Ephesians Lesson #8, Chapter 2:4-10

Ask God to give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him as you study this lesson.

- 1. What was our plight according to verses 1-3?
- 2. Verse 4 introduces hope into that desperate situation in which we lived. What changes our situation and why according to verse 4?
- 3. How are God's mercy and love described in verse 4?
- 4. Define *mercy* [Strong's #1656].
- 5. Why did God need to extend mercy to us? Review verse 3; Jn. 3:18; Rom. 3:23; 5:12.
- 6. When did God love you (verse 5)? What does the Bible say about how a person responds to God when they are in that state? See Rom. 1:30; 3:10-18; 5:6-10.

- 7. How does that truth from verses 4-5 impact your life and thinking?
- 8. Motivated by His love and mercy, what did God do for you (verse 5)? Why was that necessary (verse 1)?
- 9. Verse 5 explains that being made alive is the same as what?
- 10. What else has God done for us according to verse 6?
- 11. Verse 7 explains why God has done these things. What do you learn?
- 12. How is salvation a means of showcasing more of God's attributes? What attributes of God would we know about (and experience) if He did not extend salvation to us?
- 13. Something interesting about the Greek language is that the information that is most important is placed at the beginning of the sentence. What information is placed at the forefront of verse 8?

- 14. Define *grace* [Strong's #5485].
- 15. What is faith? Please define it [Strong's #4102] then look up the following verses to complete your answer: Rom. 10:8-10; 2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:1, 6.
- 16. According to verse 8 what part have you played in the salvation process? What is salvation then according to verse 8?
- 17. Why did God do it that way (verse 9)?
- 18. If you were able to boast about your salvation what would that say about God?
- 19. People often believe that they play a part in salvation, like doing good works or being a good person or even being the one to initiate salvation. What truths from verses 1-9 do they fail to consider or understand about themselves in relation to God?

If we could weep rivers of tears, out-fast Moses on the mount, if we were exact moralists, touching the law blameless, if we could arrive at the highest degree of sanctification in this life, all this would not save us, without looking to the merits of Him who is God. ~Thomas Watson¹

¹Watson, Thomas. "Body of Divinity." *Expository Preaching with Word Pictures: With Illustrations from the Sermons of Thomas Watson*, Jack Hughes, (Christian Focus Publications: Great Britain, 2001), 265.

It may be that through this lesson you have come to realize that you have placed your hope for salvation in your good deeds, in your own ability to please God, but now you realize that without Jesus Christ you have no hope of pleasing God. Call on God now for salvation. Repent of your sins, turn away from them and turn to Jesus, the only One who can save you. Salvation is a gift of God. Receive it today.

- 20. Verse 10 says that we are His *workmanship*, that we were *created in Christ Jesus*. Define *workmanship* [Strong's #4161]. Also consider 2 Cor. 5:17 and Eph. 4:24 in your definition.
- 21. What is your purpose (verse 10)? See also Ps. 102:18 and Is. 43:7.
- 22. Explain what it means to *walk* in good works.
- 23. Now take a look at what the Bible says about a believer's good works. What do you learn? See Matt. 5:16; Col. 1:10; 1 Tim. 2:9-10; 2 Tim. 2:21; 3:16-17; Titus 2:14; 3:1, 8, 14; Heb. 10:24; 1 Pet. 2:12.
- 24. Are you *walking* in your good works as described in verse 10? What attitudes or actions do you need to put on or put off so that you can live the life you were created to live?

"We are not justified by doing good works, but being justified we then do good." ~William Jenkyn²

"Salvation is the gift of God: that is to say completely so, in opposition to the notion of growth. Salvation is not a natural production from within: it is brought from a foreign zone, and planted within the heart by heavenly hands. Salvation is in its entirety a gift from God. If thou wilt have it, there it is, complete. Wilt thou have it as a perfect gift, "No; I will produce it in my own workshop." Thou canst not forge a work so rare and costly, upon which even Jesus spent his life's blood. Here is a garment without seam, woven from the top throughout. It will cover thee and make thee glorious. Wilt thou have it? "No; I will sit at the loom, and I will weave a raiment of my own!" Proud fool that thou art! Thou spinnest cobwebs. Thou weavest a dream. Oh! that thou wouldst freely take what Christ upon the cross declared to be finished." ~ Charles Spurgeon³

²William Jenkyn, *A Puritan Golden Treasury*. Ed. I. D. E. Thomas. (The Banner of Truth Trust: Carlisle, PA, 1989), 127.

³C. H. Spurgeon, *Spurgeon's Sermons: Volume 61* (electronic ed.). Logos Library System; Spurgeon's Sermons. Albany, OR: Ages Software.