

Ephesians pt 4 (2:1-10)

2:1 You were dead in sin (verse 5,6). Paul considered our life before conversion to be living in death (Colossians 2:13). Though our body was active, our spirit had no life, no communion with God. Jesus is life! Outside of Him there is no life of an eternal nature (John 17:3). The transformation into life is chiefly evidenced by love (1John 3:14; Ephesians 1:15).

2:2 Satan took dominion over the earth when Adam relinquished his rights. He has a title and position over this lower atmosphere. We used to march to his orders (Colossians 3:7). He still works in those who are disobedient to God. Expect those who are not redeemed to follow his lead. Don't be surprised when he inspires them. They are not your enemy. They are his duped captives.

2:3 When deciding how to act toward the unredeemed, remember you were once in their shoes. Everything was then for self-gratification. We were fuel for the fire, but God pulled us out of captivity and shined His light into our souls. Titus 3:3; Romans 9:22-24

2:4,5 Out of the motivation of love alone, mercy was extended to us so that we were able to see our wretched condition (Romans 5:8). The grace of God helped us to cry out to God and we were brought from spiritual death to life.(Romans 8:2)

2:6 We die with Jesus upon the cross and we are raised with Him to newness of life. His resurrection is our resurrection also (Romans 6:4,5). He is seated at the place of power and authority, the right hand of God. Since we are in Him, we too are seated there. Revelation 3:21

2:7 Why are we recipients of mercy and grace and seated in Christ at the helm of the universe? God wants to make a demonstration of the incomparably great riches of His grace. That grace was demonstrated to us in the life of Christ. (2Timothy 1:16)

2:8,9 A great pair of verses to memorize. We did nothing whatsoever to deserve it! It was entirely by His grace through faith. He did it all. We have nothing to boast about but His extravagant grace. (Romans 3:27,28)

2:10 We are a work of God. The Greek is *poiema* from which we derive the word poem. What God is doing in you is His poem. You are a poem being written. The topic of the poem is the incredible grace of God. He even prepared good works for you to do. Even the fruit in your life is from the work of God. You can't boast about that either. It is incredible to consider that He pulls these dead sin enslaved creatures out of darkness and redeems them and transforms them into the image of His Son. Grace! Mercy! Love! Incredible!