

And you...But God, 1-2-3!

Main Text – Eph 2:1-8

Verse 8 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.*

To whom and to what are we saved from? To what purpose are we saved for?

Verses 1-3 *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.*

- 3-2-1
- 3 enemies with full control over humanity (Matt 4:1-11)
- 2 conditions = rebellion & sin
- 1 outcome = death
- Paul writes to the church: And you.....this is the human condition.

⁴**But God**, *who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses*

- And you.....But God....means intervention
- God reverses the order
- 1 God. Rom 5:8 & John 3:16
- 2 choices. Luke 23:39-43

3 positions (alive together, raised together & seated together)

Verses 5-8 *even when we were dead in trespasses, **made us alive together** with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶and **raised us up together**, and **made us sit together** in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God...*

Alive

⁵**made us alive together** with Christ (by grace you have been saved)

- What does it mean? What does it look like? How do I know I am alive together with Christ?
- **Col 2:13-15** *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it*
- **John 8:36** *If the Son makes you free you are free indeed*

Raised

⁶and **raised us up together**

- How was Jesus raised from the dead
- **Hosea 6:1-2** *Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up. ²After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight.*

- **Romans 8:11** *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*
- **Acts 1:8-11** ⁸ *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”* ⁹ *Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.* ¹⁰ *And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,* ¹¹ *who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”*
- What is your default position?
- Do you store the power within you, or do you use it?

Seated

and **made us sit together** in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,

- How should you live now you are part of His kingdom?
- **Colossians 3:1-3** *If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.* ² *Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.* ³ *For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.*
- Earthly vs heavenly. View life as they appear to the natural eye or to the advancement and purpose of the kingdom?

Conclusion

- God reverses the order!
- 1 God
- 2 choices
- 3 outcomes (alive together, raised together & seated together)