

## SAVED BY GRACE BUILT FOR PURPOSE

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May 24, 2026



*Ephesians 2:8-10 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- <sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (NIV=New International Version)*

### A. THIS IS THE GOSPEL IN 3 VERSES

1. What is grace?
  - Unmerited favor
  - Getting something we don't deserve
  - A gift, something you can't earn and something you can't repay
2. What is mercy?
  - Not receiving something we do deserve
3. What is faith?
  - Faith consists of belief and trust. It is the invisible hand that reaches out and grabs ahold of God's truth and brings it into our life.

*Verse 8 "For it is by grace you have been saved,..."*

### B. SAVED FROM WHAT? SAVED TO WHAT?

1. You're saved from death:

*Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our lord." (NIV)*

*Hebrews 2:14-15 "Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that by His death He might break the power of Him who holds the power of death-- that is, the devil-- <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death." (NIV)*

*John 5:24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life." (NIV)*

- Jesus didn't come to make bad people good \_\_\_\_\_
- Christianity isn't about morality, it's about \_\_\_\_\_

*John 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (ESV=English Standard Version)*

- Morality is a result of your relationship with \_\_\_\_\_

2. You're saved from hell:

*2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 "He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. <sup>9</sup>They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord...." (NIV)*

*Matthew 25:41 "Then He will say to those on His left, 'depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.' (NIV)*

This is the heart of God:

*Ezekiel 18:23 "Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? Declares the Sovereign Lord. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live?" (NIV)*

*Ezekiel 18:31-32 "Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the sovereign Lord. Repent and live!" (NIV)*

3. You're saved from the power and bondage of sin:

- We are not obligated to live under the bondage or control of sin any longer!

4. You're saved from the stain, guilt and shame of sin:

*Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, let us settle the matter," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are crimson, they shall be like wool." (NIV)*

*Psalms 103:10-12 "He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup>For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; <sup>12</sup>so far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us." (NIV)*

*Hebrews 8:12 ..."For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more" (NIV)*

- The blood of Jesus cleanses our conscience from the guilt and shame of sin!

### C. WHAT HAS HE SAVED US TO?

- He has saved us to a \_\_\_\_\_ with Him forever

*Romans 8:14-16 "For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. <sup>15</sup>The Spirit you receive does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again (of death); rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba Father." <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are now God's children." (NIV)*

*John 1:12-13 "Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God-- <sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God." (NIV)*

### D. SO HOW DO YOU GET SAVED?

- By grace \_\_\_\_\_ faith!

The saved life produces a new person, a new creation (II Corinthians 5:17) who is being formed into a masterpiece of God, which then produces a new life filled with the works of God.

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