Salvation In Ephesians

Intro: Salvation for man is vital. We can learn a great deal about salvation and what it means by a study of it in Ephesians.

I. REDEMPTION FROM SIN
   A. Eph. 1:5, 7 “Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,...In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”
   B. What is sin?
      1. Trespass
         a. Eph. 2:1 “And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;”
         b. A deviation, false step, blunder.
      2. Transgression of the law
         a. 1 John 3:4 “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”
         b. To go aside, violation of law, lawlessness.
      3. Iniquity or unevenness of character
         a. Isa. 59:1-2 “Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”
         b. Twist or bend what is right, perversity, unevenness of character.
      4. Unrighteousness; 1 John 5:17 “All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.”
      5. An attitude of rebellion; Mat. 21:29 “He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.”
      6. It causes separation from God and bondage to it.
         a. Rom. 6:16 “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”
         b. Isa. 59:1-2 “Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”
   C. Redemption.
      1. Means to buy back, ransom, or deliver.
      2. Our Redeemer is Christ.
         a. He has the will to redeem; Mark. 10:45 “For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”
         b. He has the right to redeem; Heb. 2:14-18 “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.”
         c. He has the power to redeem; Mat. 28:18 “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”
d. He has the price to redeem; Eph. 1:7 “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”

II. RESURRECTION FROM DEATH.

A. The sinner is in spiritual death; Eph. 2:1 “And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;”

B. Through the gospel we are made alive; Eph. 2:1, 5 “And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;... Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)”

1. When one repents and is baptized, he is raised to a newness of life; Rom. 6:3-4 “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

2. He becomes a new creature; 2 Cor. 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.”

3. 1 John 3:14 “We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.”

III. RELEASE FROM CAPTIVITY.

A. Eph. 2:2, 6 “Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:... And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:”

B. A sinner is in slavery to his lust.

1. John 8:34 “Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”

2. 1 John 2:15-17 “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

C. The gospel sets us free.

1. John 18:37 “Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”

2. John 8:32 “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

3. Rom. 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”

IV. BROUGHT NEAR FROM AFAR.

A. Eph. 2:12-13 “That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.”

B. Sinners are without Christ, aliens, strangers, have no hope, without God.

C. We have been brought near to God.

V. RECONCILIATION FROM ENMITY.

A. Eph. 2:16 “And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:”
**B. Enmity is conflict between two parties.**

**C. God brings us back to Him.**

1. By the blood of Christ; Rom. 5:10 “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.”
2. In the church.

**D. Results**

1. We have access to the Father; Eph. 2:18 “For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.”
2. No more strangers; Eph. 2:16 “And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:”

**VI. RESCUE FROM DARKNESS**

**A. Eph. 5:8** “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:”

**B. We did walk in the works of darkness; Eph. 5:3-5** “But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; *Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.* ‘For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.”

**C. We have been rescued from that to:**

1. Walk in love; Eph. 5:2 “And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.”
2. Walk in light; Eph. 5:8 “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:”
3. Walk circumspectly (carefully); Eph. 5:15 “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,”
4. Reprove the works of darkness; Eph. 5:11 “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.”

Conclusion: Realizing we have been saved, why would we walk in darkness? We should live for Him who saved us!