

DISCIPLESHIP

INTRODUCTION

Arguably the most beloved and recognisable Christian hymn of all time is none other than *Amazing Grace*. It was written in 1772 by John Newton who was a former captain of a slave ship but became a preacher of the gospel.

John Newton wrote, “Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!” Those words of testimony and praise to God for His amazing grace not only apply to John Newton—a notorious sinner. They apply to every sinner who has been saved by Christ and redeemed by God’s amazing grace.

Although we may not have lived the same infamously ungodly life as did John Newton, we by nature possessed the same heart that produced such a life. We join John Newton in our guilt before God and in our need for redemption. Now as believers in Christ the Saviour, we may join John Newton in praising God for His amazing grace. We must never forget that our salvation is due to the fact that we are the recipients of God’s amazing grace. As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ let us praise God for His amazing grace by aligning our lives to follow his will each and every day of our lives.

TODAY’S READING

You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ^[a]—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How does Paul describe our condition before we were saved (v.1)

You were dead through the trespasses and sins

See: Romans 3:10-12

2. How did we live at that time and who were we following? (v.2-3)

² *in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.* ³ *All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.*

See: Titus 3:3, Ephesians 6:12

3. What did God do for us? Why? (v.4-6)

⁴ *But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us* ⁵ *even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ^[a]—by grace you have been saved—* ⁶ *and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,*

See: Titus 3:4-7

4. To what must we attribute our salvation? (v.8-9)

⁸ *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—* ⁹ *not the result of works, so that no one may boast.*

See: Romans 5:8;

5. How are we described? (v.10)

What is the purpose for which God has redeemed us? (v.10)

We are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works that God prepared in advance in order for us to walk in them.

See: Titus 2:11-14