



**Grace Alone**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> in “Sola” Series**  
**Ephesians 2:1-10 p. 976**  
Oct 15, 2017  
Pastor Mickey Klink

**Introduction**

In this sermon we listen to the church’s cry for “Grace Alone,” and apply it to our life and ministry.

**The Text: Ephesians 2:1-10**

**1) “Grace Alone” is clearly derived from God’s Word: Ephesians 2:1-10.**

- a) Without Grace you are dead, enslaved to sin and Satan, and destined for the wrath of God (vv. 1-3).
- b) “By Grace” you have been loved, made alive, saved, raised up and seated with Christ, and put on display (vv. 4-7).
- c) Grace Alone – a definition (vv. 8-9).
- d) The result of Grace is grace-empowered works and God’s glory (v. 10).

**2) “Grace Alone” has several applications for the Christian and the church.**

- a) Grace is a mirror that shows us who we really are  
*“Though rational creatures are responsible to obey God as their Creator, the distance between God and these creatures is so great that they could never have attained the reward of life except by God’s voluntary condescension.” (LBC 7.1)*
- b) Grace is a window that reveals to us who God really is, and the centrality of Jesus Christ.  
*“By his obedience and death, Christ fully paid the debt of all those who are justified. He endured in their place the penalty they deserved. By this sacrifice of himself in his bloodshed on the cross, he legitimately, really, and fully satisfied God’s justice on their behalf. Yet their justification is based entirely on free grace, because he was given by the Father for them, and his obedience and satisfaction were accepted in their place. These things were done freely, not because of anything in them, so that both the exact justice and the rich grace of God would be glorified in the justification of sinners.” (LBC 11.3)*
- c) Grace is not a new thing, but has been progressively explained since the beginning and throughout the Bible.  
*“Since humanity brought itself under the curse of the law by its fall, it pleased the Lord to make a covenant of grace. In this covenant he freely offers to sinners life and salvation through Jesus Christ. (LBC 7.2) “This covenant is revealed in the gospel. It was revealed first of all to Adam in the promise of salvation through the seed of the woman. After that, it was revealed step by step until the full revelation of it was completed in the New Testament.” (LBC 7.3)*
- d) Grace is a power that works for us, in us, and through us.  
*“God has granted that all those who are justified would receive the grace of adoption.... By this they are counted among the children of God and enjoy the freedom and privileges of that relationship. They inherit his name, receive the spirit of adoption, have access to the throne of grace with boldness, and are enabled to cry “Abba, Father!” They are given compassion, protected, provided for, and chastened by him as a father. Yet they are never cast off but are sealed for the day of redemption and inherit the promises as heirs of everlasting salvation.” (LBC 12.1)*
- e) Grace is what we declare to the world.
- f) Grace is how we live in the world.

**Response**

- In light of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, how can we make sure we are living by Grace Alone?

## Sunday Text Questions for Ephesians 2:1-10

### Grace Alone

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- 1) Starter Question: Have you ever seen or experienced unmerited grace being given to a person?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Based upon v. 1, how are non-Christians in “trespasses and sins?” What does such “death” look like?
- 4) In what ways does Satan (“the prince of the power of the air” in v. 2) hold sway and influence the non-Christian and the world? Do Christians speak to little of Satan’s influence, or too much?
- 5) What does Paul mean when he says in v. 3 that we “were by nature children of wrath?” How does the rest of the Bible help explain this statement?
- 6) According to v. 4, what made God respond to us with grace? How does such a fact change everything?
- 7) What are the many benefits of God’s grace described in vv. 5-7? How does the Christian experience each of them?
- 8) In vv. 8-9, Paul qualifies the grace of God with several corrective statements (e.g., “not this or that”). What misunderstanding is Paul trying to fix and why does that matter?
- 9) What are the implications from Paul’s statement regarding Christians in v. 10: “we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works?”
- 10) How can you become a person of grace? How can Hope Church become a culture of grace?” What do such things look like?

**Further study this week:** Romans 3:9-20 on sin and the law (Mon); Romans 3:21-31 on the rightness of God through faith (Tues); Genesis 3 (esp. v. 15) on the effects of sin and the promise of grace (Wed); Galatians 1:6-15 on the gospel of grace (Thurs); 2 Corinthians 8:8-15 on God’s grace making us live graciously (Fri).