



Title: Ephesians - God's Way of Reconciliation

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

Date: 01222023

Bible Version: NKJV

BOTTOM LINE: God has a purpose for you.

Vs. 1

And you, He made alive - This statement was added to the text from the implied context of this verse. Paul was reminding believers that He made us alive.

Dead in trespasses and sins - Trespass means to cross a line. As sinners, the idea is that we have crossed a line challenging God's boundaries. Not only did we cross a line, we were marked by sin. Because of our sin, we have missed God's mark.

Though Christians are now alive, they must never forget where they came from. They were dead in trespasses and sins. - David Guzik

Vs. 2

You once walked according to the course of this world - Paul is reminding the Ephesians that at one time they walked according to the world. The same is true for all believers. At one point in time, we were walking according to the ways of the world.

The good news is that this was in the past. Being born again changes our standing before God.

A dead man feels comfortable in his coffin; but if he were to be made alive again, he would instantly feel suffocated and uncomfortable. - Guzik

As believers we should feel uncomfortable and out of place in this world.

Prince of the power of the air - This refers to Satan. It describes his domain and authority over it.

Evil men set him up for their sovereign, and are wholly at his beck and obedience - John Trapp

Works in the sons of disobedience - He is working in the lives of the disobedient.

Vs. 3

We all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of the flesh- Paul reminds all believers that we were all anchored to our sin prior to Christ. We were all considered sons and daughters of disobedience.

By nature children of wrath, just as the others- Paul reminds us where we came from. We were children of wrath. We are not better than unbelievers. The difference between us and an unbeliever is that we are saved by faith through Christ Jesus and have been forgiven.

Vs. 4

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love - Considering our past, Paul now reminds us about the power of God. He says 'But God'. He is rich in mercy. He is rich in His mercy towards us.

God's reasons for reconciling man to Himself are found completely in Him, and nothing else.

Vs. 5

Even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive - Paul reminds us that even though we were dead, we have been made alive.

Together with Christ (by grace you have been saved) - We have been saved by grace, not by something we have done or achieved. We are together with Christ.

Christ shared in our death so that we could share in His resurrection life. - Guzik

Vs. 6

Made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,- Paul now tells us our position. We have our eternal citizenship in Heaven. All of this was made possible through Christ Jesus.

Vs. 7

In the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace - God is doing an incredible work now so that future generations will see His glory. His grace is exceeding and abundant.

In context, we are the exhibit of God's work.

God will use His work in the Church to display His glory throughout the ages. - David Guzik

Vs. 8

It is the gift of God - Paul reminds us that the grace God has given us is a gift from Him. We cannot earn it, or even purchase it. It is a gift to the undeserving.

The work of salvation is God's gift to man through Jesus Christ.

Vs. 9

Not of works, lest anyone should boast - Salvation cannot be earned because if it could be earned, we would point to ourselves. Under God's plan of salvation, God alone rec

Vs. 10

We are His workmanship - We are God's workmanship or creation. We could never make ourselves into something beautiful, God had to do it.

The spiritual life cannot come to us by development from our old nature. I have heard a great deal about evolution and development, but I am afraid that if any one of us were to develop to our utmost, apart from the grace of God, we should come out worse than before the development began. - Spurgeon.

Created in Christ Jesus for good works - Paul reminds us that we were created for good works.

In the ages of past eternity, God was thinking about us, loving us and planning to bless us through the gift of His Son.

Three Truths We Need To Remember as it relates God's Purpose for our lives:

1. He made us alive. Vs. 5
2. We are His workmanship. Vs. 10
3. We have been created for good works. Vs. 10



3D Guide

DO. **BOTTOM LINE: God has a purpose for you.**



DIG DEEPER

1. What does this study reveal to you about God?
2. What does this study reveal to you about yourself?
3. Based on this, what changes do you need to make?
4. What is your prayer for today?



DISCUSS.

1. How does one go about finding their purpose?
2. What does this scripture say regarding finding our purpose?
3. What are some ways you can apply this scripture to your life?



DO.

Anytime you read God's word you have to put things into perspective. You also have to realize that the terms, not words, have meanings. As a group re-read the scriptures that was studied. Try the Amplified Version and compare that to the NJKV, NIV, ESV, or NASB. Pick a few words and have a group member look that word up on blueletterbible.com or with their app.