

Spiritually **Dead** **BUT GOD** Made Us **Alive**



Ephesians Theme: The Eternal Plan of God

Ephesians Outline

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|-------------------------------|---------------|
| I. Position of the Christian | Ephesians 1-3 |
| II. Practice of the Christian | Ephesians 4-6 |

Ephesians Theme Verse: Ephesians 4:1 - ¹Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called

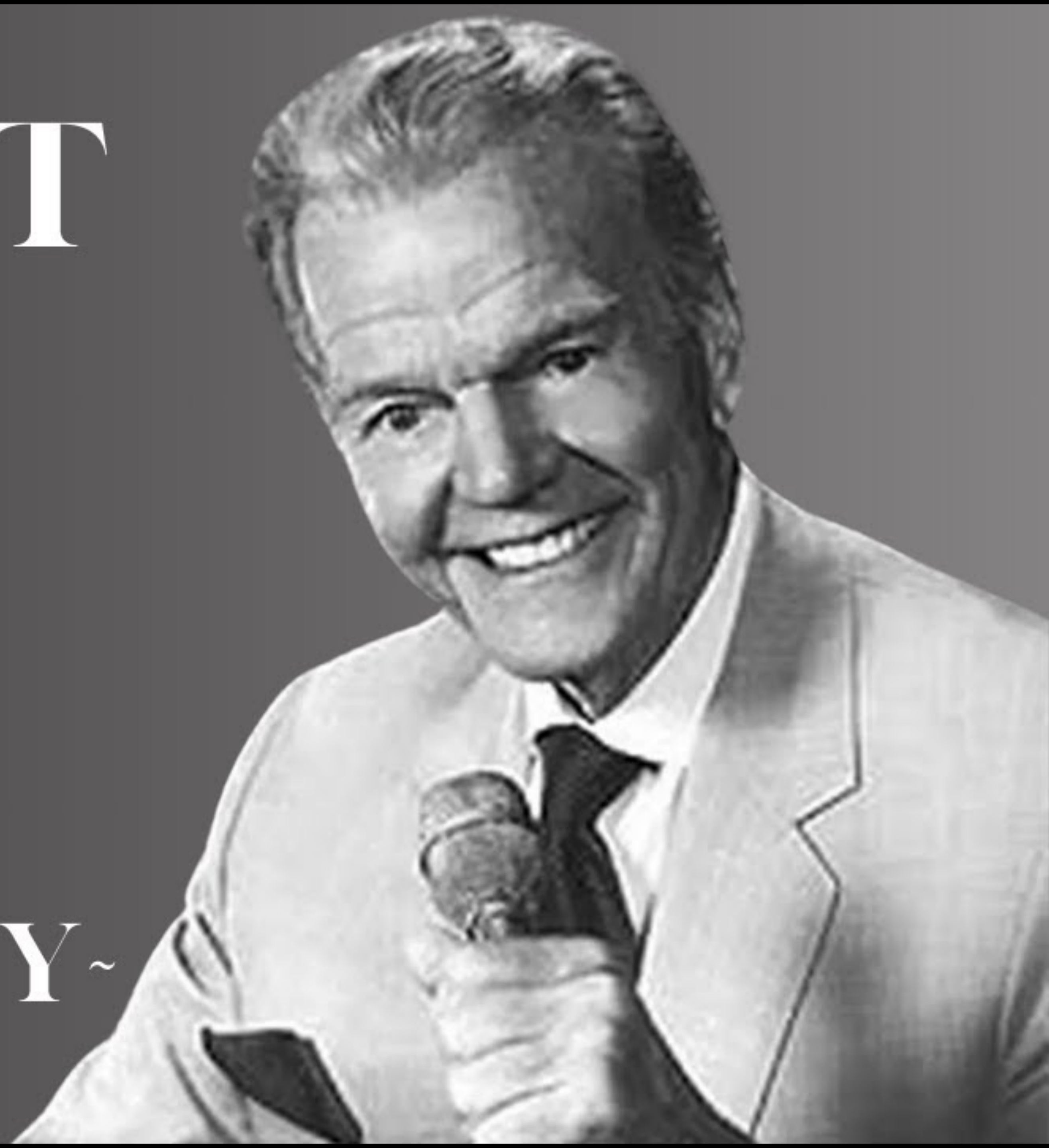
Passage Theme Statement: When we were born into this world, we were physically alive but spiritually dead. For true Christians, it was God who made us spiritually alive and enabled us by God's grace to believe in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and to be eternally identified with Christ in the heavenly places. While good works played no role in our new spiritual life in Christ, we are called to do the good works which God prepared for us to do.

