

"If Christ has not been raised...

- Our preaching is useless.
- We are false witnesses about God.
- Your faith is futile.
- You are still in your sins.
- Those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost."

## The Great Easter Invitation Ephesians 1

Ephesians 1:3-20 (NIV)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know ... his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead.

## I. A Life transformed by the Power of God

## Romans 1:16 (NIV)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel: it is the power of God for salvation to every one who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV)

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Romans 8:10-11 (NIV)

"If Christ is in you, your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you."

## II. A Life Supplied by the Grace of God

Ephesians 1:7-8 (NIV)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

1 Corinthians 15:10 (ESV)

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain.

2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV)

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.



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