

# God's Great Salvation

Three great things I see here.... **Man's great need, God's Wonderful Provision, and .. Salvation's Wondrous Result.** Ninety two times the word saved is used in the New Testament.

When God looks upon the heart what will we see? Romans 3:9-21 tells us as well as the first chapter of Isaiah! Here we see a full length portrait about what we really are prior to our salvation. Indeed it is a frightening picture of the lostness of the lost.

## I. MAN'S GREAT NEED: Eph. 2:1-3

The clearer our understanding of our destitution before our salvation the greater our appreciation of what God has given us through Christ, through His grace.

### A. Man is Dead in trespasses and Sin --

Rom. 5:12; spiritually dead, unable to understand, or possess spiritual things!

1. **We are impotent;** dead... a corpse can't see, feel, understand.
2. **We are enslaved** in sin; at home in sin.
3. **We are all are dead...** spiritually; total unable to do a single thing for ourselves,
4. not dead to natural actions,  
not dead to rational actions,  
not dead to civil actions,  
not dead to religious actions,  
but dead to moral actions/ dead to God/ dead to Christ, to the Bible, to morality, to holiness/ unable/ insensible/

### 5. **Dead -- in trespasses and sins...**

A rebel/ breaking the law of God/ habitually living in sin/ deliberately disobedient. Having the sin nature we manifest the fruit of that nature. It is an outward manifestation of our inner condition.

There are many kinds of sin and we are capable of anything; *restrained only personal pride, public opinion, selfish interest, fear of consequences.*

6. **Dead also means** -- alienated/ spiritual separation from God/ diseased unto death/ helpless/ hopeless/ a derelict/ bankrupt/ unable.

### B. We walked according to the direction of this world. vs 2a, disobedient to God.

1. conformed to the world's customs/ manner of life/
2. walking according to the course of the world in sinfulness, in wickedness.
3. He came to deliver us from this present evil age. Gal. 1:4

### C. We living in submission to the dictates of the devil. vs 2b "according to the prince of the power of the air."

1. He is the god of this world and we belonged to satan's kingdom under demonic influence and control.
2. We were satan's slave; he is a liar and the father of it (Jh 8:51); he is our adversary/ he is the perverter/ devil/ Rev. 12:9-10

### D. We were dominated by our sinful lustful nature.

1. Gratifying the flesh, corrupt, complying to the wishes of our depraved nature,
2. sin-controlled nature, our manner of life was sensual/ following pleasure mad, lust-craving throngs.

3. Our fallen nature (*Why Your Dog Does What It Does!*) He does what he does because he is a dog and we do what we do because we are wicked sinners by nature and by choice. (Psa. 51:5; 58:3)

#### **E. We are naturally children of wrath.**

1. naturally angry/ wrathful/ full of bitterness/ resentments/ hostilities;
2. in love with self we live in the bondage of sin.
3. We did not inherit holiness but instead wrath.
4. Jh 3:18 -- already condemned/ lost

**BUT GOD....**

## **II. GOD'S WONDERFUL PROVISIONS: 2:4-9**

### **A. Facts of His mercy --**

1. Is seen in His exercise of pity; forbearance; not giving us what we deserve but overflowing **abundant mercy**; Jh 3:17; I Pet. 1:3;
2. Psa. 103:8; **Love is seen in mercy and grace.**

### **B. Facts of His mercy out of His love--**

1. Who can fathom it; explain it; Rom 5:8
2. I Jh 4:9; He has compassion to children of wrath who are lost, alienated, dead, corrupt and stenchful.
3. Jh 3:16-17;

### **C. Facts of His grace --**

1. Grace gives us everything for nothing; grace sets aside my unrighteousness and my demerit and makes me righteous.
2. God owes me nothing -- but gives me all in Christ... fully, freely, all of grace.

### **D. Fact - He gives me position -- vs. 5-7**

1. Made alive in Him/ quickened/ alive with Christ. Positioned in Him... seated in Him.
2. Manifesting new life; raised up in newness of life;
3. passing from death unto life. Jh 5:24
4. Alive with Him/ dead men made alive/
5. In ages to come the saved will be the monument of His grace, the eternal exhibit of His grace.

### **E. Saved by Grace alone -- vs. 8, 9**

1. By grace are you saved through faith.
2. Entire transaction is signed, sealed and then delivered by Christ for us.
3. We **appropriate by faith**/ trust by faith/ a gift of God... to be received, Rom. 10:17;
4. **Not of works**... but of grace alone... nothing of ourselves... totally of God.
5. **By faith** -- faith that trusts, adheres, clings to, saving faith... faith that acts upon, receives, accepts the provision and provider.
6. **The work is already done**... saved by His work on the Cross. It is complete and I can't add to it and I had better not take away from it.

### III. SALVATION'S WONDROUS RESULTS: 2:10

God works are to have an important part in the life of every saved child of God for this constitutes one of the reasons why God has saved .

#### A. We are His workmanship.

1. His making, creation/ born of Him/
2. In a special sense we are a new creation by salvation,
3. *"That which is made, a manufactured product."*
4. By the Holy Spirit/ II Cor. 5:17; All is new in Him.  
Consider Lazarus who had on grave clothes, and was to be loosed and set free.  
(John 11)

#### C. We are created unto good works,

Col. 1:10 *"Being fruitful unto every good work.*  
II Thess. 2:17 *"established in every good work,*  
II Tim. 3:17 *"Thoroughly furnished unto good works,*  
Titus 2:14 *"Peculiar people, zealous of good works."*  
Titus 3:8, 14 *"Careful to maintain good works."*  
*for we are to "abound in every good work." II Cor. 9:8*

#### 1. How does this take place?

***Only by the result of a new inner life!***

- a. God's Provision for New Practice - 4:22-24
- b. God's Provision for a New walk - 4:22-24; chapters 4 and 5 of Ephesians.
- c. God's Provision for a new love -- I Cor. 13