

EPH 2:8-10!

- GRACE GRACE GOD'S GRACE -

BY UNDERSTANDING:

① LIFE WITHOUT GOD - (2:1-3)

THEN:

② LIFE WITH GOD - (2:4-7) "BUT" GOD:

WE RECEIVE - THRU FAITH -

THE SALVATION OF GOD - "BY HIS" -

"GRACE"

IN VS 8-10: WE HAVE ONE OF THE
MOST CLEARLY STATED SUMMARIES
OF "THE GOSPEL"

~~SPIRITUAL~~
~~POWER~~

IT IS CENTERED IN THIS PHRASE:
STATED: ("IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD")

THIS GIFT IS MADE AVAILABLE TO US
"BY GOD'S GRACE" + WE "RECEIVE IT"
THROUGH - FAITH -

SINCE SALVATION IS A GIFT IT
"CANNOT" BE EARNED OR MERITED
OR IN ANY WAY PURCHASED -

BY ANYTHING WE CAN DO -

"SO"

I) UNMERITED FAVOR - (8-9)

IT IS "GOD'S GIFT" — "SOLELY" —
— "THROUGH FAITH" — "BY GRACE" —
"GOD'S FREE GIFT"
TO US — WHO BELIEVE —

THIS IS DISCRIMINATING — WHAT IT REALLY MEANS
TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

"BUT"
"MUCH CONFUSION OFTEN ARISES"
CONFUSION WHEN

PEOPLE BRING IN THEIR OWN —
PHILOSOPHY OWN IDEAS — & THE
MOMENT YOU DO — YOU ARE "BOUNDED"
TO BE IN TROUBLE !!!

"WE"
EITHER ACCEPT THE SCRIPTURE AS
OUR FOUNDATION — OR ELSE
— WE DO NOT —

LET US —

— JUST CONSIDER THESE STATEMENTS
HERE:

{ WE ARE TOLD "EXACTLY" "HOW WE
BECOME "CHRISTIANS" "SAVED" }

THE WHOLE STATEMENT - IN THESE
(VS 8-10)

SALVATION - IS A GIFT - IT CANNOT BE --
EARNED - MERITED - OR "PURCHASED"
ONLY GOD CAN GIVE IT -

- UNMERITED FAVOR -

A) IT IS PRESENTED POSITIVELY - ⑧

"WE ARE CHRISTIANS ENTIRELY BY
GRACE" -

THIS SAYS:

- SALVATION IS SOMETHING THAT COMES
TO US - ENTIRELY FROM GOD'S SIDE -

+

- IT COMES IN SPITE OF OURSELVES -

THAT IS:

EVEN WHEN WE WERE DEAD IN SINS!!

THEN:

PAUL ADDS: (BY GRACE YE ARE SAVED)

THIS IS STATING:

① SALVATION IS - NOT - GOD RESPONDING
ID - ANYTHING IN US -

YOU SEE:

- WE HAVE NO RIGHT OR MERIT - THAT
WOULD - "MAKE US" "WORTHY OF"
- SALVATION -

REALITY IS:

- WE DESERVED "PUNISHMENT" "HELL"
OR "BANISHMENT" OUT OF GOD'S
SIGHT FOR ALL ETERNITY -
"YET GOD"

② OF HIS OWN DESIRE -
THAT IS:

- HIS LOVE, GRACE & WONDEROUS
MERCY -

"GRANTED"

US - THIS SALVATION:

- THE ENTIRE MEANING OF GRACE -

③ IT IS PRESENTED NEGATIVELY - ④

⑤ WE ARE UNABLE TO BOAST - ⑥

⑦ THAT IT IS "NOT OF YOURSELVES" ^{THAT IS}

(LET US EXAMINE "OUR SELVES")

- ① HOW HAVE YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN? —
- ② WHAT IS IT DEPENDENT UPON? —
- ③ WHAT IS IT REASON.. YOU ARE SAVED? —

DOES YOUR IDEA OF CHRISTIANITY — GIVE ANY GROUNDS — WHAT SO EVER — FOR BEING PROUD OF YOURSELF — OR BOASTING?

DOES IT IN ANY WAY — REFLECT — CREDIT UPON YOU —

(IN ROMANS 3:27) — THIS IS PUT STILL MORE PLAINLY — PAUL SAYS:

"IT IS GOD'S WAY & WORK SO WHERE IS YOUR BOASTING" — HE ANSWERS
"IT IS EXCLUDED" — "BY WHAT LAW?"
"NO LAW" — EXCEPT:

② — "THE LAW OF FAITH" —

WHAT IS THE LAW OF FAITH?

MANY TIMES "OUR FAITH" TENDS TO COME IN & MAKE US BOAST —

— FAITH — IS TURNED INTO "OUR WORKS" —
"OUR PART" — "OF SALVATION" —

"YET"
NOT OF WORKS "SO" THIS WOULD BRING
"BOASTING"

"BUT WHAT IS THE CAUSE"

① SOURCE OF FAITH - (ROM 10:17)

"FAITH COMES BY HEARING" - THE WORD
OF GOD -

THAT IS:

- RESPONDING TO - WHAT I HEAR -

(GOD LETS THE LADDER DOWN)

② THE SALVATION OF FAITH -

MY FAITH DOES NOT CAUSE MY SALVATION

CHRIST IS THE CAUSE OF OUR
SALVATION -

THIS WOULD MAKE "FAITH" A WORK ON
MY PART -

"WHAT IS FAITH THEN"

"FAITH" IS BUT AN INSTRUMENT
THROUGH WHICH SALVATION (WHICH IS
CAUSED BY CHRIST) COMES TO ME -

"FAITH"
IS THE MEDIUM THROUGH WHICH
(THROUGH FAITH) ③

- OUR SALVATION COMES TO US -

"FAITH" IS THE "WATER PIPE" - THROGHT WHICH - THE "WATER OF LIFE" FLOWS - WITHOUT IT NO TASTE TO GOD - AND -

DOES THE "WORK OF SAVIATION" WORK IN US - (THE HOLY SPIRIT) - (ROM 8:9)

"IF ANYONE DOES NOT HAVE THE SPIRIT OF LIFE - HE IS NOT HIS"

- BOASTING MUST BE ENTIRELY EXCLUDED - (UNMERITED FAVOR) (GEN)

THE UNENDING FAITHFULNESS - (O)

- OUR BEING A CHRISTIAN - IS ENTIRELY THE RESULT - OF GOD'S WORK -

of
"WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP" (ID)

(PHIL 1:6) MY CONFIDENCE RESTS IN THAT HE WHICH HAS BEGUN A GOOD WORK IN YOU (ME) - WILL PREFERM IT UNTIL THE DAY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST -

GOD IS DETERMINED TO PUT HIS WORK IN US - (HIS LIFE PUT IN US) -

BEGIN A "GOOD WORK" -

(A) WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP - (D)

- THE BIBLE USES THE METAPHOR OF A
LUMP OF CLAY —

"GOD"
IS THE "POTTER" — "WORKMAN"

+

[WE ARE THE CLAY - THAT IS, BEING
FASHIONED — FOR HIS PURPOSE]

(R) CREATED, FOR GOOD WORKS —

① A WITNESS — (WORSHIPER)

② A TEACHER — (SINGER (SHARING))

③ A PASTOR — (MINISTERING)

④ A WORKER —

— BUILDER — COOK — GIVER —

A MINISTERING, Etc.

— HIS HANDS AT WORK —

III] -- OUR FAITHFULNESS:

"THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM"

- FAITH WITHOUT WORKS (THE RESULT OF SALVATION) - IS DEAD - (JAMES)

"THERE IS ~~NO~~ NO VALUE IN A PROGRESSION OF CHRISTIANITY - UNLESS IT IS ACCCOMPANIED BY:

- (A) A DESIRE TO BE LIKE CHRIST - - -
- (B) A DESIRE TO BE RID OF SIN - - -
- (C) A DESIRE AFTER POSITIVE HOLINESS - - -

= GOD IS WORKING IN US TO PRODUCE THIS "RESULT" -

OUR DESIRE

TO PLEASE GOD - - TO LIVE SEPARATED
UNTO HIM - - THAT WE MAY PLEASE
HIM - - WHO HAS BEGIN TO WORK IN US.

