

## Traveling The Kings Highway Pt 3

### Ephesians 2:1-10

- As we have read when traveling on “**The King’s Highways**” ie “**The Lord’s path**” you are going to be bombarded by the enemy with an innumerable amount of temptations, traps, and lies, all in an attempt to get you and I off the straight and narrow way that God has set forth for us to walk upon. Its all a part of what Bible theologian Donald Grey Barnhouse called “**The Invisible war**” a conflict between Satan and God that began when The Lord cursed the serpent in the garden of Eden and has continued until this day.
- One in which we are all a part of and is impossible to avoid, and you don’t need to enlist, or have an opinion either way to be involved, because as soon as you are born into this world you automatically become an active participant in the battle. Which is why its so important for us to understand what the Apostle Paul wrote in the book of Ephesians, for its here where he describes for us in detail the spiritual warfare that is taking place all around us.
- Having described our “**spiritual possessions in Christ**” in chapter 1, Paul now details our “**spiritual position in Christ**” here in chapter 2. In these verses that we’ll go over we will see what a miracle God did as He takes us “**out of the Great Graveyard of sin**” and places us into the “Wonderful Throne Room of Glory” all by His magnificent grace and mercy.
- I read a story about a Christian writer who’s publisher wanted a full length portrait that they could blow up and use as a life size display in order to promote his tapes and books at a convention. The writer had a buddy who was a professional photographer and he agreed to take the picture, well this was a new experience for him, as he had grown accustomed to sitting for head and shoulder photographs, not standing for full length photos.
- In taking the picture he had to watch his posture, his feet had to be placed just right, and the arms and hands usually forgotten, had to be in the right position, fortunately because his buddy was an expert he managed to get a decent picture in a short period of time. What does this story have to do with these verses? In these few verses the Apostle Paul is going to give us a full length picture of the terrible spiritual condition of the unsaved person.
- Let’s note **4** characteristics of the unsaved listed in these first 3 verses > 1. **He is Dead V1**, of course this means spiritually dead, so he is unable to understand and appreciate spiritual things, that means stop expecting an unsaved and spiritually dead world or person to act or respond as if they possess spiritual life, they don’t. A corpse is not hungry or thirsty, they have no appetite for food or drink, nor does he feel pain why? He is dead!
- **2. He is disobedient V2-3-** because he doesn’t have the Spirit of God in him then he cannot help but to be naturally drawn into darkness rather than to God’s light, as he is in rebellion to God for he is a son of disobedience. Although he’s dead he lives in sin > **Math 23:27-** he is a dead man walking, and all he responds to is that which leads to and perpetuates death.

- **3. He is depraved V3b-** Although the unsaved is dead spiritually that doesn't mean they don't respond to anything or have desires, for what motivates and moves them is they live to please the flesh and the wishes of the mind. This means they are unable to resist the world system that is controlled by "the prince of the power of the air" Satan himself, he is behind all of the chaos that we see today, and the people causing it are powerless to stop it.
- Think about it, we complain about what is going on in school, that kids don't have respect for adults, their parents, authority, they don't value anything, they are selfish and inconsiderate, they only care about getting their way, and yet they reject the notion that people were created by an omnipotent God Who has a plan for our lives, and expects us to love and respect our parents, adults, and authority, be selfless and compassionate, put others and their needs before our own, this they have taken out of the school system.
- What they replaced it with is we evolved from monkeys, or from a big glob of nothing that somehow turned into this complex living creation equipped with cells and DNA that know one can completely understand and yet we teach as fact that we come from either animals or nothing, and we wonder why we have the problems out of our young people today.
- **He is doomed 3C-** by nature children of wrath, we are born sinners, we deserve God's wrath, and if salvation doesn't come to us that's exactly what anyone who doesn't give their life to Christ will get. This folks is the full length picture of the terrible spiritual condition of the unsaved person, this is why we desperately urge the body to share the gospel with anyone who you know that is not saved, because this picture is anything but pretty.
- Even with sin working against us we have God working for us, look at these **5** things He does  
**1. He Loved us V4- "But God"** if God didn't love us we were doomed > **Rom 5:6-8** even in our sin God Who is rich in mercy reached down and reconciled us unto Himself, all because of His great love for us in which He loved us, notice it was nothing that we did it was all Him. **1Jn 4:8** says God is love, if anyone is not loving on others, they don't know Who God is.
- **2. He Quickened us V5-** it means He made us alive, He resurrected us spiritually, we who were dead in trespasses and sins are now alive in His Love, grace and mercy > **Jn 5:24** Wow! Now we are no longer slaves to sin > **Rom 6:17** we now are free to serve Christ and honor Him, being able to finally understand, obey and Love His Word.
- **3. He Exalted us V6-** we are not raised from the grave and left in the graveyard, absolutely not, our physical position may be on earth but our spiritual position is in heavenly places with Christ, and we can now agree and accept what Abraham said in **Heb 11:9-10** that this world was not his home, and that he was merely passing through knowing that God had a place waiting for him where there will be no sin, suffering and death.

- **4. He Keeps us V7-9-** God's purpose in redeeming us is not simply to rescue us from hell as great a work as that is, His ultimate purpose in our salvation is that for all eternity the church might glorify God's grace, mercy and love. Notice since we have not been saved by our good works we cannot be lost by our bad works, as Grace means salvation completely apart from any merit or works on our part, Grace means that God does it all for Jesus sake!
- **5. God's Work in us V10-** because we are His workmanship > "**Poema**" where we get our English word poem, created in Christ Jesus. Think about it, poems tell stories, and we are God's love story that He is telling the world about, using our lives to show anyone who will look and listen, that this broken and blemished vessel, that is now healed, whole, and made brand new on the inside, is an example of what I will do for you, if you also surrender to Me!