

The Way of Salvation

Ephesians 2:4-10

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, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Last week we looked at the fall of man into sin and death. The rest of the month we want to see what God has done and is doing to rescue us from ourselves. We were in a helpless condition without hope when God moved to save us.

This is the most important message in the Bible. It is the main message of the Bible.

When Paul wrote to the Ephesians he was writing to those with whom he had spent the most time. He had spent 3 ½ years there.

Why then does he spend so much time talking about this so very basic Christian teaching? There are several reasons, but suffice it to say that it is something that we need to keep constantly before us. For because it is so important, it is also the place where Satan often attacks.

- I. God is rich in mercy toward us.
- II. It is because of His great love for us.
- III. Made us alive.
 - A. Even when we were dead in trespasses and sins.
 - B. By grace we are saved.
- IV. He has raised us up together with Him in heavenly places.
- V. That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus