

Ephesians 2

Going Vertical

▪ Ch. 1 Spiritual Blessing **In Christ**

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|----------------|---|
| 1. Chosen | Before creation to be found Holy/Blameless |
| 2. Adopted | By the Father for His Pleasure |
| 3. Redeemed | By the Blood of Christ |
| 4. Forgiven | Because of His Great Mercy/Love |
| 5. Predestined | To the praise of His glory as angels look on |
| 6. Sealed | By the Spirit. Our guarantee of Heaven/Bodies finally redeemed... |

When Jesus takes us Home to Our Father

Hebrews 2:11 ...both He who sanctifies [Jesus] and those who are being sanctified [us] are **all of one**, for which reason He is not ashamed to call [us] **brethren...**

One Intimate Family
Father, Son and One Another united by the Spirit

John 17:21 [Jesus prayer to the Father *for those who would believe...*] that they all may be **one**, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be **one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be **one** just as We are **one**: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in **one**, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. 24 "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

The indwelling Spirit of the Father and the Son is the one perfect bond of union, knitting up into a living unity [family], first all believers amongst themselves; next, this unity into one still higher, with the Father and the Son. [Jamieson, Fausset & Brown]

Oneness is a Witness to the World

Ephesians 1:22b... [Jesus is the] head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the **fullness of Him who fills all in all.**

We the body of Christ contain the fullness of Him who fills all in all

Colossians 1:26 ...the **mystery which has been hidden** from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. **27b...Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

Now one with God
Once dead/separated from God and everything good...

I. Saved by Grace

1 And you **He made alive**, who **were dead** in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom 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.

All men since Adam are born dead

Genesis 2:17 ...in the day that you eat of [the tree] **you shall surely die.**

Romans 5:11 ...through **one man** [Adam] **sin entered** the world, **and death through sin,** and thus **death spread to all men,** because all sinned...

All men since Adam are born dead

Slaves to the World/Devil/Flesh Meandering their way to Hell

- **World:** Satanic World System. Engineered to draw us away from God
- **Devil:** Prince/Power of the Air: Media/Internet. Tool of the enemy to enslave
- **Flesh:** Old man/Sinful Adamic nature within tempting us to selfishness/self-love

The Wrath of God Abides upon All Men

Without Hope/Without God/No way of escape...

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **5 even when we were dead** in trespasses, **made us alive** together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)

I was dead/separated from God...But God made me Alive In Christ

Romans 5:6 ...when we were **still without strength,** in **due time** [lit. at the right time] Christ died for the ungodly ...**8** But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while **we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

God loved us when we were still dead in sin

- **Rich in Mercy:** Not giving us what we deserve for our sin
- **Great in Love:** His Grace giving us what we don't deserve. Salvation

Psalms 103:8 The Lord is **merciful and gracious,** Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. 9 He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities. 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, **So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him...**

- **Saved by Grace:** Kindness manifested in unmerited compassion. rt. be well. Thrive

Born separated from God...Now united **with Christ**

Born dead in sin without hope...**But God** made us alive **In Christ...**

6 ...and raised us up together, and made us **sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...**

- Raised us from the Dead Saved us
- Raised us above this World Sanctified us
- Raised us up with Jesus Glorified us...

7 ...that in the **ages to come** He might **show** the exceeding riches of His **grace in His kindness toward us** in Christ Jesus.

From God choosing us before the foundation of the world to His adopting us by His grace at salvation through Him sanctifying us by earthly trials and glorifying us to sit with Christ in Heaven... God's eternal desire from Genesis to Revelation is seen here in Ephesians 2:7, that God for all eternity would display His grace through His kindness to us in Jesus Christ. [NJC]

Grace: God's kind intervention as we were meandering toward hell

8 For by **grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the **gift of God**, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Free Gift

Romans 5:15 ... the **free gift** is not like the offense. For if by the one man's [Adam's] offense many died, much more the grace of God and the **gift by the grace** of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. 16 And **the gift** [Salvation] is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the **free gift** which came from many offenses resulted in justification. 17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the **gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. **Gift 5X**

A gift by definition cannot be earned
Thus salvation by the free gift of God's grace cannot be earned

Titus 3:4 ... But when the kindness and the 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**, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become **heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

2 Timothy 1:9 [But God] ...has saved us and called us with a holy calling, **not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace** which was given to us in Christ Jesus **before time began...**

A Gift cannot be earned. Salvation is a Gift
A person who believes they merit Heaven is not going

Romans 4:4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. 5 But to him who does not work but believes on **Him who justifies the ungodly**, his faith is accounted for righteousness...

