

SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2017
THEME – SURVEYING THE MAGNITUDE OF GOD’S LOVE
UNIT I – THE FOUNDATION OF GOD’S LOVE

“THE SUPERABUNDANCE OF GOD’S LOVE TO SINNERS”



Sunday School Lesson No. II
March 12, 2017

**Lesson Presented by Rev. Frank
A. Davis, III - Pastor-Teacher**

Lesson Text: Ephesians 2:1-10

**Lesson Required Reading: Ephesians
2:1-22**

Lesson Motto Texts:

**Ephesians 2:5, “Even when we were
dead in sins, hath quickened us
together with Christ, (by grace ye are
saved.)”**

II Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living by UMI; I John (H. A. Ironside); Standard Lesson Commentary; Word Search 10 Electronic Library; MacArthur Study Bible

LESSON INTRODUCTION

Have you ever considered from where God has brought us? The love of God in Christ is beyond measure when we reflect on what it really took to manifest a new life in us who were dead, or totally separated from a living, loving relationship in Christ. Let us follow the teaching of Paul the Apostle in Ephesians Chapter 2 as he unveils “**The Superabundance of God’s Love to Sinners.**” Now, from the pagan society of the human race, let us see how the love of God was demonstrated through Christ Jesus to bring us into new life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

But let us note this illustration from God’s Hidden Treasure by Dr. Adrian Rogers: “A Gift From God... In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the ‘Billy Graham’ of the day was William Ashley Sunday, known as Billy Sunday. One day, after an evangelistic event, Billy Sunday was helping the workers take down the tent, when a young man came running in. Out of breath, the young man said, ‘I wanted to come to the revival, but I missed the meeting. But please tell me, what must I do to be saved?’ Sunday simply responded, ‘You’re too late,’ then kept on taking down the tent. The young man gasped. ‘Just because I missed the meeting, you’re not going to tell me how to be saved?’ Sunday replied, ‘No, you’re too late to do anything to be saved, because Jesus did it all almost two thousand years ago. Now you *receive* the finished work of Jesus Christ.’ How thankful I am for this truth: that upon Jesus’ death on the cross, we no longer have to *do* anything. God has offered eternal salvation free of charge through offering his beloved Son for us. There is nothing we can do to earn his love or favor; all we have to do is *receive* it.”

Our Anticipated Power Points Are:

- **The Mercilessness of Sinners Exposed. Ephesians 2:1-3**
- **The Mercy toward Sinners Expressed. Ephesians 2:4-7**
- **The Method of God’s Love to Save Sinners Explained. Ephesians 2:8-9**
- **The Masterpiece of the Transformed Sinner Exemplified. Ephesians 2:10**

“THE SUPER ABUNDANCE OF GOD’S LOVE TO SINNERS”

LESSON EXPOSITION

I. The Mercilessness of Sinners Exposed. Ephesians 2:1-3

In times past, we were totally sold out to depravity by nature, not having power or potential to change our course! Our lives were in a state of mercilessness as it related to sin. Our everyday routine was a monotonous

lifestyle of sin; without money, kindness, mercy or love for God or others. A true “me, myself and I” mentality of selfish, sinful living.

A. Our past affliction. vs. 1

Dead. (Totally separated from the good fellowship of God!)

B. Our powerful adversary, the devil. vs. 2

Who held us captive through fear and failure! As his captives, we identified with his ways and desires. But his rule is limited and his power is restricted.

C. Our perpetual activity. vs. 3

Dominated by a self-seeking, self-serving lifestyle. Our “conversation” meaning lifestyle, rendered nothing pretty – lusting of the flesh, lustful thinking, lustful relationships and lustful activities!

II. The Mercy toward Sinners Expressed. Ephesians 2:4-7

But for the merciful kindness and love of God, hell and damnation has been turned away by the Redeeming Grace of Christ’s Sacrifice! God’s merciful kindness and compassion is introduced above our pathetic condition by the word “*But.*” Not “But baptism!” not “But church membership!” not even “But the Ten Commandments!” ... “**But God!**”

A. But God’s Compassion for us. vs. 4

When true love is expressed, there are always benevolent actions taking place. Romans 5:6-8, “*For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*”

B. But God’s Christ. vss. 5-6

1. Paid our penalty. vs. 5
2. Positioned us prominently. vs. 6

C. But God’s Continuance. vs. 7

Through the great wealth of God’s loving kindness, we who are in Christ shall live in the wealth of His mercy forever! (Psalm 107:1)

III. The Method of God’s Love to Save Sinners Explained. Ephesians 2:8-9

It is fully of God’s effort and wisely received by the willing heart of the hearer. There is no act or activity of mankind that renders this manifestation of New Life in Christ! Jesus paid it all and all to Him we owe!

A. God’s method is Grace (God’s undeserved benevolence without man’s manipulation.)

The whole act of or plan of the sinner’s salvation from start to finish is handled by God and then offered to the sinner. To us it is all a gift, not a job. God owes us nothing, but we owe Him a whole lot of *Thank You’s!*

B. God’s grace is extended toward the sinner and the sinner simply receives it by faith, which is also given by God. Romans 12:3, ...“*God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*” Question: What have you done with your measure?

IV. The Masterpiece of the Transformed Sinner Exemplified. Ephesians 2:10

The transformed sinner is made into a “user friendly” vessel of New Life in Christ! God envisioned this through the prophet Jeremiah in 18:6. There, a lump of clay sat on the potter’s (God’s) spinning wheel as a mass of confusion. But in the mind’s eye of the potter was a vessel that would be fit for the master’s use, and would be His masterpiece. Beloved, I hope you know that those of us born again in Christ are created in Him to be His masterpieces, placed on display to bring glory, honor, and praise to Jesus our Saviour and Lord! Beloved, when one creates a masterpiece, it begins in his mind (“*before ordained*”) and there is a prepared place for it to be displayed now and later!

CLOSING

What transformation has been made manifest in your New Life in Christ? Can you say, as the songwriter... “*A change has come over me. He changed my life and now I am free!*”? Remember the words found in II Corinthians 5:17, “*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*”

Bibleway Missionary Baptist Church, New Orleans, LA

Little Bethel Baptist Church, Amite City, LA

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 19768, New Orleans, LA 70179

Phone: (504) 486-7876

Email: bible32@bellsouth.net

Website: www.thestudyhour.com

TV Broadcast: WHNO TV 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.

LOOKING AHEAD:

March 19, 2017

John 15:1-17



Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School lesson.