

Who We Were; Who We Are.

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-3
2. a. You He (God) made alive. God, not us. We neither created ourselves physically nor spiritually. Psalm 100:4.
 - b. We were dead in our trespasses and sins. Three views of the state of man after the Fall: well, sick, dead. Dead is the Scriptural teaching.
 - c. Adam and Eve before the Fall were able to sin and able not to sin. Unregenerate man after the Fall is not able not to sin. Romans 3:9-18.
3. a. In which you once walked. Walking in the Scriptures refers to a lifestyle. There is a difference between being a sinner and living in sin.
 - b. According to the course of this world. What does this mean?
 - c. The spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience. The evil one: Satan, the prince of the power of the air and the god of this world or age.
 - d. John 8:44. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.
 - e. Fulfilling the desires of flesh and mind. Mental sins are just as sinful in God's sight as sinful actions. Matthew 5:21-22; 27-28
 - f. We were by nature children of wrath. God is not the father of all men. What do we mean by God's wrath? What is the difference between God's wrath and ours?
 - g. Romans 1:18-21. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts and their foolish hearts were darkened.
4. Read Ephesians 2:4-7.
 - a. But God. Little words mean a lot

b. God is rich in mercy. Justice: getting what we deserve. Mercy: not getting what we deserve. He made us alive because of His great love. Titus 3:3-5.

c. God made us alive together with Christ. Our new birth is a resurrection, as Christ rose physically.

d. By grace you have been saved. Grace: getting what we don't deserve. i.e. God raised us together with Christ, seated together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Eternal life is both a present and a future reality. The word "together" is extremely significant.

5. That He might show the exceeding riches of His grace. Mark 10:45; Romans 5:12-21. (David and Mephibosheth.).