

Bill Connors / General

Ephesians / Ephesians 2:1-10

UNION WITH CHRIST (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13)

RICHES/INHERITANCE (3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14)

GLORY (3, 6, 12, 14)

ELECTION (4)

LOVE (4, 6)

DIVINE WILL/PLAN (4, 5, 9, 10, 11)

ADOPTION (5)

PREDESTINATION (5, 11)

GRACE (6, 7)

REDEMPTION (7, 14)

RECONCILIATION (7, 10)

WISDOM (8)

UNDERSTANDING (8)

MYSTERY (9)

SALVATION (13)

FAITH/BELIEF (13)

HOLY SPIRIT (13, 14)

Ephesians 2:1-10

Ephesians 2:1-10 CSB

¹ And you were dead in your trespasses and sins ² in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit now working in the disobedient. ³ We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and we were by nature children under wrath as the others were also. ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love that he had for us, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! ⁶ He also raised us up with him and

seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might display the immeasurable riches of his grace through his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—⁹ not from works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.

Outlining thought:

- Verses 1-3: An explanation of our former plight as objects of God's wrath
- Verses 4-7: An explanation of how God saved us from our former plight
- Verses 8-10: An explanation of the gracious nature of our salvation

v1-3:

v1:

Compare verse 1 with Colossians 2:13:

Colossians 2:13 CSB

¹³ And when you were dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, he made you alive with him and forgave us all our trespasses.

What does Paul mean when he says that his readers were "dead?"

What cross-reference does our Study Bible give us for this concept?

v2

- › Discussion question: How can Paul say that we "previously" walked in trespasses and sins, if we in fact still sin?

Notice cross-reference "b" on page 1873 of our Study Bibles. To what verses does that refer?

For reflection: Could we be witnessing the fulfillment of 1 Timothy 4:1-2 in our very day?

v3

"In sum, he argues that rebellion against God is a state integral to the human condition apart from the Gospel; it affects everyone without exception, and it affects everyone profoundly."

—Frank Theilman, *Ephesians, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament*

So why does Paul say "flesh and thoughts?"

What do our Study Bible notes have to say about the lost (previously, us) being "children under wrath?"