

Message Title: How God Saves Sinners

Ephesians 2:4-10 LSB | Sunday AM, March 27th, 2022 Jack Lamb

And you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience,3 among whom we all also formerly conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.4 But God, being rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us,5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, 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 ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;9 not 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 so that we would walk in them.

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Application Questions

- 1. Does your view of God begin with His abundant mercy and great love? If not, why not?
- 2. What are some practical implications of our present identity with Christ in the heavenly places?
- 3. Why is it essential to hold to the doctrine of God's wrath against sinners? What is lost if we abandon it?
- 4. Why does Paul keep emphasizing that salvation is totally God's doing? What is his practical aim?

BE A DOER. Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to consistently apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil 2:12-13; 1 Tim 4:7-9; James 1:22-27). As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions: (1) How does God want my beliefs/actions to change? (2) How can I accomplish this change? (3) What is the first step toward bringing about this change?