

The Gift of God.

Please read Ephesians 2v1-10.

In v1-3 the Apostle Paul tells the Ephesians (and us) that,  
*“Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation (way of life), in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.”*

We are clearly told that we are by nature fallen into sin and selfishly please ourselves.

Naturally we are the enemies of God and deserve His eternal wrath.

V1 tells us that God quickened the Ephesian believers so that they could respond in the right way giving them faith to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

So, our works cannot save us from the guilt of our sin.

By works we mean anything we try to do to please God. Obviously, we must try to obey His Law as clearly stated in the 10 Commandments. God requires absolute perfection in this. But because we cannot do this perfectly, we fail to please God. Our scripture passage in Ephesians 2v8 and 9 tells us of God’s wonderful Gift of Faith,  
*“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

*Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

However hard we try to be religious and please God we are not accepted by God.

We need the Gift of Faith as mentioned in Ephesians 2 v8.

With this Gift come the quickening power of God to renew our spiritual ability so that we can repent and believe.

This quickening awakens our conscience, such that we hate our sin and desperately want to be forgiven.

V4-7 tells us, *“But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.”*

In John 3v18-18, we read that, *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”*

So, let us appreciate the wonderful Gift of God, His love and mercy in sending His Son to be our Saviour.

Behold, now is the Day of Salvation.

Come to the Saviour now.