

SALEM HEIGHTS

THRIVING



IN THE WORD . IN PRAYER . IN FELLOWSHIP

"Trust is the firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability and strength in someone or something, so trusting God is an absolute essential for the believer. We live in a broken world where we need protection with regards to our thinking each and every day. In Ephesians chapter 2, we have a passage that helps us stay protected as we trust. To be told who and what we once were, yet God still loved us and gave His Son for us, causes us to trust our Savior. This trust is a shield of faith. To be told that God has good works for us to walk into, prepared beforehand as we walk out our present timeline, keeps our heads straight in the toughest of times. This is a helmet of salvation walking in the gospel as we trust. God is reliable and strong and His word is absolute truth. May we trust Him as He leads us into each and every day." — Pastor Matt

"If we love Christ much, surely we shall trust him much." -Thomas Brooks

Ephesians 2

From Death to Life

2 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins ²in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit now working in the disobedient.³ We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and we were by nature children under wrath as the others were also. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, ⁵made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! ⁶He also raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift— ⁹not from works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

Unity in Christ

¹¹ So, then, remember that at one time you were Gentiles in the flesh—called “the uncircumcised” by those called “the circumcised,” which is done in the flesh by human hands. ¹²At that time you were without Christ, excluded from the citizenship of Israel, and foreigners to the covenants of promise, without hope

and without God in the world.¹³ But now in Christ Jesus, you who were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.¹⁴ For he is our peace, who made both groups one and tore down the dividing wall of hostility. In his flesh,¹⁵ he made of no effect the law consisting of commands and expressed in regulations, so that he might create in himself one new man from the two, resulting in peace.¹⁶ He did this so that he might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by which he put the hostility to death.¹⁷ He came and proclaimed the good news of peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.¹⁹ So, then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.²¹ In him the whole building, being put together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.²² In him you are also being built together for God's dwelling in the Spirit.

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this passage teach us about God?
3. What does this passage teach us about Man?
4. How does this passage help you in trusting your Savior?