

Series "Our Riches In Christ"
"Amazing Grace"
Ephesians 2:1-7
Study-6

Ephesians 2:1 – **"And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,"** – This has got to be one of the most sobering statements that has ever been made concerning man's spiritual condition.

"The Heart of the Problem is the Problem of the Heart!"

2 Timothy 3:13

The Thought Of The Passage: "Mankind Is Born Separated From God, But By God's Grace Through Faith, We Can Be Born Again."

1. Verses 1-3 – Our Past Condition

2. Verses 4-6 – Our Present Condition

3. Verse 7 – Our Future Condition

1. Verses 1-3 – Our Past Condition:

Ephesians 2:1 – "And" – This is a continuation of the thought of the previous chapter. Ephesians 1:19-23 – "Might Know His Power."

Paul gave 3 illustrations of Jesus' power:

- 1. Resurrection from the dead – Ephesians 1:20; Ephesians 2:5**
- 2. Ascension – Ephesians 1:20-22; Ephesians 2:6**
- 3. His head ship in the Church – Ephesians 1:22-23; Ephesians 2:6**

Ephesians 1 is what God has done for us, His riches, and salvation from His point of view. Past, present, and future.

Ephesians 2 is now salvation for the individual, how this great power of God affects the past, present, and future. **We see what man is by nature, but also see what man can be by God's grace.**

Ephesians 2:1-10 – We see God's plan of salvation applied to man; Individual.

Ephesians 2:11-22 – We see God's great peace plan, working through the Church; Group.

“you were dead” – “You” – Presenting the picture of the condition of man before salvation.

“Dead” – literally means “separation;” when we use the word death, we are speaking of the separation of the soul and spirit from the body; that man is dead spiritually; that he cannot please God by his own doing.

Romans 3:10-12

A person can be quick, have a active intellect, great personality but in the area that matters the most, the “Soul,” they are dead, no life, blind to the reality of the demands of God, do not love God, deaf to the voice of the Holy Spirit, like a dead corpse. This is God’s diagnosis of the condition of man, “Dead.”

“in your trespasses and sins,” – We are dead because of sin; It is our nature and our actions. 2X in verses 1, 5; sins and trespasses.

“trespasses” – “a false step, a crossing of a known boundary, or a divination from the right path.” This is speaking of deliberate sin or sins of commission; active.

“sins” – “missing the target or mark, falling short of the standard.” These are sins of omission, or passive sins.

Genesis 2:16-17; Genesis 3:6-8

Death brought separation, sin separates us from God. It breaks the fellowship that we can have with Him.

Isaiah 59:2

Ephesians 2:2 – “in which you formerly (BC Before Christ) walked” – The term “walk” is a Biblical term for “habitual behavior, lifestyle;” what we do as a result of what we are.

God states that our walk is controlled by 3 areas when we are dead
– **World, Devil, and the flesh:**

1. “Course of this World” – 1 John 2:15

“course” – “The time we live in, the life time of ours”

“World” – “world affairs; the whole circle of earthly goods, endowments riches, advantages, pleasures, etc., which are hollow and frail and fleeting.”

- 2. (Devil) “according to the prince of the power of the air,”** – “Prince” – He is a master of deception; he mixes in just enough truth that people swallow the lie. He is called the god of this world, 2 Corinthians 4:4.

“power of the air,” – Literally, “foggy atmosphere;” Darkness versus the light.

“of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.” – Demonic forces energize the spiritually dead. They are then disobedient because of following Satan and not God.

- 3. Ephesians 2:3 – “Flesh”** – Is not saying that this body of ours is sinful in itself, but it is a reference to our sinful nature that we inherited from Adam; Self-centered, that is, led by passions and desires of the mind and body.

“indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.”

The doctrine of “Depravity;” that every part of man is tainted by sin; that it affects the mind, heart will, emotions.

Man is capable of doing good in a depraved condition, Luke 6:33.

Luke 11:13

“desires of the flesh and of the mind,” – It is our nature to sin. To live after the desire of our selfish nature. The mind is consumed with the things of the fallen nature.

“children of wrath, even as the rest.” – This is describing every one of us that are born into this world.

Wrath – “to grow ripe for something”

2. Verses 4-6 – Our Present Condition:

Ephesians 2:4 – “But God” – Paul describes our condemned condition then say’s “but God,” – Of all the beautiful phrases nothing is more beautiful than these two words. God did not run from our condition, but ran to our aid.

Romans 1-3 covers in depth what Ephesians 2:1-10 says in just a few verses.

God did 4 things for us – Showed Mercy, Love, made us alive, Grace:

1. **“being rich in mercy,”** – “mercy” – “Being shown favor when not deserved,” It takes “rich in mercy” to reach out to man in this condition.
2. **“because of His great love with which He loved us,”** – Love was the motive.

Ephesians 2:5

3. **“even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ”** – Resurrection power, Ephesians 1:20; This is the “Doctrine of Regeneration,” Titus 3:5.
4. **“(by grace you have been saved),”** – “grace” – “undeserved favor.” The basis of our salvation is God’s grace. We are saved only because of God’s love and unmerited favor for us.

Ephesians 2:6 – Ascension, Ephesians 1:19

3. Verse 7 – Our Future Condition:

Ephesians 2:7

“riches of His grace in kindness” – That was God not only saving us, but elevating us to a position of union with His Son.

Application:

1. The Bible Declares That Unless A Person Is Born Again By God’s Grace Through Faith, They Remain Spiritually Dead And Separated From God.
2. Persons That Are Spiritually Dead, Walk Under The Influence Of The World, The Flesh, And The Devil.
3. It Is Because Of God’s Great Mercy And His Love That We Can Be Saved And Made Alive In Christ.
4. Have I Been Made Alive In Christ? Have I Been Born Again? Do I Recognize That I Have Been Raised Up With Christ And Seated With Him In The Heavens?