



## “Jesus Christ, my **LIVING HOPE**”

Ephesians chapter 2

November 11, 2018

### Ephesians 2

1 And you hath he **quickened**, **who were dead** in trespasses and sins; 2 wherein **in time past** ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 among whom also **we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind**; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. 4 **But God**, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 that in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

11 Wherefore remember, that ye being **in time past** Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 that **at that time** ye were

without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 **but now** in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes **were far off** are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16 and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17 and came and preached peace to you which **were afar off**, and to them that were nigh. 18 for through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

19 Now therefore **ye are no more** strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

**It is easy to forget where we have come from!**

**10 FACTS I SHOULD NEVER FORGET SO THAT I CAN REMEMBER WHAT I HAVE TODAY!**

**Extreme makeover-**





Notice the words in who were, times past, we had, were dead, at that time, etc.

## **But now**

1. I was dead in trespasses and sins- **verse 1**

➤ **Now I'm alive!**

I love the phrase here- 'YOU WERE'

Ill. Luke 7:11-17; John 9:13

2. I walked according to the course of this world

➤ **Now I'm on another course!**

I have finished the course **Acts 20:24**

Ray Pritchard writes that...

the whole gospel message (can be seen) in just six words. If you know what these words are and what they mean, you will know the gospel. And you can share it with anyone you meet.

The six words come in three sets of two words each—the first from Eph 2:1, the second from Eph 2:4, and the third from Eph 2:8.

**You were**—Eph 2:1

**But God**—Eph 2:4

**Through faith**—Eph 2:8

The first two words describe our true condition apart from God's grace. The words "you were" describe not only what we used to be, they also describe the current condition of everyone in the world who is not saved. That condition, is truly hopeless.

The second two words tell us how grace works. The phrase "but God" announces the world's greatest rescue mission when the Creator took on human flesh in the Person of Jesus Christ to perform the work of salvation.

The final two words explain how we come into contact with God's grace. It is "through faith" and only through faith. It is not faith plus works or faith plus anything else. It is faith alone that brings the blessings of grace to us.

God has a plan for your life! See verse 10

Ill. Aunt Florence- 96 years old- A purpose for your life!

### **3. I lived in the lust of my flesh**

➤ **Now I live in the spirit and not the flesh!**

Things are different now Something happened to me When I gave my heart to Jesus, Things are different now I was changed it must be When I gave my heart to Him, Things I loved before have passed away Things I love far more have come to stay Things are different now Something happened that day When I gave my heart to Him

Romans 8:1, 4

#### 4. I was by nature a child of wrath

➤ **Now I am free!**

Romans 8:2; Galatians 5:1

#### 5. I was a Gentile in the flesh

Galatians 3:28

➤ **I'm included in God's plan**

Romans 1:16; Romans 11:30-36

#### 6. I was without Christ

➤ **Now Christ in me the hope of glory!**

Colossians 1:27; 2 Corinthians 5:17

#### 7. I was alienated from God's people

➤ **Now I am a fellow-citizen**

**Amplified:** Therefore you are no longer outsiders (exiles, migrants, and aliens, excluded from the rights of citizens), but you now share citizenship with the saints (God's own people, consecrated and set apart for Himself); and you belong to God's [own] household- verse 19

Dear believing Gentile, who was once so far off from God and without hope, take a moment to read this verse and make a simple list of the

overwhelming new privileges that are now yours by virtue of Christ's work on the Cross and your eternal position in Christ! Then perhaps you might fall to your knees and offer a "sacrifice of praise" to God, that is, the fruit of your lips that give thanks to His name for so great a salvation.

**MacArthur** draws a practical conclusion...

If believers have no distinctions before God, they should have no distinctions among themselves. We are fellow citizens and fellow family members, equal in every spiritual way before God. If God accepts each one of us, how can we not accept each other?

## 8. I was a stranger from God's promises

➤ **Now I have the living Book and God's promises belong to me!**

2 Peter 1:4- by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.- ESV

## 9. I had no hope

➤ **Now I have hope!**

1 Peter 1:3

Psalms 38:15; Lamentations 3:18-23

My hope is in the Lord  
Who gave Him-self for me  
And paid the price  
Of all my sin at Calvary.

CHORUS:

For me He died;  
For me He lives,  
And everlasting life  
And light He freely gives.

VERSE 2:

No merit of my own  
His anger to suppress  
My only hope is found  
In Jesus' righteousness

(REPEAT CHORUS)

VERSE 3:

And now for me He stands  
Before the Father's throne  
He shows His wounded hands  
And names me as His own

(REPEAT CHORUS)

VERSE 4:

His grace has planned it all  
'Tis mine but to believe  
And recognize His work of love  
And Christ receive

**10. I was without God**

➤ **Now I have access!**

Access (prosagoge from pros = toward + ago = bring) literally means "a bringing near" or providing access (freedom, permission and/or the ability to enter). It describes a continuous and unhindered approach to God, One Whom we could never approach in our unredeemed, unholy, sinful state.

Prosagoge was used to describe the introduction to or audience which one is permitted to have with a king or other person of high rank. This introduction or audience must be effected through an officer of court to whom the duty is entrusted.

Prosagoge carries the idea not of possessing access in our own right but of being granted the right to come to God with boldness, knowing we will be welcomed. It is only through our Savior's shedding of His blood in sacrificial death on Calvary and by faith in Him that we have union in His Holy Spirit and have access to the Father. The Spirit is at work to draw us continually to God (Ro 8:15, 16, 17-; Gal. 4:6, 7). Both and one spirit emphasize again the commonality of Jew and Gentile.

*John Eadie writes that the idea is "The Gentile world were without God to counsel, befriend, guide, bless, and save them. In this sense they were godless, having no one to cry to, to trust in, to love, praise, and serve.*

Romans 5:2; Ephesians 2:18; 3:12

## **2 Peter 1**

**8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.**



*9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: 11 for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

**Jesus Christ, my LIVING HOPE- NOW WHAT?**

**Ed Duncan**

**Me**

**Pastor Adam and Pastor Dick Arnold**

**Pastor Russ**

Prayer, repentance, dependence, etc.

*Romans 15:13- Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.*