

Bible Study – November 18, 2020
The Book of Ephesians – Chapter 2

Chapter 1 emphasized our possessions in Christ; chapter 2 emphasizes our position in Christ. Your position determines your possessions and authority. Regardless of how we feel about who sits as President of the United States, his position as the man who sits behind the desk in the White House gives him power and authority. So it is with the Christian. Regardless of where we might be physically (Paul was a prisoner when he wrote this letter), we have power and authority in the spiritual realm because of our position in Christ.

I. WE ARE _____ AND _____ ON THE THRONE (2:1–10)

A. What we _____ (vv. 1–3).

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins ² in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³ All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

What a picture of the lost sinner! To begin with, sinners are dead spiritually; that is, the inner man is dead to spiritual things and cannot respond to them.

We are born by nature children of wrath; when we reject Christ knowingly after reaching an age of accountability, we become children of disobedience by choice. When we trust Jesus Christ, we become children of God.

B. What God _____ (vv. 4–9).

“But God!” These words are among the greatest in the Bible. God could have allowed us to go on in sin and live eternally with the devil in hell, but instead He chose to save us.

C. What we are _____ (v. 10).

¹⁰ For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

We are His workmanship, His new creation 2 Cor. 5:17; Phil. 2:12–13

II. WE ARE _____ AND _____ INTO THE TEMPLE (2:11–22)

In the first half of this chapter, Paul has been telling us what God has done for sinners in general; now he discusses Jews and Gentiles in particular.

A. What the _____ were (vv. 11–12).

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands — ¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

God makes a distinction between Jews and Gentiles racially (1 Cor. 10:32), but not individually (Rom. 10:11–13).

B. What _____ did (vv. 13–17).

“But now” in v. 13 parallels “But God” in v. 4. When Christ died on the cross, He broke down every barrier that stood between Jews and Gentiles.

C. What the _____ and _____ are now (vv. 18–22).

Both have access to the Father in the Spirit. Every believer has the privilege of coming into the holy of holies (Heb. 10:19–25)

The very power that raised Jesus from the dead is available for our daily lives! Christ has already won the victory over sin, death, the world and Satan. God’s people do not fight for victory but from victory!

NOTES:
