

Sunday 15 July 2018

Speaker: Martin Armstrong



To Be A Transforming  
Community Committed  
to Jesus Christ

Sermon Summary

Ephesians 2:1-10

God's Grace and Mercy

1. Verses 1-3 outline the contrasts between man's condition by nature and his position in Christ (verses 4-10). In what sense had Paul's readers once been spiritually dead? What loyalties had they formerly held? What actions had characterized them?
2. Like the illustration of how an Inuit kills a wolf, Paul says that we were consumed by our own lusts. Give some examples of how this can happen.
3. Amazing changes have occurred in the lives of the people Paul is writing to. What? When? How? Why? and by whom? In verses 5-8 what is referred to as past? As future? and as present? What are the main differences between vrs 2:4-6 & 1:19-20.
4. Share a foolish mistake you made in the past and how you were let off the consequences (shown mercy).
5. What does Paul teach here about the nature and purpose of our salvation (verses 8-10)? Although good works can never make us right with God, what is their place in the Christian life?
6. Why is it wrong to try to earn our salvation by doing good works? What does such thinking suggest about God? About humankind?
7. Paul says in v10 "*that we are God's masterpiece*" This title is reserved for those who have been remade by the Spirit of God! Why are we so special? Do you see yourself as "God's masterpiece?" How would it change your character if you did?
8. What do the terms '*his workmanship*' and '*created in Christ Jesus*' suggest as far as Christian's taking credit for any of the good works that we do after we become a Christian?
9. We cannot earn our salvation. Paul makes it clear that it's an eternal gift from God. It's because we haven't earned it, that it can't be taken from us. Discuss
10. What is the main thing that Paul want his readers to know about Jesus Christ and about their relationship to him?