Passage Key Verse

Ephesians 2:8–9 - ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;
⁹not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

THE REST OF THE STORY

~PAUL HARVEY~



Ephesians 1

Death and Resurrection
Of Jesus Christ

v. 20 - which He brought about
in Christ, when He raised Him
from the dead and seated Him
at His right hand in the
heavenly places

And

Ephesians 2

Spiritual Death and Resurrection
Of Believers in Jesus Christ

v. 6 - and raised us up with Him,
and seated us with Him in the
heavenly places in Christ Jesus

Romans 8:11

¹¹But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in
you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life
to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

I. We were physically alive but spiritually dead

Ephesians 2:1-3

1. We were spiritually dead on account of our trespasses and sins - v. 1

Genesis 2:16–17 - ¹⁶The Lord God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for **in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.**”



“It can mean spiritual separation, physical separation and/or eternal separation. At the moment of their sin, Adam and Eve **died spiritually** but because God was merciful they did not die physically until later.”

I. We were physically alive but spiritually dead

Ephesians 2:1-3

1. We were spiritually dead on account of our trespasses and sins - v. 1

John 8:44a - 44“You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. **He was a murderer** from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him.



“He was a murderer from the beginning” - “Jesus’ words refer to the fall when Satan tempted Adam and Eve and successfully **killed their spiritual life**”

I. We were physically alive but spiritually dead

Ephesians 2:1-3

1. We were spiritually dead on account of our trespasses and sins - v. 1
2. We were living by the standard of Satan - v. 2
3. We were living by the standard of self-gratification - v. 3

II. “But God” made us spiritually alive Ephesians 2:4-7

1. “But God” made us spiritually alive with Christ according to His rich mercy and great love for us - v. 4-5
2. “But God” raised us up with Christ - v. 6a
3. “But God” seated us with Christ in the heavenly places - v. 6b

Charles Hodge - “the truth taught here is that in virtue of the union and covenant between Christ and His people, His death was their death, His life is their life, and His exaltation is theirs. Hence, all the verbs used in this connection—made...alive, raised...up, seated...with—are in the past tense. They express what has already taken place—not what is future, and not what is merely in prospect. The resurrection, the making alive, and the raising up of Christ’s people were in an important sense accomplished when He rose from the dead and sat down at the right hand of God. The life of the whole body is in the head, and therefore when the head rose, the body rose. Each in his order, however—first Christ, and then those who are Christ’s.

Romans 6:6–11 - ⁶knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; ⁷for he who has died is freed from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, ⁹knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. ¹⁰For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 2:19–20 - ¹⁹“For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live to God. ²⁰“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

1 Corinthians 15:22–23 - ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming

II. “But God” made us spiritually alive Ephesians 2:4-7

1. We were spiritually dead on account of our trespasses and sins - v. 1
2. “But God” raised us up with Christ - v. 6a
3. “But God” seated us with Christ in the heavenly places - v. 6b
4. SO THAT forever God might express the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus - v. 7

III. Once saved by faith alone, we are to be God's workers Ephesians 2:8-10

1. **FOR** it is by the gift of grace alone you have been saved through the gift of faith - v. 8-9



MacArthur wrote - Our response in salvation is faith, but even that is not of ourselves [but is] the gift of God. Faith is nothing that we do in our own power or by our own resources. In the first place we do not have adequate power or resources. More than that, God would not want us to rely on them even if we had them. Otherwise salvation would be in part by our own works, and we would have some ground to boast in ourselves. Paul intends to emphasize that even faith is not from us apart from God's giving it.

III. Once saved by faith alone, we are to be God's workers Ephesians 2:8-10

1. **FOR** it is by the gift of grace alone you have been saved through the gift of faith - v. 8-9
2. **FOR** we are God's workers—the tasks are created in Christ Jesus but are prepared ahead of time by God for us to do - v. 10



Application

1. “FOR by grace you have been saved through faith” - If you are not saved, repent and believe in the gospel of Jesus Christ - Ephesians 2:8; Mark 1:15

Mark 9:23–24 - ²³And Jesus said to him, “ ‘If You can?’ All things are possible to him who believes.” ²⁴Immediately the boy’s father cried out and said, “**I do believe; help my unbelief.**”

2. “FOR we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them”

Matthew 5:16 - ¹⁶“Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

