

# God's Workmanship

Eph. 2:1-10

Introduction:

- A. Chapter one: Our possession in Christ; chapter 2: Our position in Christ.
- B. Chapter two continues to describe the power mentioned in 1:19 — raised thru gospel.

Discussion:

## II. What We Were (vv. 1-3).

- A. Sinners separated from God — dead (v. 1; cf. 1 Tim. 5:6).
  - 1. Trespasses: Deviation from truth/uprightness; with idea of caught off guard (cf. Gal. 6:1).
  - 2. Sins: Lawless (1 John 3:4); Missed the mark.
- B. Sinners enslaved by the world (v. 2)
  - 1. Walked: Lived for the pleasures/fashions (cf. Col. 3:7)
  - 2. Course: The way the world lives (Phil 3:18-19).
    - a. Controlled by flesh rather than Spirit. (Gal. 5:16, 19-21).
    - b. Course of Demas (2 Tim. 4:10; cf. 1 John 2:15-17).
- C. Sinners empowered by prince — Satan (v. 2; cf. John 12:31; 2 Cor. 4:4).
  - 1. Air: Moral atmosphere? (1 John 5:19).
  - 2. Spirit: Attitude; bad thinking.
  - 3. Children: Showing characteristics of disobedience (cf. John 8:39).
- D. Sinners subject to God's wrath (v. 3).
  - 1. All: Jew & Gentile alike. (Rom. 3:9, 10, 23).
  - 2. Lusts/Desires; crave/long/wish; Channel in right direction (cf. Phil. 1:23; 1 Pet. 2:1-2).
  - 3. The mind: Sin not always in the act (Prov. 4:23; Matt. 5:28; 15:19).

## III. What God Did (vv. 4-9).

- A. "But God" (v. 4) — Among greatest words in the Bible.
  - 1. His rich mercy: Could have let us get what deserved - wrath, instead chose to save.
  - 2. His great love: Acted in our interest — "*even* when were dead ..."
- B. Raised us up:
  - 1. From spiritual death (v. 5; cf. Col. 2:12-13)
  - 2. To sit with Christ in heavenly places; Not in heaven but in kingdom over which he reigns (v. 6; 1:3; Rom. 6:4; Phil 3:20; Col. 3:1-2).
  - 3. To show exceeding riches of His grace in ages to come v. 7).
- C. Saved us by grace through faith (v. 8) — Not by either alone.
  - 1. "That not of yourselves" — salvation is gift, not faith.
  - 2. "Not of works" — What kind of works?
    - a. Those of merit or own invention. (Tit. 3:5).
    - b. Not discussing works of obedience. (Cf. Jas. 2:24).
    - c. Obedience does not nullify grace — appropriates it. (Acts 10:34-35; Heb. 5:9).
  - 3. Other passages tell us how Ephesians saved by grace (Acts 19:1-5; Eph. 4:5; 5:26).

## IV. What We Are (v. 10).

- A. His workmanship — His product — A sinner, washed, made new. (2 Cor. 5:17).
- B. Created unto good works: Purpose for creation (Phil. 2:12-13).
  - 1. God prepared beforehand — Part of His revelation. (2 Tim. 3:16-17).
  - 2. His standard of good works, not ours. (1 Pet. 4:11).
  - 3. Should walk — not idle. (Tit. 2:14).

Conclusion:

- A. Are we dead in sins? Or His workmanship? Our choice.
- B. He is still rich in mercy; will you accept? (Rev. 3:20).