

# EPHESIANS 2 vs 1

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<sup>1</sup> **And you ~~hath he quickened~~** / notice these words are in italics... which means they were added by the translators to help us understand the text more clearly. In verse 5 we will discover the Greek word in focus: **suzoopoieo**; which means: enlivened or animated,

**And you** / when Paul says, And you... he is not finger pointing now. To the Romans he says, I am carnal... oh wretched man that I am. Notice he does not say: I was carnal... and now, I am holier than you! And he asks, Who will save me from this mess? I thank God... through Jesus Christ our Lord. Paul is writing to others now... those just learning about the power of God's Good News. He writes...



**And you being dead in trespasses** / this word is: **paraptōma**; falling; stepping over the line.

**and sins** / **hamartia**; to often err, to miss the mark. And you... with all your a-holiness and warts;

<sup>2</sup> **in time past you walked** / Paul uses this word 8 times. He's talking about a simple, daily habit: **step by step**... endlessly stepping over lines and boundaries; falling down and failing; missing the mark,

**in time past you walked... according to the course of this world** / some translate this: **the current and flow of this world**. So it could be translated: the way the world walks : missing the mark...

**according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works** / following the governing power of the ruler of the air. Are you breathing? There, he is able to influence, now energizes; working **in the children of disobedience**: in those who shouldn't be trusted.

And no, this spirit now working... he doesn't wear red tights and have a pitch fork. But, just look around. Does it really look like heaven? I mean, are those angels of mercy who are destroying lives? causing fear... and despair? Paul writes...

<sup>3</sup> **Among whom also we all had our behavior** / our being and having... what describes each of us. Centuries earlier, Isaiah wrote: ALL we as dumb sheep... had gone astray; all... without exception.

**in previous times in the strong desires of our flesh, fulfilling the will of the flesh and mind** / both good and bad strong desires... the word is: **thelema**; the same word when we pray our Father in heaven: Your will be done; Your kingdom come. Or in the garden the night Jesus was betrayed: He prayed Father, nevertheless, not My will, but Your will be done.

**fulfilling the wishes and desires of the flesh and mind** / Dr. Dallas Willard says, Read the research... about the intrusive, aggressive and involuntary thoughts... that daily, and hourly invade our minds; happening in every home and work place on every block throughout the world. There are some strong wills and desires out there, that we, in our own strength, are powerless to overcome.

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and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

<sup>4</sup> **But God, being rich in mercy, for His great love in which He loved us** / thank GOD, He is not fair, but instead, treats us with His mercy... giving us what we do not deserve! And He does that being wealthy in mercy, and generous in love!

<sup>5</sup> **even when we were dead in trespasses** / so nothing in my performance demonstrates merit; or something we have earned; since we were the living dead!

**But God, who is rich in mercy... enlivened us together with Christ – the Messiah.**

And how did God accomplish this?

by **grace** / **charis**... by grace-power; what empowers and rules God's kingdom. When God works, He works by grace. Paul speaks about grace 12 times in this little letter. It is not an abstract word. It is God's favorite message to the Church; wherever He shows up we hear : **Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ**. It is His power gifted to us right now!

**by grace you are saved** / it is always and only, by God's grace we are being saved;

<sup>6</sup> **And has raised us together, and made us sit together in heavenlies** / wow! saving us from death to life now; and have us sit down in His kingdom; Paul writes as if it's a done deal... we are already there. .

**in Christ Jesus:**

<sup>7</sup> **that in the ages coming** / some have wondered... are these **aions** coming... are these sentient, powerful beings in the heavenlies approaching? even the rebellious beings? as this call in Christ Jesus extends to all generations? If so, **It is the Lord's doing; and it is marvelous in our eyes** – **Psalm 118**.

**that to the aions coming, He might show off for Himself...**

**the exceeding treasures of His grace and His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus** / far beyond anything we could imagine, and it seems, beyond what those in eternity could imagine too.

<sup>8</sup> **For by grace you are saved through faith** / through **pistis**; and what is faith? Faithing is not just sitting around thinking and speculating. We are **pistis** powered people... and the core of our engine -- the piston... that reciprocating part... that moves all the parts, is powered by His grace;

**and that absolutely not of yourselves: it is the gift of God** / here in this verse -- as well as throughout God's Word we learn: God is One... hilariously generous Giver!

<sup>9</sup> **Not of works, lest any boast** / not because of any little checklist of things I do; or you do; nothing any man, woman or child does can save us; Paul says, if anyone is going to boast... it will be God!

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<sup>10</sup> **For we are His workmanship** / this beautiful Greek word is: **poiema**. We see our English word: **poem**. In these words, we discover our gracious God is a creative Author... still writing His story; still composing His poem... throughout all His creation. Remember: it is the Author who determines the placement of each word in His poem, since He knows best the storyline... He is creating.

**For we are His poem, created in Christ Jesus** / written in His blood,

**to good works** / and those are doing His good works. Jesus said, greater things would His people do,

**which God has previously ordained** / which God has previously planned. And this previous plan is no great mystery. Read about on the first page of His Book; He said, [Let Us make adam in Our image](#). Though the original was marred, the plan has not changed; and God is undeterred. God is going to remake men and women -- His people... in His image... who will populate His eternity forever.

**For we are His poem, created in Christ Jesus**

**to work His good, which God previously determined that we should walk in them.**

It is all His gift to us, as we join Him in His Way. We're going with Him, right?! [Every Praise](#)