

FORMER LIFE

Our passage for this new series entitled, Saved by Grace, is Eph.2:1-10.

We have divided Eph.2:1-10 into the following three parts.

- Eph.2:1-3 The Spiritual Dead
- Eph.2:4 The Spiritual Bridge
- Eph.2:5-10 The Spiritual Alive

Spiritual Bridge
(Eph.2:4)

Spiritual dead
(in Adam/ Eph.2:1-3)

Spiritual Alive
(IN Christ/ Eph.2:5-10)

Col.1:13-14

Paul listed five areas of the Former Life that is true for all unbelievers – “We too all” and “even as the rest” (Eph.2:3).

In our last lesson, we studied the **first of the five areas** – “Dead in trespasses and sins” (Eph.2:1).

<p>In this lesson we will study the other four areas listed in (Eph.2:1-3) by the “Former Life”.</p>

Once again Pauline Greek grammar is important to our lesson text (Eph.2:1-3; 2 Pet.3:16).

1. The temporal adverb (pote) [aforetime; in time past; in the old time] is translated “formerly” twice to address the other four areas.

- (Eph.2:1-2) Formerly is used for the **walking** spiritual dead (peripateo/ a.a.ind.2pl)

Two areas are under this heading.

a.

b.

- (Eph.2:3) Formerly is used for the **life style** of the walking spiritual dead (anastrepho/ a.p.ind.1pl).

Two areas are under this heading.

a.

b.

Formerly is used to describe the status of ALL unbelievers.

2. Next Paul used unique prepositional phrases to link another doctrinal concept to a previous one.

- (Eph.2:2) “in which (en+L of sphere; hos/ relative pronoun/ lplf)” **refers back** to “dead in trespasses and sins” - We all formerly walked spiritually dead is linked to (another preposition – “according to”).

a.

b.

(Eph.2:3) “in whom (en+L of sphere; hos/ relative pr/ lplm)” **refers back** to “sons of disobedience”- We all formerly lived a life style as sons of disobedience is linked to (another preposition – “in lust of flesh and by nature”).

a.

b.

3. Paul explained two ways the spiritual dead formerly walked.

Paul used the prepositional phrase “according to (kata+A of norm and standard/ belief system)” two times to teach this doctrinal concept.

(Gal.1:4) “In which **you** formerly walked **according to** the course (ton aion) [what takes place in this period of time/ unbeliever] of this the world (ton kosmos) [Angelic Conflict]

(Gal.2:2) “**according to** the **prince** (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; 1 John 5:19) of the power of the air (Satan), of the spirit (antichrist/ Rom.8:15; 1 Cor.2:12; 1 John 4:3) that is now working in the sons (teknon) of disobedience.” (Rom.11:32; Heb.4:6)

The doctrinal concept that Paul is teaching by **the walk of the spiritual dead** is the bondage of Satan

4. Finally, Paul explained two ways the spiritual dead formerly lived.

Paul used another prepositional phrase to explain:

The first way they formerly lived:

(Eph.2:3a) “in (en+L of sphere) the lusts (tais epithumia/ **lplf**) of our flesh (tes sarx), indulging (poieo/ p.a.ptc.nplm) the desires (ta thelema/ **aplñ**) [will] of the flesh (tes sarx/ abl.sf) and of the mind (ton dianoa/ **abl.plf**) [thinking process].”

The second way they formerly lived:

(Eph.2:3b) “And were (eimi/ impf.a.ind.1pl) by nature (phusis/ inst.sf) (Rom.1:26-28) children (teknon) of wrath (Rom.5:8-9; John 3:36) [propitiation] (1 John 2:2; 4:9-10), even as the rest.”

Satan’s bondage is broken by grace salvation in the gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

(Acts 26:18) “To open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.”

(Col.1:13) “For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His Beloved Son.”

