

2/16/25

Sunday service

# Liberation

Ephesians 2:1-10

The most important thing for you is to be answered by the Gospel because the blood of Christ answers every human problem. When the Gospel comes in and becomes a covenant to you, and you find it to be the answer to your life, your heart is settled, you are at peace, you don't waver, and your faith and your prayers are fulfilled. But if the Gospel doesn't answer you, you waver because you don't have an answer, but when your eyes are opened to the Gospel, you stop all this wandering, and you stand before God. Then your prayers become sincere, your heart is in it, and your mind is quieted. And then you receive a Word that stays with you for the rest of your life, and it guides you, blesses you and protects you. It heals your life and becomes your life's work, like the Bible. This Word will guide you and give you a message for the rest of your life, like Moses; it will give you the wisdom to overcome a crisis, like Noah; it will prevent the disaster of the times, like Joseph, through countless renewals and miracles. This is the kind of life reserved for anyone who has answered the Gospel.

## 1. Liberation

1. The Bible passage does a great job of summarizing the spiritual state you were in before you were saved and how you have come to enjoy the blessings of liberation. May you once again see what your salvation is and thank God for it.
2. Ephesians 2:1: "You were dead in the trespasses and sins." The Lord made you alive, and we were by nature children of wrath, following the course of the world, following the prince of the power of the air, but God, who is rich in compassion, saved you by His grace and seated you with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.
3. All of this is not your own doing but is the result of God's grace, through faith alone, so that you may proclaim to generations to come how rich in mercy He is. May you hope that today will be a time for you to give thanks once again for this amazing grace of God that was determined before the foundation of the world.
4. Because of original sin, humans are caught in a snare from which they can never escape on their own. No one can stop the snare of death and the ever-approaching problems. This was not the case before the original sin. There was no such thing before original sin as being caught up in spiritual problems and becoming a strange human being, or suicide or murder. It was unthinkable, but Cain killed his brother Abel.
5. This happens all the time now, and it's a major curse and disaster. Humans were not meant to be like this. The world wasn't like this, the environment wasn't like this. It wasn't used to blow storms or rain so much that people died or have hurricanes or anything like that. None of this happened in the Garden of Eden. All of this happened after mankind broke the covenant with God.
6. The covenant between God and man must be kept alive. The forbidden fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was God's covenant to protect mankind from Satan. If it was kept, mankind would never become a servant of Satan, nor would any disaster or problem arise. Not eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was the perfect covenant to preserve and protect mankind as they were created.
7. But the covenant was broken, and the covenant that was restored was Genesis 3:15, the offspring of the woman, and it was Genesis 3:21, the sacrificial covenant that was given as a secret to enjoy the offspring covenant of the woman. Now, mankind's whole existence depends on the covenant of the offspring of the woman.
8. Therefore, mankind must put their whole life in Jesus Christ, which is a perfect covenant that can keep them as in the Garden of Eden and, even more surely, a promise of eternal life in heaven.

9. This salvation God has given to you by His grace. For you see, we were by nature children of wrath, dead in your trespasses and sins, following the course of the world, following the prince of the power of the air, but God saved you from this curse.

10. Not by your efforts, but by God's grace, not because you wanted to, but because it was God's good work. While you were in your mother's womb before the world was made, God decided to give you this wonderful salvation. God is eternal, so He cannot change; He is omniscient, so He cannot make mistakes; He is omnipotent, so He cannot fail.

11. Therefore, His salvation for you will never fail, and no matter what you have done, God has already forgiven you, and the Bible proves this many times. It doesn't mean that you should sin, but it does mean that God never fails to save you. May you be blessed to give thanks in faith and give God all the glory.

## **2. Enjoyment, conquest, witness**

1. Everyone feels so sorry when they think of the Lord dying and shedding His blood for their sins. It is not God's will for you to be so sorry and sad that you just cry. Some people think that living a life of suffering is the way to repay the Lord. The suffering of Christ is something to be sorry for, but it is not right to try to repay it with a life of suffering.

2. Rather, it is God's will for you to enjoy the Lord's death in your heart, to be victorious, conquerors, and witnesses. However, it is a good attitude to think about the sufferings of Jesus Christ and to commit yourself to a life of suffering for Jesus Christ's sake. Colossians 1:24 says, "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church."

3. This is what the Apostle Paul confessed to the Colossian church. That he would bear with his own body the remaining sufferings of Christ, the sufferings of this Gospel movement. It's a very precious commitment, a very precious resolution in his heart.

4. In this sense of mission, it would be pleasing to God to accept suffering, but not in a legalistic, religious way, but rather in a way that you would rejoice, be grateful, glorify, and witness to this amazing death of God so that you might save many people and seek disciples who will be with you for the rest of your life.

5. His death is perfect to save you from the curse. His blood is the absolute authority that no more is needed, that no one can stop it, that it can never be stopped, no matter what the circumstances. There is authority in the forgiveness of sins that came from his death. There is power in the breaking of the curse of original sin and Satan's head, so one who receives Jesus Christ will never be caught in the fate of hell.

6. May you be answered with enjoyment and blessed with victory and conquest and stand as a witness.