

Ephesians 2:1-9

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 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.

Today: January 29, 2023

Today's Order:

- Welcome & Reading; Ephesians 2:1-9
- O' Great God
- Corporate Prayer: A Present Salvation
- Show us Christ

Teaching of the WORD:

Foundations: Genesis 3:5-24 – Ian Smith

Worship through Giving

- There is One Gospel
- Before the Throne
- Now to Him

Upcoming Events:

Sermon Topics and Events:

January 29; Foundations Gen 3:5-24 (Ian Smith)

February 5; Foundations Genesis 2:2-24 part 2

February 12; Foundations Genesis 7:1-16

February 15 & 22 Growing Together Series; See below

**Fellowship Dinners

Please check out <https://vineandbranch.family/> for a more detailed calendar of events and to access previous sermons.

THE WORKSHOP: Men's Bible and Character Study. This is an ongoing study that will meet the FIRST Sunday morning of every month at 7:30 a.m. Meeting location is at Robb Besosa's woodshop located at 460 Salt Creek Road. Next Meeting: February 5th 7:30am.

GROWING TOGETHER: This will be a two week mini-series, Wednesday nights 7pm; February 15 & 22. We will be encouraged to grow in our ability to serve the Church through the gifts God has entrusted to each one of us.

⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." Philippians 1:9-11

God made the Universe in 6 days. He ordered and filled all that He made. At the end of the 6th day God saw it all and declared it VERY good. On the seventh day, God rested. In the Fall, we learn how the perfect state of creation became corrupted.

THE WORLD AS IT ONCE WAS

What was the providence of God toward man in the state in which he was created?

...placing him in paradise, appointing him to tend it, giving him freedom to eat of the fruit of the earth; putting the creatures under his dominion, and ordaining marriage for his help; giving him relationship with himself; instituting the sabbath; entering into a covenant of life with him...

Gen 3:1 *Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made...*

The serpent is identified as "Satan" later in the Bible. *Satan* is a Hebrew term for *adversary, one who resists, accuser or challenger*. In this way, *Satan* is not a name but a title.

THE BAD NEWS - The Fall

"Did God really say..." The purpose of this first question is to sow doubt onto the truthfulness of God's word.

Gen 3:6 - Eve fostered her fixation with another look, which resulted in an increase of *craving* – and eventually *caving* in to the temptation. Then Adam failed his duty as head of his household. He sinned by eating the fruit, and also in his failure to protect and defend Eve.

Rom 5:12 *"Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned..."*

CONSEQUENCES

A permanent separation between God and man was formed. They were immediately ashamed, and tried to hide. They evaded responsibility and shifted the blame.

Death: Mankind died spiritually, and eventual physical death was now a certainty.

We inherited the sinful nature from the first parents, and it's been passed all the way down to this day. We lost the fatherhood of God and became children of the devil. Why is this a problem? Because God is Holy; sin cannot exist in His presence. He MUST punish sin because He is perfect - consistent and impartial.

THE CURSE

ADAM	Relationship to: God	EVE	Relationship to: God, Adam
	Job: To order (tend, subdue) the earth		Job: To help Adam, fill the earth with God's image
	Curse: The earth was cursed to rebel against him, his part of the mandate made painful, difficult		Curse: Woman's relationship with God and man, her part of the mandate was made painful, difficult

Results: Corruption of Creation, Inversion of God's hierarchy, Decreasing God's image on the earth

THE GOOD NEWS - Salvation through Jesus for God's glory

God and he chose to save us so that He would be glorified - The promise of future defeat of the serpent by the woman's offspring (Jesus)

God doesn't need more glory. He owns all glory already. He wants us to point to, worship, and praise Him - making His glory known to all

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

1. Don't dwell or take a closer look at sin. *"...and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil"*
2. Creation was corrupted and humanity was separated from God to a life of misery
3. God can use evil for his good purposes
4. God is sovereign, all powerful, and all knowing