

THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

PAUL'S PRISON EPISTLE

CHAPTER 2:1-3

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TITLE:

"FROM DEATH TO LIFE" - PART 1

THE BELIEVERS RICHES IN CHRIST

THEME:

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

INTRODUCTION

North, along Hwy. 395, on the left, you'll see Mount Whitney 14,495 - The highest point in California. Just under 80 miles from the peak you descend down into the lowest spot in America, the second lowest spot on earth - Death Valley (@134⁰ F in the shade)

The Elevation Difference
is the most dramatic in all the World

1.) The Death Valley Experience

vv. 1-3

A diamond placed against a black back ground
- Looks its best

Paul paints the black back ground...

a) We were all born in the Valley

v. 1

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Dead GRK 3498 nekros (nek-ros')

A lifeless body, a corpse!

“This is an Absolute Statement”

Meaning - it is all truth and nothing but truth

Physicians Tell us

That Death occurs when the brain waves flatten and there is no longer any sustaining physiological functions - the body is dead

But God tells us

That the human being is born dead. Dead in the truest sense of the word. There is a death that is far greater than physical death.

God is Holy... We are Not

(Jesus upon the Cross - “May God, May God)

Revelation 20:14

Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

The “you” inside your body lives on with or without the body...

We are not kinda dead - not symbolically dead -
not positionally dead

we are, in fact, dead in the truest meaning of word dead in biblical terms

This is What Murdered Us;

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Trespasses GRK 3900 paraptoma (par-ap'-to-mah

A deviation. An intentional error or fault that is - WILLFUL

To transgress is to sin with premeditation. To sin willfully
to know what is right - but to do what is wrong

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Sins GRK 264 hamartano (ham-ar-tan'-o)

To miss the mark or standard. To not win the prize

To Sin is to try real hard not to... but you sin still

{This is Us - for the most part}

I AM JUST AS GUILTY AS THE TRANSGRESSOR

This is Our Dilemma

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. Romans 7:14

The Failure of the Human Nature

Romans 5:12-14

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man,(Adam) and death through sin, and in this way death came to all mankind, because all have sinned-- for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin was not taken into account where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, (yet they still died)

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Galatians 3:22

But the Scripture has confined all under sin,
that the promise by faith (in Jesus Christ) might be given to those who believe.

DEAD HERE MEANS - A UNIVERSAL DEATH
AND A CONTINUING MODE OF DEATH

The Point that Paul is making is... Because we were all born under sin's rule, we are all dead to God - and a dead man can do nothing for Himself.

At the University College Hospital in London England
Philosopher Jeremy Bentham left the school multi-millions of dollars but only if he could
sit on the board of directors for as long as the school lasted. - He's been on the board
there now nearly 160 years - At roll call the chairman announces **"Present - But not
Voting"**

Before we came to Christ

We were Present - But we were unable to Vote

b) The Road in the Valley

v. 2

Paul exposes "3" Accomplices

"In which you once **walked** according to the **course** of this #1-world

#1 THE WORLD

* **World** GRK 2889 kosmos (kos'-mos)
The material and immaterial regions of the creation

* **Walked** GRK 4043 peripateo (per-ee-pat-eh'-o)
To tread all around, to walk at large. To be occupied with it

"The world" - roll around in it, play with it, sit
on it, drink it
.... This is the World Baby - Enjoy It!!!

* **Course** GRK 165 aion (ahee-ohn')
The age; the trends & fades (present now or future to come)

The spiritual dead
are dominated by a world view & world social agenda

Mother earth - we are one - create our own reality thinker

The Pop-Culture Trends & Moods

The music scene MTV is from hell &
is Satanic
(Good with the bad - **He will use the bad**)

The O2 behind the scenes
Satan is the trend setter - the fad maker

#2-According to the **prince** of the **power** of the **air**

#2 THE DEVIL

* Prince	GRK 758 archon (ar'-khone) First one (in rank or authority & power) a magistrate.
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* Power	GRK 1849 exousia (ex-oo-see'-ah) Jurisdiction, or right, strength over a region.
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Satan never Sleeps

The work of Satan in the world today
(Since the beginning, has always been the same)

Satan is a Prince;

John 12:31

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

Satan is a Judged Prince;

John 16:11

The ruler of this world is judged.

