

How to Know and Experience the Power of God

Ephesians 2:1-10

- I. Introduction – My favorite book
- II. Outline –
 - a. Sit – Ch. 1-3; 2:6
 - b. Walk – Ch. 4-6:10; 4:1
 - c. Stand – 6:10ff
- III. Ephesus background video
- IV. Reading of the Text – Ephesians 2:1-10

¹And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ²in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. ³Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 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. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

- V. 3 Ways to Know the Power of God:
 - a. Know what you were before _____ - 2:1-3
 - i. External Influence
 - ii. Internal Influence

“Are we to say that such people, if Christ has not saved them, are dead? Yes, indeed, we must and do say this very thing. For in the sphere which matters supremely (which is neither the body, nor the mind, nor the personality, but the soul) they have no life. And you can tell it. They are blind to the glory of Jesus Christ, and deaf to the voice of the Holy Spirit. They have no love for God, no sensitive awareness of his personal reality, no leaping of their spirit towards him in the cry, ‘Abba, Father’, no longing for fellowship with his people. They are as unresponsive to him as a corpse. So we should not hesitate to affirm that a life without God (however physically fit and mentally alert the person may be) is a living death, and that those who live it are dead even while they are living. To affirm this paradox is to become aware of the basic tragedy of fallen human existence. It is that people who were created by God and for God should not be living without God. Indeed, that was our condition until the Good Shepherd found us.” (John R.W. Stott)

“So what is his wrath if it is neither an arbitrary reaction nor an impersonal process? It is God’s personal, righteous, constant hostility to evil, his settled refusal to compromise with it, and his resolve instead to condemn it. Further, his wrath is not incompatible with his love. The contrast between verses 3 and 4 is notable: *we were by nature children of wrath...But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us...* Thus Paul moves from the wrath of God to the mercy and love of God without any sense of embarrassment or anomaly.” (Stott)

b. Know what God did in your life at _____ - 2:4-6; 4:17;
Ezekiel 36:26, 27

c. Know what God's plan and purpose are for _____ now – 2:7-
10