

STUDY GUIDE 3
EPHESIANS 2:1-10



Life from Death

DAY 1

Read the paragraph 3 times.

Ephesians 2:1 – “As for you” refers to Gentile Christians in Asia Minor

1. In verse 1, how does Paul describe their condition in which they used to live?
2. In verse 2, what 2 ways were they following?

DAY 2

1. Using the footnotes in the NIV Study Bible for verse 2 – who is the ruler of the kingdom of the air?
NIV Footnote: “ruler”. – Satan (cf. John 14:30, “prince”).
2. How else is he described in verse 2?
3. Do you see a connection between “in those who are disobedient” and the description of their condition in verses 1 and 2 – write out the connection.

TO DIG DEEPER: Look up the cross reference in verse 2 for “the ruler of the kingdom of the air”.
(Cross references are noted by verse in the center column of the page, denoted by a small letter at the end of a word or phrase in the verse – in this case a j. The cross reference is John 12:31.)
What else is this “ruler” called?

Note that this “ruler” is no mere earthbound enemy. Read also Ephesians 6:12. Spiritual warfare will be studied more when we get to Ephesians 6.

Now look up: John 14:30; John 16:11 – what do you learn about this “ruler”?

See 2 Corinthians 4:4 and 1 John 5:19 for other phrases used to describe this being.

DAY 3

1. In verse 3, who else also lived among the disobedient?
2. What 2 ways show living in disobedience according to verse 3?
3. In verse 4 – “BUT” – what caused the difference in these people’s lives?

DAY 4

1. In verses 5 and 6 what 3 things has God done for us?
2. Note the tense of the verbs: “made” or “quicken”; “raised” or “hath raised” and “seated” or “made us to sit”. These are past tense, indicating an action done in the past with a present effect.
3. In verse 5, what was our condition when God did these three things for us?

NOTE: In physical time this was done when Jesus lived on earth,, died, was resurrected and ascended into heaven. In spiritual (or eternal) time this covers all who put their faith in God before Christ came and all who would put their faith in Christ after he came.

DAY 5

1. In verse 7 – Why did God do this for us? “In order that . . .” How is it expressed?
2. In verse 8 – What are the means by which we have been saved? (see also verse 5)

The footnote for verse 8 in the NIV Study Bible says: This is a major passage for understanding God’s grace, i.e., his kindness, unmerited favor and forgiving love. “you have been saved” – “Saved” has a wide range of meanings. It includes salvation from God’s wrath, which we all had incurred by our sinfulness. The tense of the verb (also inv. 5) suggests a completed action with emphasis on its present effect. From reading this what do you understand better about the meaning of “grace” and “saved”?

3. In verses 8 and 9 – our salvation is not from or by what two things?

Our salvation is a gift from whom?

TO DIG DEEPER: Note in the cross reference for “grace” in verse 8 it refers to Romans 3:24. Go to Romans 3:24. The cross reference for “grace” gives a list of all the verses which refer to “grace” in the same manner as in this Ephesians passage. Look up each verse and write down what you learn about grace from these verses. (John 1:14, 16, 17; Romans 4:16; 5:21; 6:14; 11:5; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Ephesians 2:8; 4:7; Titus 2:11; Hebrews 4:16)

DAY 6

1. In verse 10 we are God’s “work of art” created to do good works – this is what He has planned for those who come to Him through Christ. State how this defines who you are and your purpose in life?

2. FOR REFLECTION: If you have been a Christian (saved by grace) since you were a child it is sometimes difficult to see that you were saved from a very sinful life. The Bible calls all disobedience to God sin. Let each of us, no matter when we accepted Christ, reflect on what your life was before Christ, or what it might have been if you had not known Christ. Praise and thank God for his grace, mercy, love and kindness to you.
Pray for those whom you know need this salvation in their life.