

“A CHANGE THAT ONLY GOD CAN MAKE”
EPHESIANS 2:1-10

INTRO: All of the Bible from Genesis 1:1 through and including Revelation 22:21 is the **INSPIRED WORD OF GOD** with every verse being **FULLY AND COMPLETELY WHAT GOD WANTS IT TO BE FOR OUR LEARNING**. But all throughout the pages of scripture we find what I often refer to as **CLASSIC TEXTS** of chapters or verses that portray tremendous truths for us to know, understand, and apply. One of those classic texts is Ephesians 2:1-10 because within those 10 verses is tremendous teaching concerning the **SINFUL DEPRAVITY OF MANKIND AND THE WORK OF GOD THAT ENABLES PEOPLE TO BE CHANGED FROM SPIRITUAL DEATH TO SPIRITUAL LIFE AND ON TO GREAT SERVICE FOR GOD THROUGH THE WORK OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE CROSS**.

I. THE CONDITION OF THE UNSAVED – VSS. 1-3

NOTE: In these verses Paul is describing the spiritual condition of all mankind apart from God. **THE CONDITION IS NOT A GOOD ONE** as we are told in Romans 3:12 which says of all humanity apart from God **“THERE IS NONE THAT DOETH GOOD, NO, NOT ONE,”** for as Romans 3:23 says, **“ALL HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.”**

A. Mankind is Spiritually Dead – Vs. 1

“DEAD IN TRESPASSES AND SINS”

-This involves being **SPIRITUALLY DEAD** and alienated from the **LIFE OF GOD**

- Romans 3:23; 6:23; Ephesians 4:18,19

B. Mankind is Spiritually DEPRAVED – Vs. 2a.

“WALKED ACCORDING TO THE COURSE OF THIS WORLD”

-This involves being **SPIRITUALLY WICKED** in character and no ability to **SAVE OURSELVES**.

- 1 John 2:15-17; 2 Corinthians 4:4

C. Mankind is Spiritually Diabolical – Vs. 2b.

“ACCORDING TO THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR”

-This involves being controlled by Satan and his forces

- John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 4:4

D. Mankind is Spiritually Disobedient – Vs. 2c.

“CHILDREN OF DISOBEDIENCE”

-This involves being totally disobedient to God apart from Faith in Christ

- Ephesians 5:1-6

E. Mankind is Spiritually Carnal – Vs. 3a.

“CONVERSATION...IN THE LUSTS OF THE FLESH”

-This involves living a totally sinful life apart from God

- Romans 8:5-8

F. Mankind is Spiritually Corrupt – Vs. 3b.

“THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH AND THE MIND”

-This involves living a complete sinful life apart from God

- Romans 1:21

G. Mankind is Spiritually Condemned – Vs. 3c.

“CHILDREN OF WRATH, EVEN AS OTHERS”

-This involves being under the wrath of God for all of eternity.

- John 3:36

II. THE CHARACTER OF GOD – VSS. 4-9

NOTE: **“BUT GOD”** directs us from the sinfulness of mankind to the working of God through His great character.

A. God is Rich in Mercy – Vs. 4a.

-This speaks of God’s **UNDESERVED KINDNESS TOWARD ALL SINNERS IN THAT HE HAS MADE PROVISION TO NOT GIVE US WHAT WE DESERVE DUE TO OUR SIN (HIS WRATH) THROUGH THE WORK OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE CROSS.** The word **“RICH”** means that **GOD ABOUNDS IN MERCY TOWARD US ALL.** Psalm 103:8-11; Lamentations 3:22

B. God is Great in Love – Vs. 4b.

-This speaks of God’s **SACRIFICIAL LOVE FOR ALL MANKIND THROUGH THE WORK OF CHRIST ON THE CROSS.** The word **“GREAT”** means **THAT WHICH IS PLENTIFUL AND OVERFLOWING IN SACRIFICIAL GIVING.** John 3:16-18

C. God is Abounding in Grace – Vs. 5-8

-This speaks of God’s **UNDESERVED ACT OF GIVING US WHAT WE DO NOT DESERVE – ETERNAL SALVATION THROUGH THE WORK OF CHRIST.**

- By God’s Grace we are Saved – Vss. 5.8
- By God’s Grace we are Raised – Vs. 6
- By God’s Grace we are Rich – Vs. 7

III. THE CREATION OF GOD – VS. 10

NOTE: As God did great things in the physical creation, He has also done great things in our **SPIRITUAL CREATION.** The verse says **“WE ARE HIS WOPRKMANSHIP”** which means **“A WORK OF ART OR MASTERPIECE”**

A. As Believers God has **“CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS”**

-New life in Christ and Christ’s life in us – 2 Corinthians 5:17; Colossians 1:27

B. As Believers God has **“CREATED US FOR GOOD WORKS”**

-Believers are **SAVED, INDWEALT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, ORDAINED OF GOD AND GIFTED TO DO MINISTRY AS A WAY OF LIFE FOR GOD FOR AS LONG AS WE LIVE.**

LESSON AND APPLICATION

- 1) Every Born again believer in Christ should rejoice in what God has saved us from and saved us to through His mercy, love and grace and be motivated to serve Him for all He has done for us.
- 2) Every non-believer should consider trusting Christ as Savior today so as to be saved from the condition of total depravity and eternal separation form God in the Lake of Fire.