



MASTERPICE

Our story is the story of our life.

Our story tells our history
and shapes our identity.

The story of your heart is guiding you — in fact, far more than you know. You may think you're a bunch of randomly collected feelings, habits, inclinations, and proclivities, but you're far more cohesive than that. The story of your heart bonds together what's within you and what flows out of you..

John Walker, Ph.D

As a face is reflected in water, so
the heart reflects the **real** person.

Proverbs 27:19 NLT

Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23 NIV

What we do is always connected
to who we believe we are.

Life Events

Biology

Geography

Sin

Family

A Mess

A Mess

*A condition of disorder or confusion;
full of problems, difficulties, or
dysfunction*

A Hot Mess

A Hot Mess

An attractive disaster

**Mess is what
we all have common.**

Once you **were** dead because of
your disobedience and your many
sins.

Ephesians 2:1 NLT

All of us used to live that way,
following the passionate desires
and inclinations of our sinful
nature. By our very nature we were
subject to God's anger, **just like
everyone else.**

Ephesians 2:3 NLT

But God is so rich in mercy, and he
loved us so much,

Ephesians 2:4 NLT

that **even though** we were dead
because of our sins, he gave us
life when he raised Christ from the
dead. (It is only by God's grace
that you have been saved!)

Ephesians 2:5 NLT

For he raised us from the dead
along with Christ and **seated us**
with him in the **heavenly realms**
because we are **united** with Christ
Jesus.

Ephesians 2:6 NLT

God loves to meet us
in the mess.

So God can **point to us** in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:7 NLT

God saved you by his grace when you **believed**. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

Ephesians 2:8-9 NLT

For we are God's masterpiece...

Ephesians 2:10 NLT

*The most fundamental thing is not how
we think of God but how God thinks of us.
This is infinitely more important.*

C.S. Lewis

How you feel isn't a
trustworthy barometer of what
is most true about you.

What God says about you is
what's most true about you.

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us **anew** in Christ Jesus, **so we can do** the good things he planned for us long ago.

Ephesians 2:10 NLT

God doesn't rewrite our stories,
He redeems our stories.

*Redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be until I die.*

William Cowper