

Ephesians 2:1-10

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 7-29-15

Context

Paul's prayer in 1:15-23 - to know the hope and power of our calling, both future and present

2:1 - "and you were dead..." - continuation

2:1-3 - The Human Condition

The scope of his statement - "you" (v. 1); "we too all" (v. 3a); "as the rest" (v. 3b)

- _____ on earth apart from God - the universal human condition
- Cf. Romans 1-3

3 appalling truths:

1. V. 1 - _____
 - Not hyperbole - a statement of _____
 - "trespasses" and "sin" - _____ and _____
 - Cf. "alienated from the life of God" (4:18); Isa. 59:2
2. Vv. 2-3 - _____
 - "walked" - how you conduct your whole life
 - "according to" - following, led by, enslaved to
 - "the course of this world" - lit. "the age of this world"
 - the present age of evil and darkness
 - the world = society organized without reference to God
 - "the prince of the power of the air" - the ruler of this world
 - "air" = "foggy atmosphere," the darkness which the devil prefers to light
 - He is ruler of the _____ at work in those who are disobedient
 - His energy/power is to produce death in us through disobedience
 - "lusts of the flesh and mind"
 - Not the natural desires of the body
 - Flesh = carnal, sinful, fallen desires - depravation by deprivation
 - More than external, but internal (cf. Phil. 3:3-6)
 - "sons of disobedience" - culpability
2. V. 3 - Condemned
 - God's "wrath": "His personal, righteous, constant hostility to evil, his settled refusal to compromise with it, and his resolve instead to condemn it." - John Stott
 - Not in opposition to his love or grace (v. 4ff) - held together by Holy Love
 - _____ of wrath

Notes:

2:4-10 - (we, we, we...) **“but God”**

“works” (v. 9) - do not save us. Grace is the _____, faith is the _____

“workmanship”

- NLT - God’s “_____”
- “You are that which God has made” - a deliberate, intentional, purposeful work of art

“created in Christ Jesus”

- Salvation as resurrection, liberation, rescue, AND re-_____

“for good works”

- _____ to salvation. Not ground/means but consequence/evidence
- Not _____ but _____ good works

“which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them”

- His intention from the beginning!

Notes: