

***Can a Dead Man See or Believe (Ephesians 2; 2 Corinthians 4)***

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at Wilderness Baptist Church, Dubois, WY, 20 Jul 2015

**Introduction**

**The TULIP (of Dortian Calvinists) versus the Five Remonstrances of Arminians.**

**Point T:** Total Depravity (w/ total inability)

**Point U:** Unconditional Election

**Point L:** Limited Atonement

**Point I:** Irresistible Grace

**Point P:** Perseverance of the Saints

**Article III:** Total Depravity (w/o total inability)

**Article I:** Conditional Election

**Article II:** Unlimited Atonement

**Article IV:** Resistible Grace

**Article V:** Conditional Perseverance

**Biblical Presentation of Depravity (Not a Theological Presentation of Calvinism or Arminianism)**

**2 Corinthians 4:3-4:** The veiled eyes of unbelievers.

How does the god of this age blind unbelievers?

What is his goal in blinding their eyes?

The significance of the word *lest*

Should it be *god of this world* or *God of this world*?

How does God (the real God over this world) blind?

How does Satan (the god belonging to this world) blind?

The Contribution of 2 Corinthians 4:6

**Ephesians 2:1-9:** Man’s Problem = You were dead (2:1) and we also were dead (2:5)  
 2:1-2 focuses on the deadness of Gentile unbelievers (you being dead)  
 2:3-5a focuses on the deadness of Jewish unbelievers (and we also being dead)

2:5-6 has the three main-verbs of the sentence (the subject— God— is in 2:4). In addition, a parenthesis appears between the first and second main-verb):

God jointly-made [you and us] alive with Christ (*sunezōpoiēse*)

( You [and we] have been saved [from the state of being dead] by grace. )

God jointly-raised [you and us with Christ] (*sunegeire*).

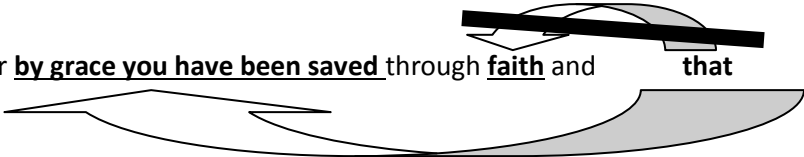
God jointly-seated [you and us with Christ] (*sunekathisen*).

2:8-9 By grace you [and we] have been saved [made-alive] through faith.

Illustration: By an electric circuit the light came on through flicking the switch.  
By grace                      you were saved    through believing.

How does Ephesians 4:17-18 define *dead*?            [My translation of *MajT*]  
 ...you are no longer to walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk in the futility of their mind,  
 because of them being darkened in understanding,  
 because of them being estranged from the life of God...

For by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves



The word *that* is neuter (*touto*). It cannot refer to faith, because *faith* (*pistis*) is a feminine word.<sup>1</sup> However, no neuter words (other than *touto*) appear in context. *Grace* (*charis*) is feminine. Even the word *salvation* (*sōtēria*) would have been feminine. But Greek views phrases, clauses, etc. as neuter. **That** refers to a repeated phrase: *by grace you have been saved*.

<sup>1</sup> If Paul wanted **that** to refer to *faith*, he would use a feminine form for **that** (*tautēn*, not *touto*).