvation until meeting the Lord in eternity, He has a plan:
 - Salvation begins with the operation of the Holy Spirit called *conviction*:

- The Holy Spirit uses His sword, the Word of God, to produce believers pleasing to God:

Eph. 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

Jhn 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth.**

1Pe 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but **of incorruptible, by the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Jas 1:18 **Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth**, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Eph 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, **to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man**;

1Th 5:19 **Quench not the Spirit.**

Eph 4:30 And **grieve not the holy Spirit of God**, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

- The Lord created the ministry of the local church to assist the believer in developing a testimonial life to reflect Christ to a lost world:

Eph. 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 **For the perfecting of the saints**, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

- The Lord will use conviction by the Holy Spirit as well as chastening for the development of His children:

Prov. 3:12 **For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth**; even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.

Heb. 12:6 **For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth**, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

- ❖ The goal for the believer is to be conformed to the image of Christ:

Rom 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Rom 12:2 And **be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed** by the renewing of your mind, **that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

- ❖ The Workman's purpose for the believer is to produce "...good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

❖ God established a plan for each believer – after salvation...live like a child of God!

Heb. 6:9 But, **beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation,** though we thus speak.

Mt. 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, **that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father** which is in heaven.

Summary

God is the artist and our life is a canvas portraying His brush strokes of the events of our existence. Every experience should be of His purpose, for His glory (Rom. 8:28.) As we yield ourselves as the paintbrush to be used of His choosing, we must walk by obedient faith in trusting the ability of The Artist, to create His workmanship that will honor Him throughout eternity.

Conclusion

Act 6:8 And Stephen, **full of faith and power**, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called *the synagogue* of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.

10 And **they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.**

2 Cor. 5:14 For **the love of Christ constraineth us;**
because we thus judge, that **if one died for all, then**
were all dead:

15 And *that* he died for all, that **they which live**
should not henceforth live unto themselves, but
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