

5 SOLAS: SAVED BY GRACE ALONE (Eph. 2:1-9)

September 21, 2025

Text: Eph. 2:1-9

1. DOOMED BY OUR SIN (Eph. 2:1-3). The Apostle Paul paints one of the most hopeless pictures of human nature found anywhere. First, he explores the depths of our corruption as fallen humans, then later speaks of the glorious heights God takes all who trust Christ alone.

a. **Dead in trespasses and sins (V1).** Adam's original sin and disobedience to God's command back in the Garden of Eden plunged mankind into our fallen condition (Gen. 3). Death entered the world and a curse came upon creation (**Gen. 2:16-17; Rom.5:12**).

b. **Slaves to our sins (V2-3)**-We were all in bondage to the world's system that is presently

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opposed to the kingdom of God. We were slaves to the lies of Satan and to our own sinful passions and wicked impulses.

1 Jn. 2:15-17

c. **Objects of God's wrath (V3)**--All men without exception are guilty of breaking God's laws, and deserve eternal death for insulting God's character and despising His holiness. Wrath means the judgment of God against sin.

Jn. 3:36

The present aspect of God's wrath is when people reject the truth about God and their understanding is darkened (**Rom.1:21**), further

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September 21, 2025

leading to sexual perversions, lies, envies, hatred, disobedience to parents and other bad consequences (**Rom. 1:24-32**). The future aspect of God's wrath is during final judgment after death (**Rev.20:14-15**).

2. SAVED BY GRACE ALONE (Eph. 2:4-7). Here, Paul describes the amazing miracle of regeneration (i.e. giving of new life) whereby God performs a divine rescue of those lost in their sins.

a. God made us alive together with Christ(**V5**)--We are no more able to help ourselves spiritually than a corpse is able to improve its condition.

2 Cor. 5:17

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September 21, 2025

b. God freed us from slavery to sin (V6)--God has set us free from the bondage of sin to act righteously and serve God effectively in this world.

Ezek. 36:26-27; Rom. 6:14

c. God makes us recipients of grace (V6-7). Christ took the Father's wrath on Himself at the cross so that we could be forgiven, favored and accepted forever by trusting in Christ alone.

Luke 23:39-44

How should we respond to God's grace?

>By Faith (Eph.2:8-9).

>With gratitude and glory (Ps. 136:1; Ps. 115:3).