

PART 3 HANDOUT EPHESIANS 2:1-10 "Made Alive in Christ" Get Out of the Graveyard!

Having described Our "Spiritual Possessions" in Christ, Now, Paul turns to: "Our Spiritual Position in Christ". "What a Miracle of God's Grace! We are Taken Out of the Great Graveyard of Sin and Placed into the Throne Room of Glory!" READ Ephesians 2: 1-10

Vs 1-3 Sins Work Against Us: Here Paul Gives Us a Picture of the "Terrible Spiritual Condition" of the Unsaved Person. **Note the Characteristics of the Unsaved:**

- **Vs 1 He is Dead.** Meaning that he is Spiritually Dead; that is, he is Unable to Understand and Appreciate Spiritual Things. **The Spiritual Faculties of the Unsaved Person...Are Not Functioning and They Cannot Function Until God Gives A Person New Life.**
- The Unbeliever is Not Sick, He Is Dead! Sinners Don't Need Resuscitation, they Need Resurrection
- **CONSIDER THIS TRUTH: All Lost Sinners are Dead, and the Only Difference Between One Sinner and Another is the "State of Decay".**

Vs 2-3 He is Disobedient: The Beginning of Man's Spiritual Death...Was In Genesis 3 When Mankind Disobeyed the Will of God and Ate of the ONE Tree that God Forbid them.

- **Since that Time, All Mankind has Lived in Disobedience to God.**

Three Forces that Encourage Men and Women to Disobey God: The World, The Devil, and the Flesh

The Worlds System, Puts Pressure on Each Of Us to Try to Get US to Conform **Rom 12** The Unsaved Person, Consciously or Unconsciously, is Controlled by the Values, Desires and Attitudes of This World.

The Devil is a Spirit that Now Works in the Children of Disobedience. This does Not Mean that Satan is Personally at Work in Each Unbelievers Life...Since Satan as a Created Being is Limited in Space.

- **Unlike God, Who Is Omnipresent, Satan Cannot Be in All Places At One Time.**

Satan Was Disobedient and Fell from Grace...And it is his Goal to Have Us Fall Also! So...If he Can Not Keep Us from God's Grace...he Seeks to Entice Believers to Fall in Disgrace.

- The Unsaved...Choose to Disobey God Because they Believe Satan's Lies!!! **KEY: When Any Person Believes Satan's Lie, They Become a Child of Disobedience.**

The Flesh Encourages Unbelievers to Disobey God. The Flesh Refers to that Fallen Nature that We Were Born With...And It Wants to Control Our Body and Our Mind and Make Us Disobey God

- **The Unsaved Person Needs Outside Help, and that Help can Only Come From God!**

Verse 3 He is Depraved! The lost Sinner Lives to Please the Desires of the Flesh and the Wishes of the Mind...His Actions are Sinful Because His Appetites are Sinful. When You Apply the Word Depraved to the Unsaved Person, You are Not Saying that Person Only Does Evil...Or Is Incapable of Doing Good.

- **You are Saying...That Person is Incapable of Doing Anything to Merit Salvation, Or to Meet the High Standards of God's Holiness.**

Vs 3 He is Doomed! By Nature, Children of Wrath! By Deed, Children of Disobedience! The Unsaved Person is Condemned Already John 3:18. But God is Merciful. 2 Peter 3:8-10.

- Man Cannot Save Himself, **But God** in His Grace Steps In to Make Salvation Possible. **BUT GOD! What a Difference, those 2 Words Make! Which Leads to the 2nd Work.**

2. Vs 4-9 God's Work for Us. "Salvation is of the Lord." Jonah 2:9 We are Reminded of the 4 activities that God performed on behalf of sinners to save them from the consequences of their sins.

- **He Loved US Vs 4.** 1John 4 tells us, By Nature, God is Love. You See, God would love, even if there were No sinners, because Love is a part of His very being.
- By Nature, God is Truth; But when He Relates to Man, God's Truth Becomes Faithfulness.

God is by Nature Holy & when He Relates that Holiness to man, it Becomes Justice. When this Love is Related to Sinners, it becomes Grace & Mercy. These Riches Make it Possible for Sinners to be Saved.

- In His Mercy, He does Not Give Us What We Deserve...And In His Grace, He Gives Us What We Do Not Deserve...Salvation through Jesus Death on the Cross.
- **POINT: At Calvary God Displayed His Hatred for Sin and His Love for Sinners. John 3**

Vs 5 He Quickened Us. He made Us Alive when We Were Dead in Sin. This Spiritual Resurrection was Accomplished by the Power of the God's Spirit, **Through His Word.**

- God Made Us Alive Together with Christ. As Members of His Body We are United to Him So that We Share His Resurrection, Life and Power Eph 1:19–20.

Vs 6 He Exalted Us. United to Christ, We're Exalted with Him & Share His Throne in the Heavenlies. Our Physical Position May Be On Earth...But Our Spiritual Position is In Heavenly Places In Christ Jesus.

Vs 7-9 He Keeps Us! God's Purpose in Our Redemption is Not to just Rescue Us from Hell. His Purpose in Our Salvation is that the Church Might Glorify God's Grace. Eph 1:6

Vs 10 God's Work in Us. For we are His Workmanship Created in Christ Jesus.

- Our Conversion is Not the End; It is the Beginning. God continues to work in us to make us what He wants us to be, Which is to make us more like Christ Rom 8:29.
- Christ is Equipping us for Our Walk and Our Work here on Earth. To do this He Uses 3 Special Tools: the **Word of God** 1 Thess 2, **Prayer** Eph 3, and **Suffering** 1 Peter 4. **Eph 4:22-24**
- **FACT>>>**The Same Resurrection Power that Saved You and Took You Out of the Graveyard of Sin can Daily Help You Live for Christ and Glorify Him.

God Cannot Work In Us Unless He Works IN US! Spend time Daily in the Word and Prayer. And Yield to Christ during Times of Suffering. For it is through the Word, Prayer, and Suffering that God Works IN You.

- **Vs 10 God's Work Through Us!** We are Created in Christ Jesus Unto Good Works. We are Not Saved by Good Works...We Are Saved Unto Good Works!
- **Isaiah 64 declared that All Man's Righteousness's are as Filthy Rags in God's Sight**
- **THOT:** If Our Righteousness's are Filthy...**What Must Our Sins Look Like to God?!**

The works Paul writes about in Eph 2:10 have 2 characteristics The Unbeliever has Satan Working in him, and Therefore his Works are Not Good. **BUT the Believer** has God Working in him, and Therefore his Works are Good, Because he has a New Nature from God,

- **Our Good Works are Testimonies to the Lost. 1 Pet 2. They Win Us the Right to be Heard.**

Question: Have you Experienced His Work For You, In You, and Through You? Are you Wearing the Grave Clothes or the Grace clothes?

Are you enjoying the Liberty you have in Christ, or are you still bound by the habits of the old life in the Graveyard of Sin?

If You Are IN Christ, You have Been Raised and Seated On the Throne with Christ. So Practice Your Position IN Christ!

"LIFE" Point: We Discover God's Exciting Will for Our Lives As the Spirit Reveals it to Us From the Word 1 Cor 2:9-13.