

Awakened – Sin, the Great Equalizer

Ephesians 2:1-5

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in 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. 3 Among 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. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).

1. _____ **in our trespasses and sins.**

Ephesians 2:1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins.

2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

- **We trespass when we “_____.”**

- Instead of walking forward in conformity to God’s law or commands, we fall aside into disobedience.
- Transgression of a given law or crossing _____.

James 1:17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

- **We sin when we “_____.”**

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2. **Dominated by _____**

Ephesians 2:1-2 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in 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.

- _____ **by our culture**

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. 17 The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

- **Directed by _____**

Ephesians 2:2 “You formerly walked...according to the prince of the power of the air...”
John 8:44 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. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

- **Distracted by _____**
Ephesians 2:2 “You formerly walked...according to the the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.”

3. _____ **to the world**

Ephesians 2:3 Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind...

- Conformed means to _____ of something.
Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

- **Consumed by _____.**
James 1:14-15 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. 15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.
Psalm 51:7-8 Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Make me to hear joy and gladness, let the bones which You have broken rejoice.
Psalm 51:10, 12 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me... Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.
- **Practicing _____**
Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God has appeared, ^bbringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of ^bour great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, 14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

4. _____ **with the world**

Ephesians 2:3 Among 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.

- Ed Jarrett: There is really no good way to soften “the wrath of God” to mean anything other than an angry response on God’s part to human disobedience.

- The OT alone mentions God’s wrath over 600 times both directly and indirectly.
Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.

As we consider the role of sin in our world and in our lives, how must we react if we are truly going to be awakened?