

“Alive with Christ”

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Ephesians 2:1-10 (my transl.)

^{2:1} As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you walked when you followed the ways of this world-age and of the ruler over the realm of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ Among them we all also once lived, gratifying the cravings of our flesh, and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were children of wrath by nature.

⁴ But God, because he is rich in mercy, out of his great love with which he loved us, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—by grace you have been saved—⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that he might show in the ages to come the surpassing richness of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. ⁹ It is not by works, lest anyone boast. ¹⁰ For we are his work, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand in order that we might walk in them.

A. Once Dead, Children of Wrath (2:1-3)

- *The Plight of Unredeemed Humanity,
Characterized by Sinful Action.*

B. Now Alive, Children of Mercy (2:4-7)

- *The Solution from God,
Characterized by Love, Power, Grace, and Kindness.*

C. Re-Created in Christ, Saved by Grace through Faith (2:8-10)

- *The Gift of God for Life,
Characterized by Good Works.*