(THIS FRUIT)

"SO WALK YE IN THEM" - - LOVE;
JOY; PEACE; LONG-SUFFERING; GRATEFULNESS;
KINDNESS; FAITH; MEETNESS; TEMPERANCE -

EPH 2:11-14)

- THE BLOOD UNITES ALL MEN ~

(VS 13) "NOW" ~ YOU WHO WERE A "FAR OFF" HAVE BEEN BROUGHT NEAR ~ BY THE "BLOOD OF JESUS" ~

⑩ "NOW"
GOOD WORKS ~ MARK "GENUINE CONVERSION"
~ NOT "LAW" ~ GIVEN TO "JEW'S" ~
OR ~ "CIRCUMCISION" ~ (THE MARK
OF THE ~ ABRAHAMIC COVENANT) ~
"BUT"
THE "BLOOD OF JESUS"

THE HOLY SPIRIT ~ EMPHASIZES ~
THE GREAT ~ CHANGE ~ BROUGHT
ABOUT BY ~ CALVARY + PENTECOST

— IN THE EARLY STAGES OF THE
CHURCH ~ JEWISH BELIEVERS ~
FELT THAT THE CHURCH WAS AN
"EXTENSION OF ISRAEL" AND INSISTED
THAT THE GENTILE CONVERTS TO
CHRISTIANITY ~ SHOULD BE ~
CIRCUMCISED ~

GENTILES RESISTED ~ BITTERLY ~
"WHICH"

PAUL ~ (THE APOSTLE TO GENTILES)

HERE PUTS THIS RIGHT:

SINCE SALVATION
WE ARE THE WORKMANSHIP OF GOD
-- WHO HAS -- CREATED US AGAIN
"IN CHRIST"

"NOW
THE "PROOF" OR "STAMP" OF GENUINE
CONVERSION IS:

A LIFE OF "WALKING IN" GOOD
WORKS -- BROUGHT BY "HOLY SPIRIT"

(ALL OF CH 1-2:10) HAS EMPHASIZED
THE WORK OF THE "HOLY SPIRIT" IN
ALL -- "CONVERSIONS" --

(QUICKENED TOGETHER IN CHRIST)

BOTH JEW & GENTILE ARE "CHANGED"
IN THE SAME WAY --

"NOT"

BY LAW -- BUT -- BY GRACE

HERE:

PAUL BRINGS OUT -- THIS CHANGE! --

⑥ HE IS OUR PEACE -- -- "AND"
HAS MADE BOTH ONE --

- HE EMPHASIS THE FORMER STATE OF GENTILE & JEWS -

- THE GREAT CHANGE CHRIST MAKES OR MADE!

DISCRIBING:

① GENTILES - (11-13)

② JEWS - (15-16)

GENTILES

E) OUR NATURAL STATE -

(A) NO COVENANT WITH GOD - ⑩

THEY WERE "EXCLUDED" FROM ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

(PAST GENTILES IN FLESH) ⑩

THIS STATEMENT AT THIS POINT CARRIES A DIFFERENT MEANING FROM - "MOST N.T. USES" "USUALLY"

FLESH & SPRIT -- ARE

SELF CONTROLLED OR SPIRIT CONTROLLED

"AS NOTED"

(IN CHS) OF GALATIANS?

OR

(IN 1 COR 3) -- WHERE FLESH OR

CARNAL -- MEANS HOW WE ARE
LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE --

CARNAL (FLESH) OR SPIRITUAL --

"HERE"

PAUL IS EMPHASISING THEIR --

PHYSICAL STATE -- BEFORE SALVATION

& EVEN AFTER SALVATION --

HAS NO BEARING -- ON THEM ~~WHAT~~

OR RELATIONSHIP -- WITH CHRIST

~~BEFORE~~

PRIOR TO SALVATION --

PAUL SAYS:

YOU WERE GENTILES -- "NO WAY"

RELATED TO THE COVENANT GOD :

UNCIRCUMCISED =

(IN THE PHYSICAL)

AND WAS RECOGNIZED AS SO
BY THE CIRCUMCISED:
(IN THE PHYSICAL)

"WHICH"
PUT A DIVISION - WALL - BETWEEN
THEM -

"THIS WALL"
WAS "IN REALITY" - A COVENANT WITH
THE "JEW'S" - AND "GOD" THRU:
"ABRAHAM"

