

The Ruin Facing Humanity and the Unequaled Good News Ephesians 2:1-10

Introduction

1. The ruin facing humanity: The scope of the problem (Eph.2:1-3. See Rom.1:18-3:20)

1. "As for you..." (Eph.2:1)
2. "All of us..." (Eph.2:3a)
3. "...Like the rest..." (Eph.2:3b)

2. The ruin facing humanity: The cause of the problem (Eph.2:1)

1. Transgressions
2. Sin

3. The ruin facing humanity: The human predicament (Eph.2:1-3)

1. Dead (Eph.2:1; Col.2:13)

1. Ensnared by the philosophy of this world (Eph.2:2)

- Amoral
- Materialistic
- Hedonistic

2. Captive to the rule of Satan (Eph.2:2; Jn.8; 2Cor.4:4)

3. Human nature: Controlled by the lusts of the flesh (Eph.2:3)

2. The resultant lifestyle

1. We cannot by nature discern ultimate reality (Matt.3:11)

2. By nature we are spiritually powerless (Rom.5:6)

3. By nature we believe that independence from God is wisdom (Eph. 4:17,18)

4. By nature we do not love, treasure or desire God (Jn.1:10-11)

5. By nature we are separated from God (Col. 1:21; Eph.2:12)

4 The ruin facing humanity: A truly frightening result (2:3b)

5. The unequalled good news: God's compassion, power and purposes (Eph.2:4-10; Rom.3:21-8:39)

1. Notice the critical "But" (Eph.2:4)

2. How does God save us? (Eph.2:4-5)

1. Consider the logic of the Christian faith (Eph.2:1; Col.1:13, 21, 22,26,27; 2:13,15)

An illustration (Jn.11)

2. Why did He save us?

1. Love (2:4)

2. Mercy (2:4)

3. Grace (2:5,7)

4. Kindness (2:7,8b,9)

Two negative descriptions:

1. (2:8)

2. (2:9)

3. How is our salvation accomplished?

1. There is no salvation apart from Christ's sacrifice (Eph.1:7)

2. Christ was our Representative and died as our substitute (Eph.2:5,6,7,10)

3. Through faith alone in Christ alone (2:8,9)

4. What was His purpose in saving us? Good Works (2:10)

Conclusion