

/Hello./ We will now begin with the third lecture on the prison epistles.

/Today's Word is Ephesians chapter 2./ The title of this chapter is "Grace." / First, the acts of believers before they were saved./ Verses 1-3./ Second, faith and salvation are gifts from God./ Verses 4-10.

/Third, reconciliation through the precious blood of Christ. / Verses 11-19. / Fourth, construction of a holy temple. / Verses 20-22.

/Let us look at the first point./ The acts of believers before they were saved. Verses 1-3.

/Verse 1 says, "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins."

/Here, the word "you" refers to the believer./ It says, "you were dead in your transgressions and sins."

/The definition of "sin" is "to miss the target."/ "Fault" means "to stray from the right path."/ Before God, a small mistake or a fault is all sin./ Sin is classified into original sin and actual sin.

/Original sin can be classified into condemnation and inherited sin./ "Condemnation" came from Adam when he ate the forbidden fruit./ As the representative of mankind, he sinned by violating the contract between him and God.

/Thus, all men were condemned through Adam./ /Just as one national athlete represents his or her country,/ all men became sinners through Adam because he sinned as a representative of mankind.

/This is "condemnation."/ Thus, human beings were condemned before God./ Next, "inherited sin" is Adam's sin and corruption that did not end with him but were passed down to his descendants.

/Therefore, all of mankind, born as descendants of Adam, is born with corruption. /Psalm 51:5

/Next, actual sin is classified into voluntary sin and a required sin./ "Voluntary sin" refers to sin committed with one's will./ It is also sin committed by defying the Bible and doing evil.

/“Required sin" refers to man's failure to measure up to the requirements of God even though he did not do evil./ Therefore, even if man did not commit any sins, if he is not able to measure up to the will of God, he has committed a required sin.

/In this way, sin is classified into original sin and actual sin. / Also, original sin is classified into condemnation and inherited sin. / It says, you were dead in your transgressions and sins.

/“Dead" means that man is born with a dead spirit. / It means that the soul is born dead./ We were dead in our transgressions and sins before we believed.

/However, we have been saved in Jesus Christ./ To be born dead refers to the dead spirit./ It refers to not knowing God and being separated from him.

/The spirit is dead when it breaks away from God, who is life./ Thus, John 3:5 says, / "No one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit."

/John 5:25 says, / "the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God." / It says that in that time, those who hear the voice will live. / "The dead" refers to the dead spirit.

/Also, John 5:24 says, / "whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned."/ It says, "he has crossed over from death to life."/ Therefore, this verse testifies that man's spirit is dead before he believes in Jesus Christ.

/When Adam sinned, his spirit immediately died./ When Adam believed in the coming Christ, his spirit was reborn./ The spirits of believers are born again by water and the Holy Spirit. / To be born again means that the dead spirit comes back to life.

/When the dead spirit comes back to life from spiritual death, it is transferred to a spiritual life./ When our spirits are reborn, our entire spirits gain life.

/Verse 2./ in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

/Here it tells us that before believers believed in Jesus and when their spirits were dead, they lived in sin./ Before we believed in Jesus, we followed the ways of this world.

/The ways of this world belong to the devil./ It is a custom that defies God. / Believers also followed the ways of this world and superstitious customs before they believed in Jesus Christ.

/Also, it says they followed the ruler of the kingdom of the air. / "Kingdom of the air" refers to a spiritual realm./ The ruler of the spiritual realm symbolizes the devil. / The devil controls the spiritual realm and deceives many people.

/It also says, "the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient."/ The devil works in those who are disobedient to the Word of God.

/When believers disobey the Word of God, the devil is at work in them. /They could also become slaves of the devil.

/Verse 3./ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

/In this way, believers lived in darkness before they believed in Jesus Christ, were slaves of the devil, and followed their sinful desires./ We followed our sinful desires./ We lived by

doing what the flesh desired.

/Because man is completely depraved and corrupted,/ there is nothing good in him./ Because we lived in corruption and followed the old self, we were naturally children of wrath who could not avoid the wrath of God.

/Therefore, we believers must remember who we were before we believed in Jesus, and we must repent of our sins every day./ The apostle Paul remembered his persecution of the church in the past and repented daily.

/That is why Paul always said in humility that he was the least among the saints. / We must also always be humble by asking these questions, “What kind of person was I before I believed in Jesus Christ?” and “how corrupted was I?”

/As it says in verse 3, we must not forget the sins we committed in the past./ Even though we have already repented and been forgiven, we must constantly remember and repent so that it would be the foundation of our faith.

/Faithful believers repent of their sins and live with humility.

/Now, we will go on to the second point./ Faith and salvation are gifts from God./ Verses 4-10./

/Verse 4./ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,

/Regarding our salvation, it says he saved us "because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy."

