

A PORTRAIT OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT, IN CHRIST
EPH. 2:1-3

Introduction:

- A. We have seen what blessings people have when they are "in Christ."
 - 1. Redemption, Predestinated, Accepted, Adopted, etc.
 - 2. "and you hath he quickened."

- B. If people are not "in" Him, they are "outside" of Him.
 - 1. It always is "either/or".
 - 2. Never "half-saved, half-born again, half redeemed."

- C. How does God view those who are not in Him?
 - 1. Does He look at all men?
 - 2. Does He notice the sinner's sin?

I. THEY WERE DEAD. V2:1

- A. "who were dead in trespass and sin."
 - 1. dead = nekros = dead, one dead, a dead person.
 - 2. trespass = paraptoma = a falling aside from right truth or duty.
 - 3. sin = hamartia = miss, failure from principle, the evil principle.

- B. What does Paul mean?
 - 1. Death is absence of life.
 - 2. Death is separation.
 - 3. Death is beyond man's remedy.
 - 4. Death is universal.
 - 5. Death is final.
 - 6. Death is eternal.

II. THEIR WALK WAS FLESHLY. 2:2; Three illustrations.

- A. "wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world."

1. walked = peripateo = to tread about.
 2. course = aion = the space of human life, a space of time.
- B. "according to the prince of the power of the air."
1. prince = archon = one first in power.
 2. power = exousia = liberty, delegated authority.
 3. air = aer = the celestial fluid above the earth.
- C. "the spirit hat now worketh in the children of disobedience."
1. worketh = energeo = energize.
 2. children = nios = a male child.
 3. disobedient = apeitheia = willful unbelief.

III. THEY GAVE THEMSELVES TO LUST. V3

- A. "Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lust of the flesh."
1. conversation = to live, conduct oneself.
 2. lust = epithumia = the inward passion, attachment.
 3. flesh = sarks = human nature, outward form.
- B. "fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind."
1. fulfilling = poieo = to make, to do.
 2. desires = thelema = will, the act of willing.
 3. flesh = sarks = sinful human nature, outward form.
 4. mind = dianoa = thinking through, reflective exercise of the heart.
- C. "and were by nature the children of wrath."
1. nature = phusis = nature, generative and productive power, natural source or origin, inborn quality.
 2. children = teknon = that which is born, a child by natural descent.
 3. wrath = orge = the native character or disposition, anger together with the desire for revenge, to kill, and all the tumults of passion.

German Krieg (war), English, Rage, French, Orqueil,
"The abiding settled habit of the mind."

D. "even as others."

1. even = kai = sometimes this implies increase, or addition, may be even.
2. others = loipos = the remaining, what is left, the rest.

IV. THE ONLY HOPE. V4

A. "but God, who is rich in mercy."

1. rich = plousios = compound of much and more, much more in mercy.
2. mercy = eleos = a feeling of sympathy with misery, the desire of relieving the miserable, active compassion.

B. "for his great love wherewith he loved us."

1. great = megas = and the article, The Great.
2. love = agape = denotes the love which springs from admiration and veneration, and chooses its object with decision of will, and devotes a self-denying and compassionate devotion to it. Love in its fullest conceivable form.

C. Man's response to God's love and mercy.

1. v12, "trusted in Christ."
2. v13, "after that you believed."
3. v19, "to usward who believe."