

Our Separation And Salvation

Ephesians 2:2 - 3 “*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.*”

When Adam sinned mankind separated ourselves from God. Mankind hated God, We wanted to be our own God. **Genesis 3:5** “*For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*” God of their desire to be a god in **Genesis 3:22** “*And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:*” People do not see the need to obey God, people have the same opinion of God as Pharaoh did. **Exodus 5:2** “*And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.*” In fact the Psalmist wrote in **Psalms 14:1** “*... The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.*” People who are lost deny God, they deny the need of God, they deny the Sovereign power of God over us. Therefore, man is his own god as Satan told Eve she would be. Therefore, mankind walks in this world under the power of Satan and ignore and hate God.

Let us listen closely how God describes mankind in their total depraved state.

A. God said of us as Christians, “Wherein in time past”

1. Before we were saved, before God rebirthed us, before we became the children of God, “*ye walked according to the course of this world,*” V. 2
2. The words “Wherein in time past” means that we should never walk that path again.
3. Paul wrote in **Colossians 3:7** “*In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.*”
 - a. As lost souls we walked according to the power of Satan and doing his will. Because we were blinded by him. **2 Corinthians 4:4** “*In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*”

- b. And because we were blinded, we could not see Christ and salvation. We could not see what we were and the path of corruption we were walking.
 - c. And, as Paul wrote in Colossians 3:7 because we walked in this blinded and separated state, we lived in sin, nothing but sin. Walking to please Satan and not caring about God.
- B. Walking according to the course of this word is “according to the prince of the power of the air” V. 2 – This is mankind’s controller, Satan!
1. This is walking under the power of Satan. We could not resist doing His will. There was no resistance on our part. **Ephesians 6:12** “*For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*” – Satan is not one people can resist; they cannot say no Satan get thee hence.
 2. Walking “*according to the prince of the power of the air*” V. 2 Means we were not walking by our own power nor our own will, but Satan’s.
 - a. As blind people we cannot see, and if we cannot see our sinfulness then we would have no desire to change. **Romans 3:11** “*There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.*”
 - b. Walking under Satan’s power means we cannot disobey Satan’s will for us.
 - c. It is not about free will; it is about the power in us.
 3. **Ephesians 2:11 - 12** “*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:*”
 - a. that is, they had no knowledge of the true God, had no desire of Him, because they hate who He is. People are their own God, everything is their own choice, therefore, God must seek their permission to save them.
 - b. Remember this ungodly quote from most pulpits today, “God cannot change your will, therefore repentance is your choice” This is Satan’s lie, just as he lied to Adam and Eve, he is lying to the world today, and they are following his will to reject God.
 4. Therefore, this is how God describes people without Jesus Christ,
 - a. **Ephesians 2:3** “*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:*” – It is not a choice, it is a way of life without Jesus Christ.
 - b. **Ephesians 2:3** “*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.*”
 - c. **Aren’t you glad that God rescued you from Satan?**
- C. God’s rescue.

1. **Ephesians 2:4-7** “**But God**, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.”
2. While we were unable to leave Satan’s power hold on us, God through mercy and grace plucked us out of the world and changed us.
3. God put it this way, **Colossians 1:12 - 14** “Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: (13) Who hath delivered us (that is He drew us) from the power of darkness, and hath translated us (that is He carried us away from Satan to Christ) into the kingdom of his dear Son: (14) In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:”
4. **Romans 3:23 - 24** “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (24) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:” – God justified us through the redemption in Jesus Christ, so that we no longer fall short of His glory.
5. **John 5:24** “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”