

EPHESIANS 2:4-7

LESSON 10

But God by Grace

1. Ephesians 2:3-4 – A Change in Position

- a. Ephesians 1 – your position in Christ. Ephesians 2 – how your position changed.
- b. Position (your place/identity) and condition (your performance/state) are different
 - i. Who you are (position) vs. what you do (performance)
 - ii. How we receive our position, and what we do with it are different things.
- c. “*in time past ye walked...*” – **notice time elements!** – regarding what you did.
 - i. Time past (were), but (now) God hath, ... ages to come – Eph 2:2,4,7
- d. “*children of disobedience/wrath*” – what you were, but something changed...
- e. “Were... but now are” - a change in position/identity - 1 Cor 6:9, Eph 5:5, Gal 5:21

2. Ephesians 2:4-5 – But God’s Mercy, Love, Grace

- a. But God chose foolish things... (you) ... 1 Cor 1:26-27, 2:10, 3:6-7 and 10:13
- b. “*even when we were...*” – when? Before we were in Christ (position) – Eph 2:1
- c. “*were dead*” = commends God’s grace, mercy, love (2:4-5), but God...Rom 6:17
- d. How were you changed? By God’s mercy, love, and grace.
 - i. What do you have? Who are you? What have you done? Nothing good.
 - ii. Mercy – To forgive, to overlook, to not give an offender what he deserves.
 - iii. Grace – The gift given to someone who does not deserve it
 - iv. Love – 1 Cor 13:7 – good will toward others: to bear, believe, hope, endure
 - v. The right cross ref to Ephesians 2:4-5 is Romans 5:6-11 & Titus 3:3-7
- e. “*were by nature*” – your position/identity was a man (Adam) – Rom 5:12, 5:18
 - i. The change from Adam to Christ is by grace thru faith – Rom 5:1-2
 - ii. The power to perform this change is resurrection – 1 Cor 15:14-17, 42-47
- f. God intervened and changed everything for you; you are now in Christ (see ch. 1)
 - i. You were a sinner, but now a saint – your position has changed – Eph 1:1
 - ii. You were dead, but now crucified in Christ – Gal 2:20
 - iii. To “lose” salvation you must get out of the body, and get Christ out of you
 - iv. Don’t take the nails out of the cross; put the body back in the tomb–Gal 6:14

3. Ephesians 2:6-7 – Where We Sit

- a. God quickened you with Christ, made you sit in Christ, will inherit you thru Christ
- b. Your place is in heaven in Christ – it is not your job to keep the reservation – it’s his
- c. “*ages to come*” – here not Israel’s earthly kingdom, but you in Christ –Eph 1:6,12,15
- d. Nothing separates you from your place because of his grace/love – Rom 8:32