Introduction

“Our worship of God was enhanced that night, because we knew how close we had come to death.”

In Ephesians 2:1-7, Paul looks at our life without Christ in the past, our life in Christ in the present and our life with Christ in the future.

I. Before we met Christ, we were dead in our transgressions and sins. Ephesians 2:1-3

Transgressions are acts of disobedience where we crossed the line.

Sin is falling short of God’s standard of holiness.

We were dead – spiritually separated from God.

Paul is describing our life without Christ. That’s the way we used to live:

- Following the ways of this world.
- Following the ruler of the kingdom of the air, Satan.
- Following the cravings of the sinful nature.

As a result, not only were we dead to God, we were objects of his wrath.

II. But God made us alive with Christ. Ephesians 2:4-6

But God –

- Made us alive with Christ.
- Raised us up with Christ.
- Seated us with Christ in the heavenly realms.

We were as dead as Lazarus was in the tomb.

What a dead man needs is a resurrection – something only God can do.

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” John 11:25-26

Why did God save us? God saved us:
Because of his great love for us.
Because he is rich in mercy.

Love, mercy, grace and kindness are the reasons God saved us.
All of these blessings are ours in the present, but the full revelation will come in the future.

III. We will see the incomparable riches of his grace. Ephesians 2:7

God saved us so that in the ages to come, he might show us the incredible riches of his grace.
“Are you ready for new wonders today?”
It will take all of eternity for God to reveal the incomparable riches of his grace.

Conclusion

What Paul is describing in Ephesians 2:1-10 is the gospel in a nutshell.

- Life without Christ – verses 1-3
- Life in Christ in the present – verses 4-6
- Life with Christ in the future – verse 7
- How we are saved – verses 8-9
- What we are saved for – verse 10

Come to Christ and taste of his mercy and grace.