

# Contra Mundum

But God...

Ephesians 2:4-10

February 22, 2015

## I. We were dead in our sins...But God...(2:4-6)

- made us alive (2:5).
- saved us (2:5).
- raised us up (2:6).
- seated us with Christ (2:6).

\*We have been united to Christ...compare 1:20-21 with 2:4-6.

## II. Saved by grace through faith (2:5-9)

- God saves sinners...while we were dead (2:5; Romans 5:8).
- Because God is rich in mercy and great in love... (2:4)
  - we are saved by grace (2:8; Romans 4:2; Galatians 2:6; Titus 3:5).
  - we are saved through faith (2:8-9).
  - we are saved unto works...holy and blameless (2:10; 1:4; 1 Corinthians 15:10; Philippians 2:12-13; James 2:17; Matthew 5:16).

## III. All to the glory of God (2:7)

- He saved us to show forth the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness.
- “To the praise of His glorious grace” (Ephesians 1:6, 12, 14; 2:7).
- God’s passion is His glory, and it is the goal of everything He does (Isaiah 48:9-11; Isaiah 43:6-7; Jeremiah 13:11; Psalm 106:7-8; Romans 9:17; Exodus 14:4, 18; 2 Samuel 7:23; Ezekiel 20:14; 1 Samuel 1:20, 22; 2 Kings 19:34; Ezekiel 36: 22-23; 1 Peter 1:12; John 14:13; John 12:27-28; John 17:1,24; Romans 3:25-26; Isaiah 43: 25; Philippians 1:9,11; 2 Thessalonians 1:9-10; Habakkuk 2:14; Revelation 21:23).
- We are to reflect that glory (1 Peter 4:11; Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 10:31; 6:20; Romans 15:7).
- To Him be the Glory both now and forevermore (Romans 11:36).

**Know:** There is hope for lost sinners. God has given grace because of His great love and united us with Christ for sake of His own glory.

**Do:** Stop living your life beneath your privilege. Live with the conviction of being united to Christ for the purpose of radiating the glory of God in all things. His glory should be our passion and our purpose! To the praise of His glorious name!

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

**Please read Ephesians 2:4-10**

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this sermon?
2. Read 1:1-2:10 out loud as a group. What phrases are repeated? Why do you think Paul repeats these phrases? How many times does Paul use the phrases ‘in Christ,’ or ‘through Christ’? What is his point?
3. What is grace? How does a true understanding of grace promote holy living?
4. In what ways does the concept of being united to Christ impact your life? Do you really believe that you are seated with Christ in the heavenly places? How does that impact your thinking?
5. How does Paul go about making the point that salvation is all about God in 2:1-10?
6. Why does man have such a hard time believing that we cannot be saved by works?
7. Respond to the idea that everything God does is for His own glory. Does this excite you or frustrate you? Why?