

Colossians Review/Riches of God's Grace

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Riches of God's Grace *



Includes those things which are done for the individual at the instant he believes

“The significant phrase, ‘the things that accompany salvation’ (Heb. 6:9), may be interpreted as referring to those mighty positions and possessions which are wrought instantaneously and simultaneously by God at the instant an individual exercises saving faith in Christ.”

* Lewis Sperry Chafer's *Systematic Theology* (Vol. III pp225-266)

The Essential Character of God's Riches of Divine Grace

1. They are not experienced
2. They are not progressive
3. They are in no way related to human merit
4. They are eternal in their character
5. They are known only through the Word of God
6. They are not produced by man but by God alone

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Riches of Divine Grace - 8. Children of God*



To be born anew by the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit into a relationship in which God the First Person becomes a legitimate Father and the saved one becomes a legitimate child ---

To be born of God with every right and title belonging to that position—an heir of God and a joint heir with Jesus Christ—passes the range of human understanding.

Varied terms are used in the New Testament to identify this new birth. Each of these is distinct in itself and revealing.

* Chafer

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The Riches of Divine Grace



VI. Vitaly Joined together with Christ for Judgment of the "Old Man" Unto a New Walk:

1. "Crucified with Christ."
2. "Dead with Christ."
3. Buried with Christ.
4. Raised with Christ to Walk by a New Life Principle.

VII. Free from the Law:

1. "Dead to the Law."
2. "Delivered from the Law."

VIII. Children of God:

1. "Born Again."
2. "Quickened," or Made Alive.
3. "Sons of God."
4. "A New Creature."
5. "Regeneration."

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Two verses in Paul's epistle state that a believer was made alive together with



Ephesians 2:5

even when we were dead in our transgressions,
made us alive together with Christ
(by grace you have been saved),

Colossians 2:13

When you were dead in your transgressions
and the uncircumcision of your flesh,
He made you alive together with Him,
having forgiven us all our transgressions,

note: the KJV bible says in Eph 2:1 And *you hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

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Comparison of Eph 2:5 and Col 2:13		
<u>as Unbeliever</u>	<u>as Believer</u>	
<p>Eph 2:5</p> <p>we were dead in our transgressions</p>	<p>made us alive together with Christ</p> <p>(by grace you have been saved)</p>	
<p>Col 2:13</p> <p>you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh</p>	<p>He made you alive together with Him</p> <p>having forgiven us all our transgressions₇</p>	

Col 2:13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

when you were dead

lit: and you being dead

being – *eimi* – the state in which someone or something continuously exists

- you as an unbeliever were continuously in the state of death (or separation) from God
- dead is an adjective that describes your condition

Christ also described man this way in Matt 8:19-22

Gal 2:13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

in your transgressions

transgressions - *paraptōma* – fault, lapse, error, mistake, wrongdoing

That is, the death spoken of was spiritual death, a death involving wrong doing (transgressions). They were physically alive while walking around in a state of spiritual death, devoid of the life of God and activated by a totally depraved nature.

Wuest

unbelievers are sinners in two ways – by what they practice (transgression) and their sin nature

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Col 2:13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

the uncircumcision of your flesh

a believer is one who has been spiritually circumcised without hands

Col 2:11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

- the uncircumcision of your flesh is speaking of our union with the sin nature

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made alive together with *-sunzōopoiēō* - from *sún*, together with, and *zōopoiéō*, to make alive, quicken. To make alive or quicken with, as being raised from death to life with Christ;



past point fact, it's reality and God did it

The core word "to make alive" is used in the following:

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Rom 6:22 But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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Rom 6:4 (Wuest) We were entombed therefore with Him through this aforementioned placing into His death, in order that just as there was raised up Christ out from amongst the dead ones through the glory of the Father, thus also as for us, in the newness of a life (imparted) we may order our behavior.



This newness of life is a new life imparted through our identification with Christ in His resurrection.

Our identification with Christ in His death broke the power of indwelling sin.

Our identification with Him in His resurrection resulted in the impartation of divine life.

This is what Paul has reference to when he says, "We were made alive together with Him."

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More thoughts:*



one act of sovereign, saving power, all who have believed were, at the moment of believing, made alive with Christ.

- No subsequent achievement is implied. This fundamental aspect of salvation is both instantaneous and complete in its character.

- To have been "made alive with Christ" is an experience which is no less than the reception of and sharing in His resurrection life.

Gal 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;

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Col 2:13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

having in grace forgiven you all your trespasses (Wuest)

having forgiven - *charizomai* - to bestow a favor
unconditionally

Eph 4:32b --- forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. – also Col 3:12-13

transgressions - *paraptōma* – fault, lapse, error,
mistake, wrongdoing (same as before)

notice: Eph 2:5 --- by grace you have been saved

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Final Thought

The essential fact, then, that believers are now "made alive with Christ" involves no less a reality than that they are now sharing in the position and exaltation of the resurrected, glorified Christ.

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