

Saved!

Ephesians 2:4-10

Introduction: In our last lesson in this series we studied about being dead in sins. But, we also looked at being made alive in Christ. This morning/evening we are going to continue studying the same subject with emphasis on being saved.

I. Being Saved Implies Being Lost.

- A. Lost in sin, worthy of death (**Rom. 6:23**).
 - 1. Death is the **penalty** for sin.
 - 2. A result of our actions:
 - a. ***“You once walked according to the course of this world” (Eph. 2:2).***
 - b. ***“Also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others” (Eph. 2:3).***
- B. We got ourselves in this fix and cannot get ourselves out of it (**Rom. 5:6**).

II. God’s Love Toward Us Even While We Were In Sin.

- A. Described as ***“great love with which He loved us” (Eph. 2:4).***
- B. So great He gave His Son (**Jn. 3:16**).
- C. Who we are is not the key. Who God is is the key (**1 Jn. 4:7-10**).

III. God Is Full Of Mercy And Grace.

- A. Brother Russell Dunaway explained it this way, *“Mercy is God not giving us something we do deserve. Grace is God giving us something we do not deserve.”*
 - 1. Because of sin we are under penalty of death. God’s mercy addresses this.
 - 2. Because of sin we are not worthy of any blessing from God. God’s grace addresses this.
- B. God’s law demands satisfaction, that the penalty be paid. His mercy and grace have allowed an opportunity—a plan—whereby the demand can be kept and forgiveness take place.
 - 1. Jesus paid the price so we can be forgiven (**1 Peter 1:18-19**).
 - 2. This is the greatness of the mercy and grace of God.
- C. God’s promise is that we will:
 - 1. Be ***“made alive together with Christ” (Eph. 2:5).***
 - 2. Be ***“raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Eph. 2:6).***

IV. Accomplished Through Faith.

- A.** Faith is important in all aspects of spiritual matters.
 - 1.** Cannot please God without it (**Heb. 11:6**).
 - 2.** Mercy and grace do not come without it (**Eph. 2:8**).
- B.** This faith is the faith revealed in the New Testament.
 - 1.** A way of life (**Rom. 1:17**).
 - 2.** A living faith.
 - a.** A dead faith cannot save (**James 2:20, 26**).
 - b.** Therefore, a faith that is alive is a faith with works.
- C.** Our salvation depends upon our obedience through faith (**Heb. 5:9**).
- D.** We “**are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works**” (**Eph. 2:10a**).
 - 1.** Not our works (**cf. Eph. 2:9**), but God’s works.
 - 2.** “**We should walk in them**” (good works) (**Eph. 2:10b**).

Conclusion: God’s part is mercy and grace. Our part is faith and obedience. We know that God will keep His part. Have we kept ours? Extend invitation.