

Ephesians 2:1-10

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

1. “Dead” is a pretty strong term. How is Paul using it here to describe our fallen, sinful state?
2. Can a dead person do anything?
3. Who is the prince of the air? How did we follow him?
4. Paul lays out harshly but clearly the depths of death that these Gentile believers once lived in. Yet, he notes that though they were once dead, they were, through the love of God, made alive in Christ. Where are we made alive with Christ?
5. Verses 8-10 are, especially among Lutherans, among the best known verses in the Bible. Here Paul lays out the sole source of our salvation, of our Justification. Our salvation comes from faith alone (sola fide) given to us by the grace of God alone (sola gratia).
6. Paul is once again confronting the Judaizers, the group that taught Christian converts that they still needed to follow the Old Testament laws in order to gain salvation. Was this “fight” limited only to a matter of the early church?
7. How else has this conflict, in various forms, continued to crop up throughout history?
8. What is this ultimately a battle over? How do we respond?
9. What is the proper place and understanding of our good works?
10. What is the point of the good works that we do?
11. Are they necessary for our salvation?