

## “The Immeasurable Riches of His Grace”

Ephesians 2:1-7

### **INTRODUCTION: OUR UNION WITH CHRIST**

1. **Our union with Christ is real and vital.** John 15:5

2. **Our union with Christ begins not when we die and go to heaven, but when we are born again.** Rom 6:1-15

3. **The great value of being united with Christ is Christ Himself.** Philippians 1:21, 23

→ You cannot obtain the Gift apart from obtaining the Giver.

→ “by grace you have been saved” v.5, 8     Grace = the completely undeserved loving commitment of God to us.

- Perfect Tense = completed action in the past with continuing results in the present

### **UNITED WITH HIM BY GRACE. v.5-6**

1. **By grace God made us alive together with Christ. v.5**

- Before salvation = dead to Christ & “living” to sin, the world, the devil, the flesh
- After salvation = dead to sin (incl. the world, the devil, and the flesh) & alive with Christ
- The reversal of sin in our life: Compare Psalm 1:1 and Ephesians 2:1-10

2. **By grace God raised us up with him. v.6a**

- Paul is speaking about our co-resurrection with Christ. Not referring (here) to our physical resurrection after our body dies, but our spiritual resurrection after being made alive with Christ.
- If you are born again, you are raised up right now with Jesus. Not figuratively – but really.
- Not raised up alone... but WITH Him.

3. **By grace God seated us with him in the heavenly places. v.6b**

- Paul is speaking of our new position and status because of salvation.
- We are now citizens of heaven. Philippians 3:20. The church is a colony of heaven.
- Our identity is so important to how we see ourselves and how we live.

→ We should feel like we no longer fit in this world. This means something is right, not wrong, with you.

### **THE IMMEASURABLE RICHES OF HIS GRACE. v.7**

1. **God accomplished salvation for us to demonstrate the riches of His Grace.**

- ...so that he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
- The focus and intent of salvation is to bring attention to God—not to us.
  - to the *riches* of God’s grace.
  - to the *immeasurable* riches of God’s grace.

2. **By definition, salvation by grace means that mankind contributes nothing to our salvation.**

→ So far man has had no part in this work of new life. Salvation has been accomplished—with no help from man.