

MADE ALIVE!

Ephesians 2:1-10

This morning let us consider the miracle of salvation
whereby Christ makes dead people live!

I. MAN'S CONDITION (1-3)

A. OBVIOUSLY DEAD (1a)

- Due to trespasses and sin

B. OBLIVIOUS TO RIGHTEOUSNESS (1)

- There is no life in us ... no spiritual spark

C. ORIENTED TO THE WORLD (2a)

- We habitually walk in our trespasses and sins

D. ORDERED BY SATAN (2b)

- Yielding to the leadership of an arrogant liar

E. OPERATING BY PASSIONS (3a)

F. OPEN TO JUDGMENT (3b)

- Living beneath the threat of doom and damnation
- John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

II. GOD'S COMPASSION (4-7)

A. SALVATION PROVIDED (4-5)

1. God's Consideration (4a)

- A divine interruption and intervention!

2. God's Character (4b)

- Rich in mercy and lavish in love

3. God's Quickening (5)

- Our rottenness and His rescue

Song: "Love Lifted Me!" v.1 [# 508 in our hymnal]

B. SITUATION GAINED (6-7)

1. Raised with Christ (6a)
 - a. God raised us up with Christ and thereby guarantees our victory over death
 - b. I Cor. 15:54-55 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"
2. Seated with Christ (6b)
 - a. Provided with the promise and hope of a heavenly home
 - b. I Peter 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.
3. Displayed as Christ's (7)
 - a. We will be "God's Grace Gallery" in eternity for all to see
 - b. "Throughout eternity the redeemed will be exhibited as the monuments of the marvelous grace of our loving Lord, who drew us from destruction's pit and raised us to heights of heavenly bliss." [William Hendriksen, "Ephesians," (Baker Book House, 1967), p. 119].

III. PAUL'S CONCLUSION (8-10)

A. SALVATION IS GRACE-DEPENDENT (8-9)

1. God's Gift
 - By His mercy and love He gave us His favor
2. Man's Gain
 - We cannot earn a gift ... only receive it.

B. SERVICE IS GOD-DESIGNED (10)

1. Our Programming
 - Any good we now do is by God's prior programming.
2. Our Preparation
 - a. Before our salvation God prepared a path for us to walk ... a path of good works.
 - b. Exp: Paul's testimony – I Tim. 1:12-17

CONCLUSION:

Have you experienced this resurrection transformation?

Have you accepted Christ's gift of salvation?

Are you rejoicing in God's grace?