Created by God Alone
Ephesians 2:1-10

The Bible says that each of us has experienced paralysis of the soul and inability to help ourselves spiritually. We needed God's resurrection power for one fundamental reason—we were "dead in our trespasses and sins." Paul, the Jew, claims that both Gentile and Jew are dead in their trespasses and sins and desperately in need of the resurrection power of God which He demonstrated by raising Jesus from the dead.

Being "physically dead" and "dead in our trespasses and sins" are not the same. The Bible says that we have a devastating spiritual problem. We are destined for God's wrath—eternal separation from God—because we are by nature and by our actions sinners. Furthermore, we are spiritually dead; totally incapacitated and unable to restore ourselves to right relationship to God.

Though our sin made us deserving of God's wrath and totally helpless to save ourselves from it, God's love changed everything. Verses 5-6 say He revived us in Christ, resurrected us, and relocated us. So, our dead spiritual condition has been reversed and our relationship to God has been restored.

Besides His love for us, God saved us so "that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus." Believers are like restored works of art by God. God doesn't only save sinners to enable them to escape judgment; He places them on cosmic display for His glory. Throughout the unending ages, angels, cosmic powers, and future generations will look at formerly spiritually dead, rebellious humans being now alive and glorified in Christ Jesus and say: "Look at these examples of the incomparable riches of God's grace. Look at the extraordinary love and power of the Creator who took His created people, marred by sin, and restored them to things of beauty and grace in Christ." He did it. Not you and not me, because we were dead without Him.