/Next, verse 5./ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions-- it is by grace you have been saved.

/God made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions./ We also received salvation by grace./ God saved us in Jesus Christ, and our spirits were reborn.

/Therefore, our reborn spirits live in unity with Jesus Christ. /Here, “it is by grace you have been saved” is written after a dash.

/This explains that salvation does not come from man’s deeds but solely from the grace of God.

/Verse 6./ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

/Therefore, it says that God raised our dead spirits with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms./ It means that God gave our dead spirits new life so that we could be born again.

/It says, “made us alive.” / This means that God continually clothes us with Christ’s life and power.

/It also says, “seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.”/ The reborn spirits of believers have been reborn with unity with Christ, and we have been clothed with Christ’s life and power in our faith.

/The believer who has been united with Christ must always live in a spiritual world with Christ.

/Verse 7./ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

/Here it speaks of the purpose of God's salvation for us./ It says that God will show us the incomparable riches of his grace all throughout eternity./ This is the purpose of God’s selection of his people.

/Romans 9:23./ The purpose of God in choosing us was to show his mercy and grace all throughout eternity.

/Therefore, we believers must always glorify God and show his love to all people.

/Verse 8./ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--

/It says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith."/ Therefore, salvation does not come from man’s deeds but is a gift freely given by God.

/Man receives salvation by faith alone./ This is the gift of God./ If anyone adds another condition here, it will become a "different gospel."/ There is a false teaching that claims that our salvation comes from belief in Christ and penance with our bodies.

/We Protestants claim that salvation comes from faith alone./ If someone claims that salvation is 99% faith and 1% action he is wrong.

/Just as the Bible says, “the righteous will live by his faith," salvation is obtained by faith alone./ A cult that entered in the church of Galatia insisted that one can only receive salvation through circumcision even if he believed in Jesus.

/The Seventh-Day Adventists claim that salvation is obtained by keeping the Sabbath./ Heretic missionaries claim salvation is obtained through belief in Jesus and through olive trees.

/Like these, anyone who claims that we must believe in other things aside from Jesus Christ or say we must do certain things in order to be saved, he is proclaiming a “different gospel.” /

Galatians 1:6-9./ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

/Faith is a gift from God./ This gift is for the chosen people./ Thus, there is no good in us, but everything is a gift from God.

/Salvation is given solely by the grace of God./ God has also given faith to his chosen believers so that they would be saved./ "Chosen people will be saved" and "Whoever believes will be saved," do not contradict each other.

/When God gives faith, he gives it to the chosen believers./ The chosen believers are saved because they believe in Jesus Christ./ This is the gift of God.

/Verse 9./ not by works, so that no one can boast.

/If we receive salvation by our good deeds and actions, we have something to boast about./ However, because salvation comes from the grace of God, we have nothing to boast about./ We can only thank God for his grace.

/Verse 10./ For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

/Believers are God's creation. / Colossians 3:10./ When God allowed us to be born again by water and the Holy Spirit, he created a new creation./ It says, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works."

/Believers must do good works in Christ Jesus. / What are "good works?" /First, it refers to the moral line./ Second, it is to achieve the will of God.

/Third, it is works that save lives./ We believers must be moral, obey God's will, and be faithful in saving the lives of others.

/It says, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works."/ Our reborn spirits grow when we strive to do good works./ The kingdom of God and his righteousness is gradually fulfilled.

/Now, let's discuss the third point./ Reconciliation through the precious blood of Christ. / Verses 11-19.

/Verse 11./ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)--

/Members of Ephesus were Gentiles in the flesh./ They were not from Israel./ In regards to circumcision of the flesh, they were uncircumcised. / They were not circumcised in the flesh.

/Verse 12. / remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from

citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

/They were separate from Christ because they did not believe in Him./ Also, they were not the Israelites but were Gentiles./ They were aliens to the promise of the covenant because they believed.

/Also, they were hopeless in regards to salvation./ They were without God./ They were apart from God, oblivious to him, and they belonged to the devil.

/These believers in Ephesus had now become believers in Jesus Christ and the children of God.

/Verse 13./ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

/The Gentiles were separated from the Israelites before Christ's coming, but now they were brought near through the blood of Christ.

/They now became brothers who served one Father through the blood of Christ./ Here, it speaks about the reconciliation of Jews and Gentiles.

/Verse 14./ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,

/It says, "he himself is our peace."/ The Lord made Gentiles and Jews one./ He destroyed the dividing wall./ There was a wall between the court of Gentiles and the Jerusalem temple.

/This means that Jesus Christ destroyed the wall between the Gentiles and the Jews through His blood on the cross. / Colossians 2:14/ Jesus abolished circumcision, the Passover, and the law through His blood on the cross.

