

**Ephesians Part 5:
Saved by God's Amazing Grace**
Ephesians 2:8-10



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*And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked,
following the course of this world,
following the prince of the power of the air,
the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—
³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh,
carrying out the desires of the body and the mind,
and were by nature children of wrath,
like the rest of mankind.*

⁴ *But God,
being rich in mercy,
because of the great love with which he loved us,
⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses,
made us alive together with Christ*

-- by grace you have been saved—

⁶ *and raised us up with him
and seated us with him
in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,*

⁷ *so that in the coming ages he might show **the immeasurable riches of his grace** in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.*

⁸ ***For by grace you have been saved through faith.***

And this is not your own doing;

it is the gift of God,

⁹ ***not a result of works,***

so that no one may boast.

¹⁰ ***For we are his workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand,
that we should walk in them.***

Ephesians 2:1-10

Introduction: Saved by God's Amazing Grace

Ephesians 2:8-9 is one of the most famous passages in the Bible

- It describes how God saves you by His Amazing Grace
- It separates Christianity from other world religions
- It strikes a nail in the human understanding of "religion"

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1. You are saved by Grace, Through Faith (8a)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith.

... it is the gift of God,

a. **Grace**

- Grace is God's unmerited favour towards you
- Grace is a *gift of God*
 - You can't earn a gift, but you do have to *receive it*

b. **Faith**

- Saving Faith involves: *(Source: Boice)*
 - *Knowledge*—Jesus died for your sins and rose again
 - *Heart Response*—Repent of sin and trust Jesus to save you
 - *Commitment*—Commit to Jesus as Lord of your life

2. You are not saved by your own merit (8b-9)

And this is not your own doing;

it is the gift of God,

⁹ *not a result of works,*

so that no one may boast.

a. **not your own doing**

- “not from yourselves” (NIV)
- Salvation comes from God, not from you

b. **not a result of works**

- There is no work you can do to earn God's salvation

c. **so that no one may boast.**

- Salvation is all by grace, so you have nothing to boast about

3. You are God's workmanship (10)

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship,

created in Christ Jesus for good works,

which God prepared beforehand,

that we should walk in them.

a. You are God's *workmanship*

- You are “his work of art, his masterpiece” *(Source: F.F. Bruce)*

b. You are *created in Christ Jesus for good works*

- *created* by God, not by yourself
- Good works are a *fruit* of salvation, *not the means*

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- c. God saved you to do good works that he prepared for you
 - He prepared these good works in advance for you to do
- d. You need to 'walk' in the good works God prepared for us
 - You still have to walk in them

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
—Paul, 2 Corinthians 5:17

Note that your good works are caused by God's grace:

- God created you and made you a masterpiece
- God prepared the good works for you to do
 - You cannot boast in who you are or what you do
 - You can only give God the credit, for it is all a gift of God

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ
—Paul, Galatians 6:14

4. Implications of God's Grace

- a. Grace is both humbling and freeing.

*Grace humbles you in the recognition that you do not deserve God's salvation.
Grace frees you in the recognition that you don't have to work for salvation.*

- b. Grace means you have no right to look down on others

- *Anything good in you is a result of God's grace*
- You have no basis for looking down on others

*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save **sinner**s, of whom I am the foremost.*

—Paul, 1 Timothy 1:15

5. Respond to God's Grace

- a. God offers you the gift of salvation in Jesus, by grace, through faith. Grace is a free gift, but you have to receive it

Will you receive this free gift of God, by faith?

- *Believe in Jesus, and His death and resurrection*
- *Repent of your sin and place your trust in Jesus*
- *Commit to Jesus as Lord of your life*

Will you 'walk' in God's grace, to do the good works God has prepared for you?

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Your Response

1. Meditate on the God's amazing grace towards you in Jesus.
2. Read Ephesians in your Bible. Use an accurate, readable translation such as the English Standard Version or the New Living Translation.
3. Believe in Jesus for forgiveness of sins and eternal life in Him.

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus Romans 3:23-24

because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Ephesians Series: God's Purposes for You in Christ

January 8	Part 1: Introduction to Ephesians
January 15	Part 2: God's Blessings to You in Christ
January 22	Part 3: A Prayer for Spiritual Knowledge
January 29	Part 4: Dead in Sin, Alive in Christ
February 5	Part 5: Saved by God's Amazing Grace
February 12	Part 6: Peace through the Cross of Christ
February 19	Family Day Special: The Rubber Chicken Company!

Questions for Reflection

1. Explain what the Bible means by God's grace. (point #1a)
2. Explain the three parts of saving faith. (point #1b)
3. How is God's grace both humbling and freeing to you?
4. Why do you have no right to boast in your own good works?
5. Have you responded to the God's grace in faith and repentance, trusting in Jesus Christ for forgiveness of sins, and eternal life? Why not do so today?

2 Cor. 6:2b *now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

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