

TRUTH

REALITY

MEANING

PURPOSE

HOPE

The Nature of Humanity *and* True Grace

Ephesians 2:1–10

*“Your word
is truth.”*

JOHN 17:17

Dr. Christopher Cone
drcone.com / agathonu.com

Created in God's Image

God gives humanity its value.

Created in His image

Our identity originates
with our Creator.
Genesis 1:26–27

Human life remains sacred

God affirms its value
after the Fall.
Genesis 9:5–6

God-given value precedes human achievement.

Genesis 1:26–27; 9:5–6

The Shared Value of Humanity

Male and female

Together bear God's image
Fellow heirs of the grace of life

Every people and culture

Share a common human origin
Possess God-defined value

Difference gives no basis for superior human worth.

Every person deserves honor.
Every person needs grace.

Genesis 1:27; 1 Peter 3:7; Revelation 7:9

Dead in Trespasses and Sins

DEAD

“in your trespasses and sins”

Active in life. Fallen in nature. In need of God.

The human need reaches deeper
than improved behavior.

Ephesians 2:1; Romans 3:9–20; 5:12

The Former Walk

“you formerly walked”

The course of this world

The patterns and values
that shape a fallen way of life

Our worldview shapes what we pursue
and how we treat others – our nature, moreso.

Ephesians 2:2

The spirit of disobedience

Spiritual influence operating
within human disobedience

We Too All Formerly Lived

“we too all formerly lived”

Desires of the flesh

What we pursue

Desires of the mind

What we think and will

By nature children of wrath

Our shared condition

Remembering our own need
leaves no place for superiority.

Ephesians 2:3

But God

BUT GOD

Rich in mercy

Great in love

The saving initiative belongs to God.

Ephesians 2:4

Made Alive With Christ

01

**Made alive
with Christ**

02

→ **Raised
with Him**

03

→ **Seated
with Him**

God acts while we are dead in transgressions.

Our new standing rests
on His work in Christ.

Ephesians 2:5–6

The Riches of His Grace

In the ages to come

The surpassing riches of His grace
in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus

Salvation displays the character
of the God who saves.

Ephesians 2:7

By Grace You Have Been Saved

BY GRACE

“you have been saved”

God provides what we cannot accomplish.

Salvation rests on His gracious provision.

Ephesians 2:8

Through Faith

THROUGH FAITH

Christ's provision

Sufficient for the whole world
1 John 2:2

Faith receives what God provides.

Ephesians 2:8; John 3:16; 6:47

Personal reception

Life received through belief in Him
John 3:16; 6:47

God's Gift and the Exclusion of Boasting

The source

God's gift

The basis

Apart from works

The result

No ground for boasting

Grace produces gratitude toward God
and humility toward people.

Ephesians 2:8–9

We Are His Workmanship

“we are His workmanship”

Created in Christ Jesus

God’s saving work gives believers
a new foundation for living.

Ephesians 2:10

Created for Good Works

Verse 9

Works do not secure
our salvation.

Verse 10

Good works belong to
the purpose of our new life.

Position undergirds practice.

We live from the mercy
we have received.

Ephesians 2:9–10; Titus 3:5–8

Good Works in Our Relationships

Honor people

1 Peter 2:17

Serve humbly

Philippians 2:1–11

Do good to others

Galatians 6:10

Onesimus: received as a beloved brother.
Philemon 16–17

Ephesians 2:10; Galatians 6:10; Philemon 16–17

That We Would Walk in Them

“that we would walk in them”

01

**Seek
wisdom**

02

→ **Follow revealed
instruction**

03

→ **Use entrusted
opportunities**

Faithful stewardship
within God’s sovereign care.

Ephesians 2:10; James 1:5

The Whole Movement of Ephesians 2:1–10

Verses 1–3

Our fallen condition and former walk

Verses 4–7

God's merciful action in Christ

Verses 8–9

Salvation by grace through faith

Verse 10

His workmanship and our new walk

How should this change our view
of ourselves and other people?

Ephesians 2:1–10

True Grace and the Life We Now Live

Our value God gives humanity its value.

Our need Sin explains our need.

Our salvation Grace explains our salvation.

Our purpose His workmanship gives our new life its purpose:
doxology through relationship and transformation.

A former walk in sin.
A new life intended for doxology.

Ephesians 1, 2:10

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