

“From Death in Sins to Life in Christ” (Ephesians 2:1–10)

**Big Idea: We in Christ have been raised with him from death to glory by God’s sheer grace.**

- I. In their inherited nature, all of mankind are dead, driven, and doomed. (verses 1–3)
  - a. We were dead in devoted rebellion (verses 1–2a)
  - b. We were driven by the world, the devil, and the flesh (verses 2b–3a)

The Course [literally, “Age”] of This World:  
Galatians 1:3–5

“The Prince [Ruler] of the Power [Authority/Jurisdiction/Domain] of the Air”:  
1 Corinthians 2:6–8; Luke 22:52–53; Colossians 1:13–14

“The Spirit... Now at Work in the Sons of Disobedience”:  
1 John 5:18–19; 1 Samuel 15:22–23a

The Flesh: Genesis 8:21; Galatians 5:16, 19–21

- c. We were doomed under God’s wrath (verse 3b)  
  
“By Nature... Like the Rest of Mankind”  
John 1:10–13 [NASB]
- II. In his rich mercy, God loved and saved us by his grace alone in Christ alone. (verses 4–7)
  - a. God’s mercy and love took almighty action when we were still dead. (verses 4–5a)

God’s Rich Mercy: Exodus 34:5–7  
John 5:21–25

- b. God’s grace saved us by resurrecting and enthroning us with Christ. (verses 5b–6)  
  
Ephesians 1:19–23; Colossians 3:1–4
  - c. God’s kindness eternally targets us as the display of his boundless grace. (verse 7)  
  
Titus 3:3–7

- III. In this glorious salvation, God alone gets the credit. (verses 8–10)
  - a. God saved us on the basis of grace alone through the channel of faith alone. (verse 8a)
  - b. This entire package of salvation is God’s gift, not our achievement. (verses 8b–9)

Philippians 1:29

- c. We are God’s new creation devoted to foreordained good works. (verse 10)

“Paul’s mention of believers ‘walking’ in these good works ties the conclusion of this passage back to the beginning (‘in which you once walked’) and forms an inclusio.” – Clinton E. Arnold, *Ephesians*, Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament, p. 142