



MZBMP

**TITLE:**

Ephesians 2:1-10 - Introduction to the Section about God's Workmanship

**REVIEW OF CHAPTER 1:**

- Paul greeted the believers at Ephesus (1:1-2).
- He demonstrates to them the believers' spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ - our position in Christ (1:3-14).
  - o God blessed us with spiritual blessings (1:3).
  - o God chose us that we should be holy and without blame before Him (1:4).
  - o God predestinated us unto the adoption of children (1:5).
  - o God made us accepted in the beloved - Christ (1:6).
  - o In Christ, we have redemption through His blood (1:7).
  - o In Christ, we have the forgiveness of sins (1:7).
  - o God abounded the riches of His grace toward us (1:8).
  - o God made known unto us the mystery of His will (1:9-10).
  - o In Christ, we have obtained an inheritance (1:11-12).
  - o We were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise (1:13-14)
- He then prayed for the Ephesians (1:15-22).
  - o After hearing their faith and love, He continually prays for them with thanksgiving and making mention of them (1:15-16).
  - o Paul specifically prays for the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God (1:17);
  - o That would result in enlightenment of their eyes of understanding (1:18);
  - o That they may know: the hope of God's calling, the riches of the glory of His inheritance, and the exceeding riches of His power (1:18-19).
  - o This power is according to the working of God's mighty power (1:19).
  - o God wrought the working of His mighty power in Christ:
    - When God raised Him from the dead (1:20).
    - When God set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places (1:20-21).
    - When God hath put all things under His feet (1:22).
    - When God gave Him to be the Head over all things (1:22).
  - o Christ's headship over all things is for the benefit of the church (1:22-23).

**INTRODUCTION TO THE SECTION:**

- This section contains Paul's illustration of God's workmanship.
  - o The word workmanship (ποίημα - poiēma) means a product.
  - o It is translated as "things that are made" in Romans 1:20 which refers to God's creation that was created in 6 literal days.
  - o Employing the same meaning, believers are God's creation created in Christ Jesus.
- He explained God's workmanship by illustrating the believer's past, present, and future conditions.
  - o Past Condition: 2:1-3.
    - Sinful in behavior and nature.
    - Our manner of life is according to the world, Satan, and flesh.
  - o Present Condition: 2:5-6
    - Together in Christ: quickened, raised up, and made sit in heavenly places.
  - o Future Condition: 2:7
    - God will display the exceeding riches of His grace in the ages to come.

- Between our past condition and present condition is God's intervention.
  - o Paul highlights (God's attributes):
    - That God is rich in mercy (2:4).
    - God's great love wherewith he loved us (2:4).
      - It is only because of God's mercy and great love (2:4).
      - John 11:25-26 - Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?
    - God's grace is illustrated by the gift of God (2:5, 8).
      - This section highlights that our salvation is only by grace (2:5, 8, 9).
      - Grace is God's kindness which bestows upon one what he has not deserved.
- The main verb of this section is in Ephesians 2:5 - God hath quickened the believers together with Christ.
  - o Being "dead in sin" is a strong term.
    - If we are wounded by sin, there is a possibility of healing.
    - Being dead in sins has the idea of hopelessness in our condition.
    - It shows the impossibility of being saved by any work or by our own selves (2:9).
  - o Salvation is a quickening.
    - It is life from the dead.
    - It is a spiritual resurrection.
    - It is a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17).
    - It is a new birth (John 3:3).
  - o This is also mentioned in Col. 2:13.
- Quickening the believers together with Christ is how we benefit from the exceeding greatness of God's power (1:19).
- After knowing God's workmanship in the believers, Paul commanded them to remember our past condition and to value our present condition in Christ (1:11).

2 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved);

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.