ONLY FOR "ABRAHAM'S DESCENDENTS!"
ENOT 11

ADAMS DESCENDENTS:

→ EVEN THOUGH - ALL BELONG TO
ADAM →

(B) LOOK AT THIS STATEMENT (12):

① THE GENTILES WERE

NATURAL-BORN ALIENS - &
HAD - NO PART - IN THE -
COVENANT BLESSING + SPIRITUAL

BENEFITS: "WHICH"
GOD MADE TO "ABRAHAM" "ISAAC" "JACOB"
& DAVID

THEY WERE - "CUT OFF" FROM THESE -

~~UNLESS~~

- THEY BECAME A "JEWISH PROSLEYTE" -

② THE JEWS - (CIRCUMCISED)

THE ABRAHAM DESCENDANTS HAD
THE RITE OF CIRCUMCISION WHICH
HAD SERVED AS "A COVENANTAL
SIGN" - OF THIS UNIQUE
RELATIONSHIP - BETWEEN:
- GOD & THE ISRAELITES -
"SO"

IN THE EARLY CHURCH - MANY JEWS
WHO RECEIVED CHRIST - "FELT" - THE
CHURCH - WAS AN EXTENSION OF ISRAEL
- AND THEY INSISTED - THE GENTILE
CHRISTIANS - BECOME CIRCUMCISED -
HERE;

PAUL INSISTS:

THAT - CIRCUMCISION AND UNCIRCUMCISION
UNCIRCUMCISION - HAVE OR
MAKE:
NO DIFFERENCE - IN THE
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST - AND
IS:
WITHOUT SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE

(THE CHURCH IS NOT ISRAEL)

THE CHURCH IS THE HOLY SPIRIT
IN THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER
(1:13)

LEAVING ^I "SO" OUR NATURAL STATE
WE MOVE TO:

III OUR NEW STATE - (13-14)

A DIRECT PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP
WITH GOD

TO ALL - BOTH SEW & GENTILE

ALL -- OF ADAMS RACE -- CAN BE
IN DIRECT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
-- "THEMSELVES"

"VS 18" "BUT" NOW: —

THE BLOOD UNITES US — —
"TOGETHER" (AS THE BODY OF CHRIST)

NO LONGER DIVIDED:

— JEW & GENTILE —

"BUT" "BROTHERS" TOGETHER — — IN
CHRIST —

(A) WE WERE FAR-OFF —

PRODIGALS — WAYWARD —
DWELLING IN THE FAR COUNTRY.)

"NOBODY CARED":

"BUT" CHRIST JESUS — WHO DID
SOMETHING ABOUT IT:

HE BROUGHT US NEAR TO GOD —
THRU — "BY HIS BLOOD" SACRIFICE,

UNITING ALL:
JEW & GENTILE

② NOW IN A FORGIVEN STATE: (14)
"FOR HE IS OUR PEACE"

"THE GLORIOUS NATURE" OF OUR
SALVATION

"FOR" "HE IS OUR PEACE" THIS
ONE - BY WHOSE BLOOD - WE HAVE
BEEN BROUGHT NIGHT - - - "IS"
- - - "OUR PEACE"
WITH GOD - THE FATHER

THIS IS:
ONE OF THE MOST GLORIOUS
THINGS - THAT IS SAID ABOUT
OUR THE LORD JESUS CHRIST -
ANYWHERE -

① NO LONGER SEPERATED - (14)

"I CAN GO IN & OUT" TO
FIND PASTURE =

"PEACE" WITH MY
FATHER GOD

(2) NO MIDDLE WALL -

"NO BARRIERS"

- IT HAS BEEN BROKEN DOWN -

- "THE CROSS" HAS SWEPT AWAY --
THE OBSTACLES -- CREATED BY JEWISH
- RITUALS AND LAWS -

"SO"

ALL THAT IS REQUIRED IS:

TURN TO CHRIST - & RECEIVE

HIM - INTO YOUR HEART -

"BOTH"

SEW & GENTILE - - AND YOU

BECOME -- "THE CHURCH"

-- UNITED IN CHRIST - -

[BY HIS BLOOD" - WHICH UNITES
ALL MEN]

11-14

NEXT:

- THE BODY THAT'S UNITED -
(15-18)