

# God's Kindness on Display

## Ephesians 2:4-7

Ephesus was a hotspot for magical arts and idol worship

### What?

*You are a kindness showpiece that makes God's glory increase*

#### Us and God—

The summary of vss. 1-10 is in verse 7—"Kindness toward us in Christ Jesus"

We were dead spiritually, and in bondage to the prince of the power of the air (vs. 2)

Vss. 8-9—none of salvation is our doing, because dead people can't do anything

God in His kindness pitied us with rich mercy in our miserable condition and loved us with great, selfless love

God's gift of grace us totally free, because we were dead and could do nothing

So He made us alive in union with Christ and seated us at His right hand right now, spiritually

God first purpose was to put us on display as showpieces of His infinitely rich but totally free kindness

The second purpose is that no one should take the credit

#### Connection with Jesus—

*Ephesians 1:19-21, ESV—He raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come*

God looks at us in a spiritual sense as being with Jesus when He died, was raised and exalted to God's right hand, far above all spiritual powers

**The Big Question—To whom is God showing the immeasurable riches of His grace, and why?**

God is showing the riches of His grace to Satan and his demonic hierarchy of powers

*Ephesians 3:10, NIV—His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms*

He does this to confirm to principalities and powers that they were defeated at the cross and judgment is certain

In the coming ages of eternity these principalities and powers will be constantly aware of us as God's trophies of grace, where once we were under Satan's dominion

Paul wanted to assure his readers who were at the epicenter of Satanic power that they were no longer weak and vulnerable to these evil powers

### So What?

Now God is displaying His workmanship in us, to fully accomplish His purpose when we do good works of kindness

These good works demonstrate the power of God over the evil one, who held us in bondage and the realm of death

We now have power to act selflessly instead of sinfully

#### The last word—Paul

*Galatians 5:22-23, ESV—But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law*

### Now What?

Praise God because of your spiritual position at His right hand in union with Christ

Determine to live as God's showpiece of kindness, to demonstrate His transforming power