

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 05 Sep Eph 1:1-14 God's Plan is Eternal
- 2) 12 Sep Eph 1:15-23 God's Plan Involves Power
- 3) 19 Sept..... Eph 2:1-10 God's Power Changes People**
- 4) 26 Sep Eph 2:11-22 God's Power Changes Relationships
- 5) 03 Oct Eph 3:1-13 God's Power Comes by Grace
- 6) 10 Oct Eph 3:14-21 God's Power Provides Strength
- 7) 17 Oct Eph 4:1-16 Being in Step
- 8) 24 Oct Eph 4:17-32 Being Different
- 9) 31 Oct Eph 5:1-14 Being Pure
- 10) 07 Nov Eph 5:15-21 Being Careful
- 11) 14 Nov Eph 5:22-33 Being Married
- 12) 21 Nov Eph 6:1-9 Being Respectful
- 13) 28 Nov Eph 6:10-24 Being Prepared

INTRODUCTION

- Paul begins to explain the steps by which God will accomplish His purposes, beginning with the salvation of individuals
- And Christ took steps to merge believing Jews and Gentiles into one body → the Church

Passage	Comments
Eph 2:1-2	YOU (Gentiles) were dead in your sins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus told the religious scribes and Pharisees they would die in their sins (go to Hell) if they did not believe in Him John 8:24 • Before accepting and living for Christ we unknowingly followed “the course of this world” which is the ways of Satan – The prince of the power of the air..... 1John 3:8 • Satan and his horde of followers were tossed out of the Heaven of Heavens but are not yet tossed into the Lake of Fire, so their abode is in the middle –EARTH
SIN	5 Greek words for SIN <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To miss the mark (>150x in the Bible) 2. Acts of disobedience 3. To slip or step over the line 4. To be lawless 5. To owe a debt
2:3	We (Jews) were just like you <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lived after the flesh – give me, give me, give me • Indulged the body and mind with ungodly things • By nature we were ‘children of wrath’ – so we need something ‘supernatural’ to break out of the natural mode → hence the need for Jesus Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ “All things became new”2Cor 5:17
2:4-5	God’s Nature includes being “Rich in Mercy” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God does not wish anyone to go to Hell, so He provided a way for all to escape Hell → Jesus • “While we were yet sinners...” – God did not wait for us to clean up our lives and behave properly • By grace we are saved and now live with Christ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Salvation is not based on our good looks, good works but purely on God’s goodness
2:6-7	We are Raised Up and Seated in Heavenly Places <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We now positionally share in the richness and fullness that belongs to Christ → We get it all! • What does God get out of the deal? Very little? • In the future Kingdom we will realize all of our promised blessings • This is a great passage on Eternal Security – God doesn’t seat someone in Heaven to dethrone them

Passage	Comments
2:8-9	Quintessential passage on our Salvation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Save by God’s grace alone – not by our works • Saved through our faith (our believing act) – but not of ourselves (God doesn’t believe for us, but He gives us the ability to believe) • Salvation is purely an undeserved gift of God • God’s gift of salvation is available to everyone who believes..... Rom 1:16 • Some Calvinists would argue that to believe is to work. But logic dictates that ‘not to believe’ in Christ would also be a work. Even Calvin said in his writings “faith alone is sufficient, because this alone does God require from us, that we believe.” • Some Jews once asked Jesus “what are the works of God we need to do” and Jesus replied "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." John 6:28-29 ... and this is more than mental acknowledgement (demons believe in God) but a life commitment • Jesus also told the Jews "But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life" .. John 5:40
2:10	We are Created for Good Works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works don’t save us, but after we are saved we should work good works since we are a piece of work (His workmanship prepared beforehand)

SUPPORTING PASSAGES:

- John 8:24** "Therefore I (Jesus) said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."
- Rom 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
- 2Cor 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- 1John 3:8** He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
- Rom 8:3** For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS:

- We can only thank God for His ‘unspeakable gift’ – For Christ doing all the work – and for His love and mercy freely given to us

NEXT WEEK: Ephesians 2:11-22. We were once dead to our sins, but Christ brought us near to Him, and made both groups (Jews and Gentiles) into one

