

ALIVE IN CHRIST
EPHESIANS 2:1-10

WE HAVE STARTED THE POWERFUL, EMOTIONAL, AND ETERNALLY FOCUSED EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE CHURCH IN EPHEBUS AND SURROUNDING CHURCHES IN ASIA MINOR. THIS EPISTLE MINISTERS SPECIFICALLY TO WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST. OUR IDENTITY INDIVIDUALLY AND AS A BODY IS ALL FOUND IN CHRIST. KING JESUS, THE FIRST BORN INTO THE RESSURECTED LIFE IN THE HEAVENLIES. HIS PERFECT SINLESS LIFE AND SELFLESS SACRIFICE (LAYING HIS LIFE DOWN IN OUR PLACE) IS THE GLORIOUS OPEN DOOR OF SALVATION FOR THE SINNER. PAUL REPEATS OVER AND OVER, "IT IS BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST THAT WE ARE SAVED". SAVED FROM WHAT? SAVED FROM GOD'S WRATH AND ETERNAL DEATH. IN CHAPTER ONE PAUL SPEAKS OF THE BELIEVER BEING ADOPTED, CHOSEN, AND ELECTED IN CHRIST BEFORE THE EARTH WAS EVER FORMED. HE SPEAKS OF HOW EVERYTHING, EVEN AS MESSED UP AS THINGS ARE, WILL BE BROUGHT TO UNITY IN CHRIST EVENTUALLY. THIS IS OUR GREAT HOPE. SOMEDAY LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, EVERYTHING WILL BE PERFECT. IN PERFECT UNITY WE WILL LIVE WITH GOD. NO SICKNESS OR SADNESS, NO SIN OR TEMPTATIONS TO WEIGH US DOWN. JUST PERFECT LIFE IN PERFECT GLORY IN A PERFECT ATMOSPHERE WITH A PERFECT GOD. PAUL ALSO PRAYS THAT THE CHURCH WOULD UNDERSTAND THE POWER THAT COMES WITH SALVATION. THE SAME POWER THAT RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD LIVES IN EVERY BELIEVER. NO MAN ON EARTH AND NO DEVIL IN HELL

CAN THWART THE PLAN THAT GOD HAS FOR YOUR LIFE. PAUL EMPHATICALLY ENCOURAGES US TO TAP INTO OUR ETERNAL INHERITANCE NOW. TO UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE FORGIVEN OF SIN, WISDOM, REVELATION, UNDERSTANDING AND ENLIGHTENMENT TO GOD'S RICHES OUR OURS TO HAVE NOW, IN PART, BUT GUARANTEED TO BE FULFILLED AND COMPLETED IN HIS TIME. WE PICK IT UP TODAY IN CHAPTER 2. PAUL FOCUSSES ON THE RESSURECTION. CHRIST HAS RESSURECTED THEREFORE WE HAVE BEEN RESSURECTED IN HIM. WE WERE DEAD SPIRITUALLY FROM BIRTH, BUT NOW WE ARE ALIVE SPIRITUALLY IN CHRIST. IN CHAPTER 2 VERSUS 1-10, PAUL WALKS US THROUGH SALVATION PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. TODAY WE WILL LOOK AT 6 ASPECTS OF SALVATION. SALVATION IS; FROM SIN, BY LOVE, INTO LIFE, WITH PURPOSE, THROUGH FAITH, AND UNTO GOOD WORKS.

1. FROM SIN

Ephesians 2:1 NIV

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

WE WERE DOA FROM BIRTH UNDER THE ADAMIC BLOODLINE WE INHERITED THE VIRUS OF SIN WHICH SEPERATED US FROM GOD. IF YOU'RE A CHRISTIAN THIS IS YOUR PAST, IF YOU ARE NOT, THIS IS YOUR PRESENT CONDITION

Romans 5:12 NIV ¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

TRANSGRESSIONS/PARAPTOMA/ TO STUMBLE OR FALL AWAY
SINS/HAMARTIA/TO MISS THE TARGET

WE HAVE MISSED THE TARGET OF THE GLORY OF GOD IN
SEVERAL WAYS (PLURAL)

