



This is such an incredible discipleship text to help a new brother or sister in Christ to grow in their understanding of what Christ has done.

It's also such a great passage for sharing our faith with one who is seeking God as it beautifully demonstrates "one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread."



BUT GOD...
SAVED BY GRACE!

Ephesians 2:1-5



VS. 1

While there's a powerful lesson about the dangers of looking back on our old life in Gen. 19, sometimes a look back is appropriate. This looking back is not a longing for the life we once lived but an opportunity to praise God for what He lifted us from. (Ps. 40:1-3)

“As for you, you WERE dead in your transgressions...”



HOW IS THAT HOPEFUL?

It explains why all their attempts to fix themselves were in vain. Their futility of attempting to 'pull themselves up by their own bootstraps' is explained.

Dead men can't make things right.

But wait, there's more!

DEAD MAN WALKING VS. 2

Death used to be our way of life. Helpless.

Note the subtle warning about the ways of the world (John 17:13-17; 18:36) Let's not get too cozy in a place where we are defined as 'aliens and strangers.' (1 Peter 2:9-12; Heb. 11:13)

“the ruler of the kingdom of the air” - Satan



IT'S NOT JUST YOU. IT WAS ME TOO
VS. 3

“All of us...”

Well, there goes pride.

Guard against self-righteousness, “But I’ve never done that!” James 2:10

Gratifying our sin nature

Rom. 3; Rom. 13:14, Gal. 5:19-21



In that condition, we were slaves to sin (Romans 6)
and were “by nature, objects of God’s wrath”

See also Phil. 3:18-21

One of the most loving things a Christ-follower can do
is to make the lost one aware of his/her lostness. It’s
an act of grace to help someone become aware of
their true condition before God.



VS. 4

“Because of His great love...”

Isa. 53; John 3; Rom. 5:8

“Rich in mercy” Essential to the divine nature of God

So when the Enemy presses in with “How dare you show your face in church?” or “God will never forgive THAT!” or “You’re too far gone!” rest in the character and nature of God



BUT GOD... VS. 4-5

How did God – rich in mercy – demonstrate His great love for mankind?

While we were spiritually dead, He made us alive!

What an incredible act of grace!!

Even our crying out to God for mercy is only possible
because of His mercy and grace



“It is by grace you are saved!”

You did nothing to achieve salvation.

It's all His doing

John 6:28-29

Eph 2:8-9

Luke 15:11-24

Gal. 2:21