



Grace Through Faith

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How knowing our purpose makes us better workers

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. ⁴But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

(New International Version)

Discussion Questions:

2:1-2 – Who is Paul speaking to here?

How is it that people are dead in their transgressions and sins before they become Christians?

Who is the ruler of the kingdom of the air and why is he called that?

How is it that the ruler of the kingdom of the air is at work in those who are disobedient to God?

2:3 – What were we like before we became Christians?

In what ways do we see these unhealthy cravings at work?

How does seeking to gratify the cravings of our sinful nature serve the purposes of the ruler of the kingdom of the air?

How were we objects of wrath before we became saved?

2:4-5 – What did God do for Christians and why?

2:6 – What has God done for His children? Why is this in the past tense?

2:7 – Why did God save us?

2:8-9 – How did God save us?

How do we come by the faith that saves us?

What role does our good works serve in our salvation?

What was our role in being saved?

Why should we do good works?

What is the proper motivation for good works?

2:10 – What value do good works have?

When did God determine what good works His children should do?

If God already has mapped out what good things we should do in life, what role does free-will play?

How does a person come to know their purpose?

How does knowing your purpose make you a better worker?