



From Death to Life

# From Death to Life:

- ▶ “Are you an addict?”
- ▶ In the first chapter of Ephesians Paul has focused on who we are in Christ. We have been chosen, adopted, redeemed, forgiven; we have an inheritance & are an inheritance; we’ve been sealed with the Spirit. Paul prays for revelation for us to know who Jesus is, and who we are in Christ.

# From Death to Life:

- ▶ But, in Ephesians 2:1-10, Paul wants us to know the stark contrast between our life before Jesus and our life after Jesus. His Point: God brought us out of bondage into the benefits of life in Christ. In Christ we have moved from bondage to freedom, from death to life!

# From Death to Life:

- ▶ Ephesians 2:1-10, “As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 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.

# From Death to Life:

- ▶ Ephesians 2:1-10, "All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath."

# From Death to Life:

- ▶ Ephesians 2:1-10, “But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace that you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,”

# From Death to Life:

- ▶ Ephesians 2:1-10, “in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

# From Death to Life:

- ▶ Ephesians 2:1-10, “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”



# Out of Bondage:

- ▶ **We were all dead in our sins and in bondage to evil (v. 1-3) – life before Christ.**
- ▶ We were dead in transgressions & sins (v.1)  
Obviously Paul isn't referring to literal physical death, but alienation from the one who gives life (cut off from the life of God). (John 10:10 – Jesus came to give life eternal & life abundant)

# Out of Bondage:

- ▶ **We were all in dead in sin & in bondage to evil (v. 1-3) – life before Christ.**
- ▶ There were three forms of evil influence enslaving us that resulted in our spiritual deadness – the world (v.2), the ruler of the kingdom of the air (v.2), and our sinful nature (v.3) (World – ideologies, culture, peer pressure; ruler – Satan & spirits; sinful nature – propensity to do wrong – child)

# Into Life:

- ▶ **In Christ we move from bondage to freedom, from death to life.** Made spiritually alive. Eph 2:4-5, “But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace that you have been saved.” Grace – undeserved favor. (Metaphors: saved, redeemed, born) (Invite)

# Into Life:

- ▶ **In Christ we have received the benefit of moving from bondage to evil influences to authority over them.** Eph 2:6, “And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.” Seated with Christ. (over all 3 forces of evil – sinful nature, world, Satan) (e.g., family sin pattern; spirit & soul)

# Into Life:

- ▶ **In Christ we have received the benefit of working from approval** (rather than for approval) – Eph 2:8-10, “For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. (no amount of works; no balancing scales)

# Into Life:

- ▶ **In Christ we have received the benefit of working from approval** (rather than for approval) – Eph 2:8-10, “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (a supernatural partnership to advance the kingdom; promptings – divine appointments {waitress} & divine assignments {writing; serving})