

Were it not for Grace
Ephesians 2:8-10

I. Intro

- A. Were it not for God's grace, I would be lost and hopeless.
 - 1. God has saved me by His grace.
 - 2. He has called me by His grace
 - 3. He has empowered me by His grace
 - 4. He also heals me by His grace, corrects me by His grace, and blesses me by His grace.
- B. Were it not for grace, I'd have nothing to offer the world other than selfishness and anger, Guilt and shame.
- C. But, I am not lost in my sin!
- D. You too can have the assurance of God's grace speaking life into your weariness.

II. Text

- A. Verse 8
 - 1. By Grace you have been saved
 - 2. Through faith
 - 3. Not of works
 - 4. Its a gift
- B. Verse 9: so that no one may boast:
 - 1. καυχάομαι: Kow-how-my,
 - 2. From a root word that is translated "to wish"
 - 3. But defined in this for as "to glory"
 - 4. If we could save ourselves, we would be so focused on ourselves, we would be wishing for glory.
- C. Verse 10
 - 1. We are His workmanship
 - 2. Created in CHRIST
 - 3. To do the good work He established for us before time existed.
 - 4. The walk of the faith life is an exciting, grace-filled, faith empowered journey!

III. Points

- A. By Grace Alone
 - 1. Last week I traveled
 - a) Destination: Levelland, Texas
 - b) I traveled to my destination in a specific way, I would not have accidentally arrived there.
 - c) I traveled BY CAR, THROUGH Lubbock (and 400 other cities in this beautiful state.)
 - 2. Grace is the vehicle that delivers us to our place with Christ, Faith is the path we travel.
 - a) Grace is a gift of God
 - b) And without Grace, there would be no Faith.
 - c) Faith begins with a simple act of stepping out, and continues with a million other steps
 - 3. Believing on the Lord Jesus for salvation is not a work unto salvation, but what is produced by God's grace.
 - 4. Grace takes us places, through faith:
 - a) [Phl 1:29 ESV] 29 For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake,
 - b) How do I know that I have received God's grace? Through Faith!
- B. Through Faith Alone
 - 1. Faith is:
 - a) Assurance of the unseen

- b) Something we grow in
- c) [Heb 11:1 ESV] 1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
- 2. Faith alone grants us access to the grace of God, it is His plan.
- 3. There is no other path, no other religion, no other way...Just Faith
- 4. All the science and study will eventually require faith
- 5. All the questions will not be fully answered, there will be a mystery to the solution:
 - a) I can explain a car engine
 - b) A 4 stroke piston: 1st allows gas in, 2nd compresses gas, 3rd power stroke from ignited compressed gas, and 4th release exhaust.
 - c) That explosion produces power, that is converted to usable power through a series of cams and gears.
 - d) But what I can't get to the bottom of...fire
 - (1) I can see it
 - (2) I can use it
 - (3) But I still don't understand it...powerful and destructive...useful and dangerous.
 - (4) It is a wonder, but I believe in it.
- C. In Christ Alone
 - 1. Christ is the ultimate Gift of God
 - 2. We find this gift available to us by GRACE through FAITH
 - 3. It is in this gift alone
 - 4. [Act 4:12 ESV] 12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."
- D. For the Glory of God Alone
 - 1. We are created in Christ to do good works
 - 2. Which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
 - 3. [Isa 43:6-7 ESV] 6 I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, 7 everyone who is called by my name, **whom I created for my glory**, whom I formed and made."
- IV. Close
 - A. You and I were created for so much more than this world has to offer.
 - B. We are blessed, we are gifted, we are sent with power.
 - C. God is so good

[Eph 2:8-10 ESV] 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.