

Our Condition Outside of Christ



READ IT:

¹And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ²in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. ³Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

EPHESIANS 2:1-3

The main point: Paul contrasts the believers' past and their present to impress on them how much they owe to what God has done in Christ.



EXAMINE IT:

Observation—What do I see?

- Any repeated words? _____
- Who is the subject? _____
- Who is the object? _____
- What are the action verbs? _____
- What are the conjunctions? _____
- Any purpose clauses ("so that")? _____
- Any commands? _____



OUTLINE IT:

Structure/Bones—What are the important markers?

A. Dead in Trespasses and Sins (v.1)

¹ And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,

B. Walking With the World and the Devil (v.2)

² in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

C. Fulfilling the Desires of the Flesh and Mind (v.3)

³ Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.



UNDERSTAND IT:

Interpretation—What does it mean?

Key words and theological and practical uses

What are the key words and why do they matter?

What is the key doctrine(s) and what other passages support it?

What are the uses of this doctrine in everyday life?



APPLY IT:

Choose which applications apply and how you will seek to practice it in your life today.

- What *instruction* does this text reinforce?
- What *error* does this text refute?
- What *duty* does this text require?
- What *prohibition* does this text forbid?
- What *examination* does this text call for?
- What *commitment* does this text declare?
- Is there an *example* to follow?
- Are there *commandments* to obey?
- Are there *errors* to avoid?
- Are there *sins* to forsake or confess?
- Are there *promises* to claim?
- Are there *principles* to implement?
- Are there *temptations* to resist?
- Are there *praises* to render?
- Are there *attitudes* to adjust?

Write it here: (bring it back with you next week to see if you applied it—I double-dog dare you!)

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