Romans 11:6 ...[Since salvation is] by grace, then it is **no longer of works**; otherwise grace is no longer grace. IOWs It cannot be Grace and Works. Grace alone. God's Riches At Christ's Expense

Salvation is the Gift of God purchased for us with the Precious Blood of Christ
No room for Boasting, Self-Righteousness or Competition but Serving Jesus

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

Saved by His Grace to do Good Works
Glorify God/Draw Others to Him

2 Corinthians 5:17 ...if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 [God has] given us the ministry of **reconciliation...** **Ambassadors of Christ**

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may **see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven**.

Good Works Glorify God/Draw Others to God and...
Are Evidence of a New Spirit/New Heart

Galatians 5:22 ... the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control** ...24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also **walk in the Spirit**.

- **Self-Sacrificial life** ... as He is, so are we in this world. [1 John 4:17b] **In Christ**

Once saved always saved mantra as rationale for laziness and sin is not a safe place for a hypocrite. IOWs Chuck Smith saying "*We are eternally secure as we abide in Christ*" will not bother a saved person. If we are alive we will be growing and bearing good fruit; i.e. changing. [NJC]

Romans 6:20 [Hate sin] ... you were slaves of sin ...**21** What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the **end of those things is death**. 22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your **fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life**.

No matter your say...If you don't hate sin you're not saved

1 Peter 4:2 [Jesus died that we...] no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but **for the will of God**. 3 For **we have spent enough of our past lifetime** in doing the will of [unbelievers] —when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries...

- Raised us from the Dead Salvation
- Raised us above this World Sanctification
- Raised us up with Jesus Glorification

In Christ we have been made alive to Him and dead to Sin

Romans 6:4 ...we were **buried with Him** through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so **we also should walk in newness of life**.

Witness to the World that we are One with God. In Christ

II. One in Christ

11 **Therefore remember** that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—
12 that at that time you were **without Christ**, being **aliens** from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having **no hope and without God in the world**. 13 **But now in Christ** Jesus you who once were far off have been **brought near by the blood** of Christ.

- Word/Promises of God first came to Jews. God of Israel
- Gentiles seeking God had to assimilate [Ex. 12:48] Some did: Naaman, Ruth, etc. **In general...**

Without Hope/Without God in this world
But Now Jew and Gentile brought near by the blood of Christ

Ephesians 3:6 [Mystery revealed] that the Gentiles should be **fellow heirs**, of the **same body**, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel...

14 For **[Jesus] Himself is our peace**, who has made **both** [Jew/Gentile all who believe] **one**, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself **one new man from the two**, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body **through the cross**, thereby putting to death the enmity.

Jesus made peace between Jew/Gentile and all who believe
IOWs All who have, are, or will be saved...All are saved by Grace

- **OT** Jews looked forward to the Cross Know yearly sacrifice was never enough
- **NT** Gentiles look back at the Cross Know Jesus one time sacrifice is enough

Grace unites all those who humbly come to the cross
No religion can save. No church can save. No heredity can save. Only Jesus can save

John 14:6 I am the way, the truth/the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Jew or Gentile all must come to the Cross

17 And [Jesus] came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For **through Him [Jesus] we both have access by one Spirit to the Father**.

1 Corinthians 12:13 ...by **one Spirit** we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into **one Spirit**.

Through **Jesus** is Access by the **Spirit** to the **Father's Household**

III. House of God

19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow **citizens** with the saints and **members of the household of God**, 20 having

been built on the foundation of the **apostles** and **prophets**, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief **cornerstone**, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord

Registered future citizens of the New Jerusalem. Don't know the check-in date
Currently Members of the House of God

- **Firm Foundation of the House of God:** Word of Truth
 1. Fulfilled Prophecies of OT
 2. Apostles Teaching in NT

Both resources of Truth issuing from the Perfect Cornerstone Jesus Christ

22 [House of God]...in whom **you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.**

- The Word of Truth is the Foundation of the House of God
- Jesus is the Cornerstone of the House of God. First Rock Set

We are Living Stones of the Household of God...
Dwelling place of the Spirit of God

1 Peter 2:5 ...[We are] living stones, are **being built up a spiritual house...**

Ephesians 1:23... [We are...] His body, the **fullness of Him who fills all in all.**

1 Corinthians 3:16b [We are] the temple of God and the Spirit of God **dwells in [us]**

We were once dead in sin and without hope
But God...Two Words that changed everything