



Poema
"From Death to Life"

Ephesians 2:1-10

The work of Christ for the salvation of all those who by faith believe in His death, burial, and resurrection is unsearchable, yet knowable. It is theologically complex, yet experientially simplistic.

It was predestined from eternity past by the Father; executed by the Son in the past historically; lived out through the believer by the Holy Spirit in the present with purpose; and will come to its complete glorified reality in the future. Salvation is complete in Christ alone. Man is fully incapable of a resurrection from his spiritual death.

In Ephesians 2:1-10, Paul clarifies what it means to receive salvation and to be a part of Christ's body, the church. In these verses, Paul moves from eternity past into time. He describes the act and process of our salvation and points specifically to the power behind the miracle of spiritual resurrection.

Two principles that describe the power of our salvation:

➤ ***Christ has raised us from SPIRITUAL death. (Ephesians 2:1-3)***

The basic trouble is not being out of harmony with our heritage of the environment but rather it is being out of harmony with God. Our principal problem is not that we can't have meaningful relationships with other human beings but that we can't have a right relationship with God because of our sin.

Man's sinful condition has nothing to do with the way he lives; it has to do with the fact that he is dead even while he alive. There is no response to spiritual things because sin brings spiritual death.

Throughout history people have varied greatly in their levels of human goodness and wickedness. But in relation to achieving God's holiness they are equal failures. That is why a good, helpful, kind, considerate, self-giving person needs salvation as much as the murderer, rapist, terrorist or person on death row.

➤ ***Christ has restored us to LIFE and PURPOSE (Ephesians 2:4-10)***

Salvation is all of God and comes from God. He initiates His saving grace through the working of the Holy Spirit. Our minds are enlightened to understand and comprehend His great love for us that was demonstrated by dying on the cross for our sin. God is driven by a divine love that the world has no clue of how to grasp without the working of the Holy Spirit. He is actively working to literally resurrect people from spiritual death.

When we had no capability of breathing spiritual life – He breathed His Spirit into our dead souls and raised us not only from spiritual death, but raised us to a new life in Christ.

Grace provides mankind with the opportunity to be saved – this is a gift from God. Faith is the means by which salvation is appropriated – this is a gift from God. Lest faith should be misinterpreted or misunderstood as man's part in the salvation of his own soul, Paul says, “...**And this is not your own doing...**”

The whole process comes from nothing that we have done or could do...including faith. Many people think that the grace is from God and faith is from man. BOTH grace and faith are a gift from God. If it were true that faith is man's part, then we are not “...**dead in trespasses and sins...**”

Believers are the **poiema** “master piece” of God's program of salvation – the church is the present and eternal display of His greatness and immeasurable power. Even the works we do are by His power.

It is from the word **poiema** that we get poem, a piece of literary workmanship. Before time began, God designed us to be conformed to image of His Son, Jesus Christ. And each day, He is performing in us what He began in us. His work will not cease until we are fully restored to our original sinless state in the likeness of Him who made us.

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