

# We Are Glad *You* Are Here

Sunday, June 28, 2026



sermon: "The Blessing of Great News" - Ephesians 2:1-7

**Big Idea: Into our darkness, God shines His light of grace, hope and salvation in Messiah Jesus.**

- I. The Bummer of Bad News (vv. 1-3)
  - A. The great news is so great because the bad news is so bad (v. 1)! These verses describe our empty former way of life and dead spiritual condition apart from Christ. Paul's point here is to help us see the beauty and majesty of God's grace by contrasting it against the darkness of sin and disobedience (vv. 4-7).
  - B. Prior to putting our faith in Christ, we made decisions based on:
    1. The influence of the world (v. 2; cf. 1 Jn. 2:15-17) – Its values, opinions, mores, etc.
    2. The influence of Satan (v. 2; cf. 2 Cor. 4:3-4).
    3. The influence of the flesh (v. 3; cf. Gal. 5:19-21).
  - C. Paul is not pulling any punches here; he makes it clear that our situation apart from Christ was bleak, full of darkness, and without hope. But God in His mercy and grace did not leave us in that state...
- II. The Blessing of Great News (vv. 4-7)
  - A. The great news is that even though we were dead in our sins, God, in His love, mercy, and grace, reached out to save us through Christ (vv. 4-5). This is at the heart of the Gospel, that Messiah Jesus took our sin so that we could be made righteous in God's sight (cf. 2 Cor. 5:21).
  - B. When we were in desperate need, God came through and we see that:
    1. God took the initiative (vv. 4-5; cf. Rom. 5:8).
    2. God made us alive in Christ (v. 5; cf. Col. 2:13-14).
    3. God raised us up with Christ (v. 6; cf. Col. 3:1).
  - C. Out of His grace, God has brought us into His family and given us a seat at His table with Jesus (vv. 5-7). Our response to this should be a praise that brings Him glory and a Christlike attitude and behavior that displays the Good News of Jesus Christ to all (1 Tim. 1:12-17).

COME AS YOU ARE, BECOME WHO GOD MEANT YOU TO BE.

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