

PART OF SOMETHING BIG





EPHESIANS 2:1-7





We were spiritually dead BUT GOD made us alive!



¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience -3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—



⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.





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What do those who are walking who are spiritually dead look like?



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Those walking who are spiritually dead are captives to...

• ... the values of our culture.



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Those walking who are spiritually dead are captives to...

• ... the values of our culture.

 \circ ... more



- ... the values of our culture.
 - \circ ... more
 - \circ ... no boundaries



- ... the values of our culture.
 - o ... more
 - ... no boundaries
 - \circ ... no moral absolutes



- ... the values of our culture.
 - \circ ... more
 - ... no boundaries
 - ... no moral absolutes
 - \circ ... if it makes ME happy



- ... the values of our culture.
 - \circ ... more
 - ... no boundaries
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 - ... if it makes ME happy
 - $\circ\;$... politics are the answer



- ... the values of our culture.
 - \circ ... more
 - ... no boundaries
 - ... no moral absolutes
 - ... if it makes ME happy
 - $\circ \$... politics are the answer
 - $\,\circ\,$... comfort and entertainment are the goals of life



Those walking who are spiritually dead are captives to...

• ... the values of our culture.

- o ... more
- ... no boundaries
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- ... politics are the answer
- \circ ... comfort and entertainment are the goals of life
- ... don't say anything that might potentially be offensive to anyone

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- o ... more
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- \circ ... politics are the answer
- \circ ... comfort and entertainment are the goals of life
- ... don't say anything that might potentially be offensive to anyone

 $\circ~$... if you don't agree with me, we can't be friends



- ... the values of our culture.
- ... a real supernatural enemy.



¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, <u>following the prince of the power of the air</u>, <u>the spirit that is now at work</u> <u>in the sons of disobedience</u>— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.



"There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves (the devils) are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight."

C. S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters*



- ... the values of our culture.
- ... a real supernatural enemy.
- ... our own predisposition to sin.



¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the <u>sons of disobedience</u>— ³ among whom <u>we all once lived in the passions of our flesh</u>, <u>carrying out the desires of the body and the mind</u>, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.



- ... the values of our culture.
- ... a real supernatural enemy.
- ... our own predisposition to sin.
- ... a righteous, eternal condemnation.



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"If only it were so simple! If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being."

- Alexander Solzhenitsyn







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• God's Motive:



- God's Motive:
 - Mercy



- God's Motive:
 - MercyLove



- God's Motive:
 - MercyLoveGrace



- God's Motive:
 - Mercy
 - \circ Love
 - Grace
 - Kindness



⁴ <u>But God</u>, being <u>rich in mercy</u>, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.



⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the <u>great love with</u> <u>which he loved us</u>, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.



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- God's Motive
- God's Work



- God's Work:
 - $\,\circ\,$ Saved us



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- God's Work:
 - Saved us
 - $\circ~$ Raised us up with Him



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- God's Work:
 - \circ Saved us
 - Raised us up with Him
 - $\circ~$ Seated us with Him



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- God's Work:
 - \circ Saved us
 - Raised us up with Him
 - $\circ~$ Seated us with Him
 - Uses us to display God's immeasurable grace



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