But Satan is a Supreme Magistrate;

2 Corinthians 4:3

The god of this age

1.) The work of Satan in the life of the believer

HIS IS A DEVIL (SLANDERER)

Revelation 12:10

He is the accuser of our brethren, who accused us before our God day & night

HIS IS A TEMPTER (SET YOU UP)

1 Thessalonians 3:5

I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.

2.) The work of Satan in the life of the church

1. To confuse
2. To quench
3. To discredit (Montana freemen - Bible Christians)

All with one specific goal in mind - to divide and to prevail

- Whatever Jesus Does - Satan does the Opposite
- Whatever Jesus Wants - Satan wants the Opposite
- Whatever Jesus Loves - Satan hates

(Just because Jesus loves YOU - Satan hates YOU)

Jesus loves the lost soul out there...

(-)

Your spouse/ your teen / your parents are the most hated and despised piece of rotten stinking trash, good for nothing worthless scum - according to Satan

(+)

Because they are the most precious, loved, prized, desired
individuals on the face of the earth

The **spirit** who now **works** in the sons of disobedience

v.2c

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Spirit GRK 4151 pneuma (pnyoo'-mah)

A current of air, or a breeze

Unknown to the Secular System

The Global World Agenda is a Move towards an Appointment with Their Ultimate
Production - The Anti-Christ (Impostor Messiah)

1 John 2:18

Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. 1 John 4:3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

WHAT THAT SPIRIT ACCOMPLISHES IS....

2 John 1:7

For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

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Works

GRK 1754 energeo (en-erg-eh'-o);

To be active and efficient. To be hard at work, accomplishing much

3.) The work of Satan in the life of the lost

HE BLINDS PEOPLE:

How to Identify Someone Who's Spiritually Blind

2 Corinthians 4:3

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has **blinded**, - who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Those who do not believe (trust in Christ for Salvation)
are blinded by Satan

HE DECEIVES PEOPLE:

Revelation 12:9

The great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world

Ephesians 6:11

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the **wiles** of the devil. (The tricky schemes and traps)

HE STEALS PEOPLE:

Jesus has always stressed the urgency to come to Him for Safety
(As though a wolf was tasting the air)

The Business of a Pastor
is that he is to be a tool of rescue those who are lost!!!

2 Timothy 2:26
so that lost may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil,
having been taken captive by him to do his will.

Jesus say's Satan is a Thief - (a thief of Souls)

John 10:10
"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 8:44
"He was a murderer from the beginning"

c) Life in the Valley

vv. 3

#3 THE FLESH

"Among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh,
fulfilling the **desires of the flesh and of the mind**,

1 Corinthians 6:9
Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

The Flesh is better described by telling the story of that little girl who pushed her brother down, kicked him in the shins... then pulled his hair!

Susie - How could you let the devil talk you into doing that to your little brother.... "Well the devil told me to push him down and kick him - but pulling his hair was all my idea!

Our Flesh is like that,
it finishes off what the World or Satan might start

- The World *will Tempt us from the Outside*
- The Flesh *will Tempt us from the Inside*
- The Devil *will Tempt us Beyond*

THESE ARE THE ACCOMPLICES TO SPIRITUAL MURDER

And were **by nature** children of wrath, just as the others.

John 3:36

"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

1 Timothy 5:6

But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

Titus 3:3

For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But,..... when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, - everything changed!!!

Psalms 23:4

Yeah! - though I walk through the **valley of the shadow of death**,
I will fear no evil; for You are with me; your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Living a holy life to the glory of God