

EPHESIANS - LESSON THREE

INTRODUCTION

In 2:1-10, Paul helps us see the greatness of God's love and our salvation by putting it in the context of our sins. When we see the helplessness of our old sinful condition (dead in sin) we should appreciate our new condition (alive in Christ).

In this lesson we will investigate the character of the sinners' (Gentiles and Jews) condition outside of Christ, God's love behind our salvation, and what our new condition is in Christ.

I. OUR NEW CONDITION IN CHRIST (2:1-10)

A. The Old Condition (v.1-3).

1. Dead in sins.
2. Spiritual death characterized by:
 - a) Walking according to the course of this world
 - b) Inspired by the prince of the powers of the air.
 - c) Manifested by disobedience
 - d) Deserving of God's wrath.

B. The Basis for our new condition (v.4-5).

1. By a Merciful and Loving God.
2. By Grace through Faith.

C. The New Condition (v.6-10).

1. Raised to sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.
2. Saved by God's grace - not by works.
3. Workmanship of God for good works.

QUESTIONS:

1. We are spiritually dead because of (a) inherited sins of Adam (b) our own sins.
2. Define "trespasses" and "sins":
3. Being dead means we are (a) separated (b) inactive.
4. How had sinners "walked"?

5. How is Satan connected with the sinner's walk in life?
6. What does it mean to be children of wrath "by nature" ?
7. In our salvation should we FIRST look to what we have done or what God has done?
8. What is the character of God's saving grace?
9. When were we raised to sit with Christ ?
10. The gift of God in verse 8 is pointing to (a) our faith (b) our salvation.
11. What does it mean to sit with Christ in the heavenly places?
12. What is God's eternal purpose for his new creatures in Christ?