

# Made Alive

Ephesians 1:1-7 - March 19, 2023

(No greater contrast is presented to us than in Ephesians 2. Black/white, good/bad, death/life)  
You have been brought to life, your spirit once dead is now alive.

## **Ephesians 2:1-7**

You were not **dying** in your trespasses and sin.

You were **dead** in your trespasses and sins.

*Not physically dead – but dead to matters that are spiritual and lasting, eternal and true.*

### **To be dead is to be void of life.**

**There is no seeing, feeling, thinking, or understanding.**

**There is a body but it is lifeless and nonresponsive.**

## **Position before Christ**

### **Dead to the will of God**

**John 14:16-17** “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever - **“the Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

In the same way that Jesus warned us in Matthew 7 that ***wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.***

## **Vs. 3 - (You to We)**

You followed your natural born desires and appetites.

***You and I were by nature children of wrath... just as the others.***

**Through Adam sin was brought into the world... we inherit that nature.**

**Romans 5:12** Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

**Psalm 51:5** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.”

***Eph. 2... sons of disobedience. (Obstinate opposition to God's will)***

He has his father's eyes, mother's nose, grandfather's ears... parent's inclination to sin.

No one has to learn to be stingy, violent, to lie, or deceive.

Kid crying because they don't get what they want.

***You and I were by nature children of wrath... just as the others, sons of disobedience.***

**You once walked according to the course of this world**

**You once walked** (carried yourself along, operated in such a way)

“Different walks of life” – you assimilate into your group and live with commonalities.

That natural way of living... the rhythm of life is to sin.

## ***We all conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh,***

To conduct out lives... train operator or leader of an orchestra.

**OUR flesh:** custom-tailored to your desires – all sin.

### **Fulfilling the desires of the flesh:**

Things that satisfy physical desires. Gluttony, sexual impulses, rage/fighting,

### **Fulfilling the desires of the mind:**

## ***According to*** (in accordance with) ***the course of this world***

**Course:** a segment of time, age, or culture

The modern ways and customs of the current culture.

***If you are a follower of culture, you are not a follower of Christ.***

- Safe spaces and hate speech
  - Pronouns – kids don't decide and PS. They didn't come up with this.
  - Pro-choice
  - Exposing children to sexualized topics
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- ruler of this world... will be judged – John 16:11
  - god of this age – 2 Corinthians 4:4
  - ruler of the demons – Luke 11:15
  - the serpent of old, Devil and Satan - Revelation 12:9

***Eph. 2 According to the prince of the power of the air.***

**Prince of the power of the air:** Prince = chief or captain of the fallen angels

## ***This might hurt a little...***

We are to be fishers of men... Satan is fishing for people as well.

All Temptation is, an allurements being set before your sinful nature asking you to bite.  
Fishing in clear water

**James 1:13-16**

**WE not HE!!!**

- Not God
- Not Satan
- WE!
- Not people – you will not be able to blame others for your decisions. (they own scars)  
You longer have to live under the power of what someone once did.  
**Live in the life-giving power of what God is doing right now.**

**There is a secondary understanding of being dead in sins.**

**Like a prisoner, already tried, already found guilty, already convicted, and on their way to life in prison or execution, you are dead in your sins. Eternal judgment is on its way.**

**Dead people stay dead.**

Someone could get out the paddles or administer CPR but in your given state, you are dead.

Flashes of reality – paddles shocking you to life. Conviction & Revelation of the Holy Spirit

- A glimpse of the party life being empty
- A glimmer of yourself in the mirror when you leave the charity banquet
- Leaving the last one-night stand and seeing the void left behind

## **MADE ALIVE!!!** Our position IN CHRIST

*(1) And you He made alive, who were dead in your trespasses and sins...*

**Dead in trespasses and sins... like reaching into a garbage disposal**

*Grungy, nasty carnality... rotting flesh all around and Jesus came and waded through the swamp to find us.*

The catalyst, what kicked it all into motion. **God's love!**

**Ephesians 2:4-7**

*HE made you alive when You were dead...*

Shining the glory and credit where credit and glory are due

**ALIVE:** to infuse vigor, to revive, to cause something to come alive, the stage of pregnancy where you can feel the baby kick.

**Titus 3:5** not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

**Regeneration:** The change that takes place when the natural enmity and will of man that is against God is subdued and replaced by an exalted and supreme love toward God and his law. Where holy affections are implanted in the heart ( Noah Webster) **(HEART TRANSPLANT)**

## PERSPECTIVE

1. **Alive together with Christ**
2. **Raised us up together**
3. **Sit together** in the heavenly places

**Alive together with Christ:**

The moment He rose from the dead the possibility and promise of new life was given.

**Raised us up together:**

From the state of being lifeless and nonresponsive to spiritual truth to being made alive, born again, forgiven, made new, washed clean, and set free. **(OUT OF THE GRAVE OF SPIRITUAL DEADNESS)**

**Sit together in the heavenly places:**

Don't you revel in the victory of the home team? vs. when your team loses.

We are part of what He did... members of His body. He is the HEAD. When Christ returns we return with Him. MVP goes to one person. Others were in the mix, we get to be a part of what God is doing (vs. 10) Put on the same jersey, uniform, and armor of the kingdom.

In heaven we'll sit together... **banquet table**, commissioned in the millennial reign,

That in the ages to come He would show

- Just how much grace He has
- Just how much kindness He has given

HOW will that be magnified?

In Christ...

Here I am to worship...

*I'll never know how much it cost to see my sins upon that cross...*

We will see each other in heaven with a clear understanding of our sin and be shocked that we are there and be shocked that you are there. (We will then realize how much grace it took, how much love it took, how much kindness it took to look upon us and want to save us.)

**The crown jewel of His expression and action of grace, mercy, and kindness is on display through the death and resurrection of Jesus!**

## **DEATH & LIFE**

There could not be a more clear expression and explanation of how drastic a difference there is between having put your faith in Jesus and not.

### **Default Settings (Caution)**

You will either operate in the life and power of God or you will operate in the life and power of self. Are you separated from your old life... TO live is Christ and to die is gain.

### **Jesus Centered Life**

So often we read the Bible with a me centered view (WOKE THEOLOGY)... where am I in this, how does this affect me, what should me myself and I do with this... the whole point of this is God-focused. Who He is, what HE is like, what HE has done, What He wills to do...

*If we have a right view of God and a right view of how God sees us, then we will have a right view of life.*

Are you living ALIVE in Christ? (Christ in you, the hope of glory)

All of this is seen, understood, and lived out from a heavenly perspective.

- **Our position is one of the KINGDOM!!!**
- **Our perspective is of the KINGDOM!!!**
- **Our purpose is of the KINGDOM!!!**