

Definition: "Gentiles" - I Peter 4:3 this refers to UNSAVED people, not merely non-Jews.

Definition: "licentiousness" - not obeying the rules; having no moral restraint

Compare with Romans 12:2 "And **do not be conformed to this world**, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind (with the word of God)**, that you may prove what is that good acceptable and perfect will of "God."

(This is what we as Christians are to do to keep from falling back into old patterns of thought & action)

4-7. But **God**, who is rich in mercy, for **His great love with which He loved us**, even when we were **dead** in sins, **has made us alive together with Christ** (by grace are you saved); and has **raised us up** together, and **has made us to sit together** in heavenly places with Christ Jesus;

a.) What is our **position in Christ**? Seated with _____ in heavenly _____. Who placed us there? _____. If we were **DEAD in our sins**, and God had to raise us up and MAKE US ALIVE, then we **did not do** anything to **earn** that position. Can a **DEAD PERSON** do anything to help God? _____. Do the **religions of this world** teach people that they can **DO SOMETHING to HELP GOD** or somehow **EARN** their way to heaven? _____

- **Psalm 145:8-10** "The Lord is GRACIOUS, and FULL OF _____; SLOW TO ANGER, and of GREAT _____. The Lord is _____ to all; and his TENDER MERCIES are over all His works. All Thy works shall PRAISE Thee, O lord, and Thy saints shall BLESS Thee."
- **Titus 3:3-6** "For ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the _____ and _____ OF GOD our Savior toward man appeared, **not** by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His _____ **He saved us**, by the washing of regeneration (being born again) and renewing of the Holy Spirit; which He shed on us ABUNDANTLY through Jesus Christ our Savior."

8-9. For **by grace** you have been saved **through faith**, and that **not of yourselves**, it is **the gift of God**; not of works, lest anyone should boast.

- **Read Romans 5:6-17** (Verse 15) "But the _____ is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense (Adam's sin) many _____, much more the _____ of God, and the _____ by the GRACE of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many, and the _____ is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in _____, but the _____ which came from many offenses resulted in justification."

Note how many times words like "**the free gift**," "**the grace of God**," "**the gift by grace**" are used. If salvation is a **free gift**, IT CANNOT be earned by our good works, good deeds or religious observances. Something that is **earned** is called "**wages**."

- **Read Romans 6:23** "For the **wages** of sin is _____, but the _____ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

What are the only "wages" we ever **earn** in relation to God?" _____
What is the free gift? _____

10. For **we are His workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus **not (for the purpose of) good works**, which God has **before ordained** that we should walk in them.

What place do "good works" have in our lives? They are the **PRODUCT** of our salvation, and a **testimony** to the world (to **SHOW** them) that we belong to the Lord. God also uses us to help meet the **needs** of His people in the church body.

- **Read Titus 3:1-8 & 14** (Verse 4) "But when the _____ and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, **not** by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His _____ **He saved us**, by the washing of regeneration (being born again) and renewing of the Holy Spirit..." (Verse 14) and let our people also learn to maintain _____ to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful."
- **II Corinthians 9:12-13** "For the administration of this _____ not only supplies the _____ of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God."
- **James 2:18** "But someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works. **Show me** your faith without your works, and I will _____ you my faith _____ my works.'"
- **Titus 2:7-8 & 13-14** "In all things **showing Yourself** to be a pattern of _____ ; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that the one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having **nothing** _____ to say about you."
- **Colossians 1:10** "That you may have a walk **worthy** of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every _____ ."
- **Matthew 5:16** "Let your light so shine before _____ , that they may _____ your _____ and glorify your Father in heaven."

Does this mean God has a plan and a purpose for our lives once we come to Christ?

_____ Does God have a plan for our lives even **before we are born**? _____

- **Jeremiah 1:5** "**Before** I formed you in the womb, I _____ you, and _____ **you came forth out of the** _____ , I sanctified you and I **ordained** you to be a prophet unto the nations."
- **Romans 9:11 & 23-24** "For the children not yet being _____ , that the _____ of God according to election (His choice) might stand, not of _____ but of **Him who calls (chooses)**..." "And that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessel of _____ , which He had prepared _____ for glory, even _____ whom **He called**, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles."
- **II Timothy 1:9** "Who has saved us and called us with a holy **CALLING, not** according to _____ , but according to **His own purpose** and **grace** _____ which was GIVEN to _____ in Christ Jesus _____ time began."