



God's Great Words

Ephesians 2:4-5





Context

1. Paul prays we would know the exceeding greatness of Christ's power toward us.
2. There seems, however, a threat to this power toward us, namely ... *us*.
3. Now Paul dramatically unfolds God's triumphant work with five life-altering words: *But, Mercy, Love, Grace, & Saved*.



But God

1. Immediate Contrast: You were dead (2:1)
2. Biblical Context: Divine Deliverance
 - Genesis 8:1 – But God remembered Noah
 - Genesis 20:3 – But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night ...
 - Genesis 50:20 – But God meant it for good
 - Psalms 49:15 – But God will ransom my soul from the power of the grave ...



Rich Mercy

1. Rich – Exceeding Wealth

- Used of the rich young ruler (Luke 18:23)
- Used of Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector (Luke 19:2)
- Used of the Lord Jesus Christ in His pre-incarnate state (2 Corinthians 8:9)

2. Mercy – Compassion in Action

- Old Testament: steadfast love (see Hosea 6:6)
- New Testament: Good Samaritan (Luke 10:37)



Loving Love

1. Because = on account of
2. Doubling = Emphasis
3. Simple Past Tense: this love, which was motivated by love, burst forth in a single event.



Abundant Grace

1. Definition: receiving favor when one deserves punishment.
2. “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ” (John 1:17)



Saved

- Important Tense – you have been saved
- John 3:17, “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already.”
- Luke 7:50, “Your faith has saved you, go in peace.”