

## THE CHRISTIAN'S THREE ENEMIES

(Ephesians 2:1-3)

### I. INTRODUCTION (1:1-2)

### II. THE BELIEVER'S POSITION IN CHRIST (1:3-3:21)

#### A. OUR PRIOR CONDITION IN ADAM (2:1-3)

1. Paul opens verse 1 with some wonderful identification truth, “and you \_\_\_\_\_.” This phrase is most likely taken from verse 5. (v. 1a, cf. Rom. 6:5-6)

2. The apostle then launches into what we were once like as unbelievers- we were spiritually \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 1b, cf. Isa. 59:2; 64:6)

\* How many deaths are there in the Bible?

\* Why is this metaphor of death appropriate here?

3. Before we were saved, we were \_\_\_\_\_ by this \_\_\_\_\_ (*kosmos*) system and we \_\_\_\_\_ (*peripateo*) according to its standard of values. (v. 2a, cf., Rom. 1:20-23)

\* What does God think of this world system? (1 John 2:15-16; John 15:18-19; Rom. 12:2)

4. What makes matters worse, nearly \_\_\_\_\_ unbelievers are completely unaware of this negative influence as they receive Pulitzer Prizes, Nobel Peace Awards, Medal of Honors, and yet they will \_\_\_\_\_ into a Christless \_\_\_\_\_ along with everyone else.

5. When we were formerly “in Adam” (unregenerated), we were \_\_\_\_\_ influenced by the \_\_\_\_\_, “*the prince of the power of the air*,” we had no solution. (v. 2b; Luke 4:5-8; Eph. 6:11-12)
6. This evil influence from the world and demonic powers \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ (pres./act./ part.) \_\_\_\_\_ the unbeliever with constant attractions and activity. (v. 2c)
7. Paul includes both Jews and Gentiles, “*we all once conducted ourselves*,” living a \_\_\_\_\_ life under the control and lusts (*epithymia*) of our \_\_\_\_\_; we had no recourse. (v. 3a, cf., Gal. 5:19-21a; Ps. 51:5; 58:3; Rom. 7:17-18)
8. In our pre-salvation days, we \_\_\_\_\_ fulfilled the \_\_\_\_\_ of our sin nature as well as what emerged from our own hearts and \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 3b, cf. Jer. 17:9-10; Gal. 5:16-17; 2:20)
9. Because of our sinful disposition, we were \_\_\_\_\_ to experience the just \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 3c, cf. John 3:18-19)

\* Thank the Lord, Paul didn’t stop here in this inspired letter, but he went on to write about the spectacular thing that God (who is rich in mercy and love) did on our behalf.