/Verse 15./ by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace,

/The law, the commandments and regulations, and the certificate were abolished through Jesus Christ's death on the cross.

/Now, the Gentiles and the Jews were now at peace with each other and have become one./ They were like enemies in the past./ They were also separated by circumcision and the Passover.

/Now, the Gentiles have become children of God by faith in Christ Jesus and gained salvation./This does not mean that Jesus Christ abolished the law and the commandments.

/Jesus said that He came to fulfill the law./ Then what does this verse mean? It refers to

ceremonies and signs of rituals in it.

/In the Old Testament times, the Israelites offered God the blood of lambs./ However, now, because Jesus Christ shed His blood and atoned for our sins, such written codes and systems were abolished, and salvation was gained by faith in Jesus Christ.

/Verse 16./ and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.

/The Jews and Gentiles became one in Jesus Christ through His work on the cross./ Also, we have been reconciled with God through the redemption of the cross.

/Verse 17./ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.

/It says, "He came and preached peace to you who were far way."/ It also says, "peace to those who were near."/ Here, "you who were far away" refers to Gentiles./ "Those who were near" refers to the Jews.

/It means that Jesus Christ came to achieve redemption and preached peace to both the Gentiles and the Jews./ Jesus gives spiritual peace to all who believe.

/Verse 18./ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

/Through the redemption of Jesus Christ, Jews and Gentiles became one and gained access to one Father./ The "firstborn son" is the Jews and "younger son" is the Gentiles, and they have reconciled with each other and have access to the Father.

/Verse 19./ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,

/Now, Gentiles are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household./ The churches and believers all belong to the household of God.

/We are all descendants of faith of Abraham./ We also belong to the household of Abraham as his descendants because we have inherited Abraham's faith./ Even in this world, those who belong to the family of a king have glory and power.

/We believers have become noble because we now belong to the household of God./ The household of a king and his power in this world will not last forever./ The things of this world are temporary.

/However, through our belief in Jesus Christ, we have become children of God and now belong to the household of God for an eternity.

/Verses 20-22 are the fourth point./ Construction of a holy temple.

/Verse 20./ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

/It says, you have been "built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets." / This symbolizes the Bible./ It refers to God's Word that was given to the apostles and prophets.

/Believers and the church were built on the Bible./ The Old Testament was written by prophets. /The New Testament was written by apostles. /The church and believers were built on the Bible.

/There cannot be other foundations other than the Bible./ The Old and New Testaments are absolutely perfect, standard revelations./ Nothing must be added or removed from this Bible.

/We must not go further than the Bible and we must not take away from it./ We must go until the place the Bible tells us to go,/ and we must do just until the Bible tells us to do./ The Bible must always be our standard.

/If we abide in the Word of God, the devil cannot invade us./ Yet, if we depart from the Word, we will be tempted and see damage.

/Furthermore, it says, "Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone."/ This refers to the foundational stone when building a house./ The whole house is strong when the foundation is strong.

/When the foundation is weak, everything else is weak./ Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone of a spiritual temple./ We must build a spiritual temple on Jesus Christ.

/Verse 21./ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.

/The whole building in Jesus Christ joins together to become a holy temple. / It says, "in the Lord."/ This means that we must always live in our Lord Jesus Christ.

/It also says, "rises to become a holy temple."/ In 1 Corinthians 3:16, / Paul says that everyone who believes in Jesus Christ is a holy temple./ Thus, believers who have become holy temples must connect each other and grow into a bigger temple.

/As individual bricks connected with one another to become a tall building,/ every believer is joined together in the Lord, thus, becoming a big temple./ Pillars and beams are also needed to construct a building.

/Numerous materials are needed. / In this way, each member of the church must fulfill their given duties. / A building cannot be built with pillars alone.

/God gives each individual different grace and gifts./ Hence, we can build a magnificent holy



temple if we do our jobs in our given places.

/We must first know that we are a temple of God, and then connect with others in the Lord Jesus Christ, and built together the holy temple.

/A hand must do its best as a hand, the eyes must play its role, /and the entire body can be well when each part does its best.

/Likewise, when believers fulfill their own duties, their spirits will be well and they can make others' spirits healthy as well./ That is how we can grow in faith and become a bigger temple.

/If we think that others will do our jobs if we don't do it, we are deceived by the devil./ Whether others do our jobs or we do our jobs, it is important for us to have the mindset of fulfilling our own duties.

/Verse 22./ And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

/We are being built together in Christ./ We are built in spirit and in truth./ It is not done alone./ It is done together.

/We receive inspiration of the Holy Spirit,/ we cooperate and connect with one another and are built as the holy temple.

/We believers must always be inspired by the Holy Spirit in the truth, help and connect with one another, then become an acceptable holy temple before God.

/Amen.

/With this, we will conclude the third lecture on the prison epistles./ Thank you.