



“Our Pathetic Past”

The Church’s Calling

Ephesians 2:1-3

We were powerless to change Our :

I. Culture - “walked according ...course of this world” (v. 1)

The Unsaved are :

- A. **Powerless** – “who were dead”
- B. **Predictable** – “in trespasses and sins”
- C. **Presaved** – “in times past ye walked”

II. Captain – “the prince of the power of the air ” (v. 2)

The Unsaved trust and obey bad :

- A. **Philosophies** – “this world”
How are you countering this?
- B. **Powers** - “the spirit that works...disobedience”
How are you countering this?
- C. **Passions** – “our flesh”

How are you countering this?

III. Cravings - “the lusts of our flesh ” (v. 3)

The Unsaved are corrupted by their :

- A. **Actions** – “fulfilling the desires of the flesh”
- B. **Attitudes** – “[the desires] of the mind”
- C. **Ancestry** – “even as others”

Sentence Sermon:

“Without the Lord the unsaved are dead, disobedient, depraved, and doomed .”

Additional Verses

Satan

- **Rev 12:9, 10**
- **I Peter 5:8**
- **II Corinthians 4:4; 6:15; 11:14**
- **Ezekiel 12:14**
- **Matthew 4:3; 12:24; 13:39**
- **I John 3:8**
- **Luke 11:15**
- **John 8:44; 10:10; 12:31; 17:15;**
- **II Thessalonians 2:8-10**

The World

- **Romans 12:2**
- **John 8:23; 17:14**
- **I John 2:15-16**
- **I John 4:5**
- **I John 5:4-5; 19**
- **II Peter 2:20**
- **James 4:4**

The Flesh

- **Romans 8:1-8, 12**
- **II Peter 2:10, 18**
- **Romans 7:5**

Questions to Ponder:

- 1. Why are the unsaved described as dead?
- 2. Why are the unsaved called children of disobedience? Who’s children are they?

➤ 3. Why is this passage important for the believer to remember?

V. 1

- And you = Christ's body...the church....believers (cp 1:23).
- Who were = past tensenot true anymoreor is it?
- Dead = Separated
 - How?
 - From the living
 - From communicating
 - From growing / changing
 - **By what?**
 - Trespasses = off the path...missteps...willful mistakes
 - Sins = missing the mark...not good enough....Romans 3:23 --- short of the glory of God....any amount short is still short and therefore dead in your sin.
 - Notice that the actions are plural....not only have we sinned = at least one bad move...we have sins = we have repeatedly done badly

V. 2

- Wherein = sins and trespasses
- In time past ye walked = before you were saved , this is who you were:
 - According to the course of this world = worldliness, culture of corrupt behavior
 - According to the prince of the power of the air = Satan – **II Corinthians 4:4**
- The spirit that :
 - now works = active right now
 - in the children = “uios” sons or individuals
 - of disobedience = obstinate

V. 3

- Among whom also = “sons of obstinacy”
- We all = every believer's past
- Our conversation in times past = we all lived this way before salvation
- In the lust of the flesh = operating solely by “what I want to do”
- Fulfilling the desires = doing what I want to do ...as much as I want toreacting totally by what feels good to me.
 - Of the flesh
 - Of the mind
 - **The unsaved person lives to please the desires of their flesh and the wishes of their mind:**
- Were by nature = sin nature ...born as

- Children = teknon = older children...emphasizes some connection
- Of wrath = anger, judgment,
- Even as others = like the rest of the human race