

4

Epistle to the Ephesians: The Power of God in Salvation (2.1-10)

- Covenant Evangelical Reformed Church
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1. Our spiritual state before we became Christians (2.1-3)
 - a. Dead in trespasses and sins
 - i. It is not physically dead but spiritually
 - (1) They were spiritually dead in trespasses and sins
 - (2) The figure is a dead corpse in a casket
 - ii. 2 terms for sins:
 - (1) Trespass¹- a lapse or deviation from the right way to live or truth and uprightness property
 - (2) Sin - to miss the mark of God's law or a violation of the divine law
 - b. How did we live our life before?
 - i. We lived according to what the world tells us to live or following the ways of the world and coming under its power
 - (1) discos, dancing, drunk, drugs
 - (2) pre-marital sex
 - ii. Now this world not neutral or there by chance but is controlled by someone wicked - the evil ruler of the spiritual realm
 - iii. This evil ruler works actively today in the spirit of disobedience
 - (1) In the home and school - A breakdown in submission to authority - children disobeying and rebelling against teachers and parents. Wives disrespecting their husbands
 - (2) In the country - strikes
2. Our new position in Christ (2.4-10)
 - a. But God,
 - i. This is the gospel. Yes we were spiritually dead in our sins but God ...
 - ii. God comes into the picture and made a difference
 - (1) We were dead but God ...
 - (2) We were sinners but God ...
 - (3) We lived a sinful life but God ...
 - (4) We lived a life according to the evil world but God ...
 - b. The love of God for us (v4)
 - i. In God's richness of His mercy He loved us
 - (1) He made us alive with Christ so that we sit in the heavenly
 - (2) He is kind towards us in Jesus Christ
 - ii. Because salvation is by grace (v8-10)
 - (1) How are we saved? Through faith
 - (2) Where can we find Faith? Faith is not found in us because Faith is the gift of God, given to us by God

- (3) How about good works?
- (a) Can it save us? No, works cannot save us in the event that man boasts that by he is saved by his own good works (Rom. 11.6)
 - (b) We are the work of God's creation. It is God's will that we walk in good works

¹ Today, it means entering a person's land or property without permission. This means that he has wandered away beyond his own path.