

Bill Connors / General

Ephesians / Ephesians 2:1–10

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**UNION WITH CHRIST** (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13)

**RICHES/INHERITANCE** (3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14)

**GLORY** (3, 6, 12, 14)

**ELECTION** (4)

**LOVE** (4, 6)

**DIVINE WILL/PLAN** (4, 5, 9, 10, 11)

**ADOPTION** (5)

**PREDESTINATION** (5, 11)

**GRACE** (6, 7)

**REDEMPTION** (7, 14)

**RECONCILIATION** (7, 10)

**WISDOM** (8)

**UNDERSTANDING** (8)

**MYSTERY** (9)

**SALVATION** (13)

**FAITH/BELIEF** (13)

**HOLY SPIRIT** (13, 14)

**Ephesians 2:1–10 CSB**

<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in your trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit now working in the disobedient. <sup>3</sup> We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and we were by nature children under wrath as the others were also. <sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! <sup>6</sup> He also raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—<sup>9</sup> not from works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

- Verses 1-3: An explanation of our former plight as objects of God's wrath
- Verses 4-7: An explanation of how God saved us from our former plight
- Verses 8-10: An explanation of the gracious nature of our salvation

### **v3**

“In sum, he argues that rebellion against God is a state integral to the human condition apart from the Gospel; it affects everyone without exception, and it affects everyone profoundly.”

—Frank Theilman, *Ephesians, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament*

So why does Paul say “flesh and thoughts?”

What do our Study Bible notes have to say about the lost (previously, us) being “children under wrath?”

OLD LIFE (vv. 1-3) vs. NEW LIFE (vv. 4-7)

OLD: We were dead (1)

OLD: We were enslaved (2)

OLD: We were objects of wrath (3)

OLD: We walked among the disobedient (2-3)

OLD: We were under Satan's dominion (2)

### **v4**

Look at the study note in our Bibles on verse 4. What is the difference between grace and mercy?

Why, according to this passage, is it vitally important that God be rich in mercy? (*Hint: see verses 1-3*)

### **v5**

What was the first major theme of the thesis/summary part of Ephesians (1:3-14)? Where do we see that theme repeated here in verse 5?