Ephesians 2:1-3 NIV

2 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

WAYS/AION/THIS AGE

WORLD/KOSMOS/WORLD SYSTEM OPPOSED TO GOD

IDEOLOGIES OF THE WORLD OPPOSED TO GOD

THIS IS TOTAL DEPRAVITY, COMPLETELY DISCONNECTED FROM
GOD AND TOTALLY FOCUSED ON SELF AND SELF
GRATIFICATION

FLESH/SARX/SIN NATURE,EGO

Isaiah 53:6 NIV

⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

HUMANISM, MATERIALISM, AND SEX (LUST) ARE THE KOSMOS
WAYS WE ONCE FOLLOWED. EVERYONE FOLLOWS ONE WAY
OR ANOTHER

Matthew 5:48 NIV

⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

WE SIN NOT BECAUSE OF WHAT WE DO, WE SIN BECAUSE OF
WHAT WE FAIL TO DO, WE FAIL TO LIVE HOLY PERFECT LIVES

2. BY LOVE

Ephesians 2:4-5 NIV

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in
mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in
transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

WHEN WE WERE WALKING DEAD, GOD LOVED US ANYWAY
AND SHOWED US GREAT MERCY AND GRACE

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

⁸ He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey
the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ They will be punished with
everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the
Lord and from the glory of his might

IT IS GOD THAT REGENERATES THE DEAD HEART, SO KNOW
ONE CAN BOAST

2 Peter 3:9

⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

3. INTO LIFE

Romans 6:4-10 NIV

⁴We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

2 Corinthians 8:9 NIV

⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

JESUS SACRIFICED EVERYTHING FOR US, FOR HIS GLORY AND FOR OUR SAKE

THIS IS TRUE LOVE AND TRUE LIFE; WE ARE TRULY ALIVE!!

4. WITH PURPOSE

Ephesians 2:6-7 NIV

⁶And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

HE RAISED US UP SPIRITUALLY, IN CHRIST SO THAT, WE WOULD BRING HIM GLORY WITH OUR REDEEMED LIVES. THAT OUR LIVES WOULD ENCOURAGE, CONVICT, BLESS, AND DIRECTLY EFFECT OTHERS DRAWING THEM TOWARDS GOD THE FATHER EVEN AS MESSY AS WE CAN GET, GOD IS FAITHFULLY AT WORK IN US AND THROUGH US. ULTIMATELY BRINGING US (THE SINNERS) TO FULLFILLMENT IN HIS GLORY FOR ETERNITY

WE HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST

SEATED/SYNKATHIZO/ INTIMATELY SIT DOWN TOGETHER

5. THROUGH FAITH

Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV

⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast.

MANKIND DIFFERS IN MORALITY LEVELS, MAN'S PROBLEM IS NOT WHETHER OR NOT HE CAN DO GOOD THINGS, WHETHER OR NOT HE CAN LIVE A LIFE WITH HIGH MORALS. IT IS IN OUR NATURE TO COMPARE OURSELVES TO OTHERS
MAN'S PROBLEM IS WE CAN'T LIVE A HOLY LIFE

SPURGEON- "A SELF MADE MAN USUALLY WORSHIPS HIS CREATOR(SELF) VERY EARNESTLY; AND YOUR SELF SAVED MAN GLORIFIES HIM THAT SAVED HIM"

2 Timothy 1:9-10 NIV

⁹He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

LUTHER- "GOD CREATES FAITH IN THE HUMAN HEART THE SAME WAY HE CREATED THE WORLD. HE FOUND NOTHING AND CREATED SOMETHING"

6. UNTO GOOD WORKS

Ephesians 2:10 NIV

¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

HANDIWORK/POIEMA/ POETIC MASTERPIECE, WORK OF ART
GOD DOES NOT MAKE JUNK, GOD DOES NOT MAKE MISTAKES

THE GOOD IN YOU, IS THE GOD IN YOU. GO.... AND BRING HIM
GLORY WITH THE LIFE YOU HAVE BEEN GRACIOUSLY GIVEN

END