

Ephesians 2:1-7

In today's passage, Paul explains to the members of the Ephesian church how astounding the grace is that they have received by hearing and accepting the gospel. He vividly contrasts life before and after believing in Jesus, emphasizing the significant transformation. From a spiritual perspective, the definition of justice in life and death undergoes a profound shift. Previously, they considered living in the flesh as being alive and ceasing to breathe in the flesh as death. However, now, after believing in Jesus, they acknowledge living without God as death and living with God within as true life.

In verse 1, Apostle Paul addresses the Ephesians who lived without God, saying, "You were dead in your trespasses and sins." In verse 5, he declares, "even when we were dead in our trespasses, [God] made us alive together with Christ."

Before Believing in Jesus:

Before believing in Jesus, we, too, were spiritually dead. Why did we die? Because of sin and transgression. Death signifies a severed relationship with God, an inability to respond to God's Word, and being tossed around by the waves of life without direction. Verses 2 and 3 describe being carried away in the course of the world, under the sway of the ruler of the air, living according to the desires of the flesh. Ultimately, it portrays being under the wrath of God and spiritually dead.

Life After Believing in Jesus:

In verse 4, though omitted in some translations, the original text starts with a strong contrast using the conjunction "de," meaning "but." "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ." God, in His mercy, not only brings us to life but also raises us up and seats us in the heavenly places with Christ. Those who believe in Jesus experience the grace of being spiritually revived, raised up, and seated in heavenly places.

The challenge lies in many Christians not fully living out this transformed life. Despite believing in Jesus, they often still conform to the world, follow sinful desires, and seem more aligned with the devil than the Holy Spirit. The text suggests that the key to unlocking the secret of life, power, and joy lies in being with Jesus. The repeated phrase in verses 5 and 6 underscores that God didn't just save, raise, and seat us; rather, He did it "with Christ."

The crucial concept in understanding salvation is being united with Christ. Looking at passages such as John 1:12, Romans 6:3-4, Galatians 2:20, and John 15:5, it becomes evident that true union with Christ is vital in comprehending salvation.

**Bible
Memorization**

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

**Bible
Reading**

2/5(Mon)	2/6(Tue)	2/7(Wed)	2/8(Thur)	2/9(Fri)	2/10(Sat)	2/11(Sun)
Exodus 35-37	Exodus 38-40	Leviticus 1-4	Leviticus 5-7	Leviticus 8-10	Leviticus 11-13	Leviticus 14-15

QT

Quiet Time Passage

2/5(Mon)	2/6(Tue)	2/7(Wed)	2/8(Thur)	2/9(Fri)	2/10(Sat)	2/11(Sun)
Mark 12:13-27	Mark 12:28-34	Mark 12:35-44	Mark 13:1-13	Mark 13:14-27	Mark 13:28-37	Mark 14:1-11

**Sharing
Questions**

1. Share insights or revelations received from today's message.
2. Discuss how, as a saved Christian, you are experiencing and enjoying the life, power, and joy of the kingdom.
3. Reflect on the importance of looking to Jesus, seeking His presence within, and making a commitment to have Christ abundantly dwell within.