

Series: The Wealth and Walk of a Christian

"But God – Part 2" #6

Ephesians 2:4-10

8-6-17 Sun PM

We have before us, one of the greatest passages of God's salvation from God's perspective and power. These verses present man's lost condition and his salvation- past, present, and future.

TT: This morning I shared **what we were** [vs.1-3], tonight **what God did** [vs.4-7], and **why God did it** [vs. 8-10].

We saw this morning that in our past condition we are without Christ, without God, and without hope. We were sinners by nature, by choice, and by practice.

We were dead, deluded, disobedient, defiled, and doomed!

We were spiritually dead on our way to hell. Thanks for "But God" [v.4]. God did not leave us there!

I. What We Were (2:1-3).

II. What God Did [2:4-7].

God provided the power of salvation for us by taking the initiative because of his love, when by his holiness and justice, we should remain dead.

1. God has resurrected us with Christ (2:4-5).

Salvation gives spiritual life. This power that raised us out of sin and death and made us alive with Christ, is the same power that energizes the Christian life in you now.

We became spiritually alive and spiritually responsive to God.

We can understand spiritual truth and desire the things of God. Paul calls it "walking in the newness of life."

2. God has seated us with Christ (2:6-7).

Not only are we alive spiritually, but God seats us with Him in heavenly places. We are citizens of heaven [Phil. 3:20].

Has seated us means it is past tense. We are in the world but not of the world. Our home is in heaven and we live in his God's kingdom not Satan's kingdom.

What was God's purpose? That we might be blessed forever by his grace and kindness toward us.

Application:

1. God saved us by his love not something special in us.

2. God saved us not because he saw who would believe and called them, but by his love and mercy.

3. Heaven was settled for you when God saved you.

I. What We Were (2:1-3).

II. What God Did (2:4-7).

III. Why God Did It (2:8-10).

1. How God Saved Us (2:8-9).

(1). *God extends grace in Christ for salvation (2:8-9).*

1. Salvation is a free gift, not something we earn by merit or work (v.8).

2. Even faith is a gift from God “that not of yourselves.” If salvation is a gift, it has to be an undeserved gift of God.

Phil. 1:29 “For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake.”

(2). *Man exercises faith in Christ for salvation (2:8-9).*

1. When we accept the finished work of Christ on our behalf, we act by the faith supplied by God’s grace. This is the paradox, we exercise faith but faith is a gift as well.

2. Salvation is not in Church membership, baptism, confirmation, giving, being good, but exercising faith in what Jesus Christ has done.

All boasting is eliminated in salvation.

Titus 3:5, But after that the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, (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;

2. Why God Saved Us (2:10).

(1). *God desires to work in us and thru us [2:10a].*

1. We are not saved by works but for works. We are to bear fruit and prove the genuineness of our faith.

2. “Workmanship” means God saved us to conform us to his son. He has promised to complete his purpose in us.

(2). *God desires that faith be seen (2:10b).*

The greatest evidence to you and others that you are saved is your transformed life.

Con:

Salvation is from sin, by his love, into life, thru faith, unto good works.

Without Christ we are dead on the way to hell, but God intervened imparting grace and faith. Once saved God works in and through us