

Ephesians 2:1-10

Understanding Our New Position in Christ

> In verse 1 we are told that Christ has made us alive. In what sense are we told that we were dead? We were dead to sin (enslaved to sin), unable to live for God.

> How do verses 2-3 describe the state of a person before salvation? We were characterized by worldliness (lived in a worldly way), lived according to our fleshly lusts, deserving of God's wrath.

> How do verses 4-6 describe the change a person has at the moment of their salvation? They go from death to life, raised up with Christ (given new life and position in Christ, Col. 3:1-2), seated in heavenly places (new citizenship in heaven, Phil. 3:20).

> Verses 8-9 say our salvation is by grace through faith. What does this mean, and how do the previous verses support this? Grace-don't deserve it; faith-how we receive it. Previous verses show we deserve God's wrath, yet we are given new life.

> According to verse 10, what has God prepared that we should "walk in"? Good works, things that please Him.

Application

For those of us who have experienced salvation, there has been a change in our lives. We have gone from deserving God's wrath, to having a new status of being in Christ. As a result, there should also be a change in which we put off our former way of life and live in a way that pleases God.

> What are some common ways Christian still wrestle with the flesh? Pressure to do things that make us feel accepted by those around us; struggles with pride, purity, attitudes, etc.

> What things can be done to help us live Christ-like, and help others to do the same also? Personal Bible study/prayer, prepare for daily tests, encourage each other/accountability.

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