

SPIRITUAL LIFE

This is the third of five lessons entitled, “In the Heavenlies”. This phrase is used five times by Paul in the Book of Ephesians (Eph.1:3, 20; 2:6; 3:10; and 6:12). Our five lessons will come from the context of these five verses.

The first four references of this phrase are used for the throne room of the third heaven where Jesus Christ is seated in resurrection body with all authority and power (Eph. 1:19-23). You can keep up with these five lessons by way of the DSBC web (doctrinal studies.com).

We will examine our lesson text by the following five homiletical points.

- Eph.2:1 Womb Spiritual death
- Eph.2:2 World Satan’s system of thinking
- Eph.2:3 Wrath Sentence of AOS
- Eph.2:4-5 Worth Saved by God’s grace
- Eph.2:6-7 Wealth Surpassing riches

Today’s lesson title “**spiritual Life**” comes from Eph.2:4-5 – “But God being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, **made us alive together with Christ** (suzoopoieo / a.a.ind.3ps) [by grace you have been saved].”

We will study four aspects of this Spiritual Life that we share with Christ seated “In the Heavenlies.”

1. Spiritual life is offered in Jesus Christ to spiritually dead people.

“And you were (eimi / p.a.ptc a.pl.m / ASQ) dead (nekros) in your trespasses and sins.” (Eph.2:1) **and** “even when we were (eimi / p.a.ptc a.pl.m / ASQ) dead in our transgressions (Rom.5:15-23).” (Eph.2:5).

Spiritual death is 1 of 13 judicial charges of AOS (Gen.2:17; Rom.5:12; 1 Cor.15:22; Eph.2:1, 5; Col.2:13).

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| Alienation (Col.1:21-22) | Blindness (2 Cor.4:3-4) | Condemnation (Rom.8:1) |
| Curse (Gal.3:13) | Darkness (Acts 26:18) | Death (Rom.5:12) |
| Enmity (Rom.5:10) | Natural (1 Cor.2:14) | Perishing (John 3:16) |
| Sinner (1 Tim.1:15) | Unrighteous (Rom.3:10) | Ungodly (Rom.5:6-9) |
| Wrath (John 3:36) | (SEE “50 THINGS FREE” on our web site) | |

Nekros is used to teach a doctrinal principle of physical death and the soul related to Gen.2:17

(dying you shall die).

When the soul is in the body, there is physical life and spiritual death (separation form God in time) apart from faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ (Eph.2:1-5).

When the soul is absence from the body, there is physical death and second spiritual death (separation from God in eternity) apart from faith in Jesus Christ (Rev.2:11; 20:14-15; John 5:24)

2. This is why every member of the human race needs to be saved.

“For **all** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.” (Rom.3:23-24)

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to **all** men, because all sinned.” (Rom.5:12)

“Even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ, “by grace (charis / inst.sf) you have been saved (**eimi/ p.a.ind.2pl / sozo / perf.p.ptc.npl / perfect periphrastic**) [**for doctrinal emphasis of eternal security**].” (Eph.2:5, 8-9)

The perfect tense and passive voice means that you have been completely saved by God’s grace in the past with the results that God’s grace keeps you completely saved in present. The present tense of ASQ eimi (p.a.ind) means that everything that exists in this perfect tense of salvation exists in an unending state in every believer’s life.

“For the grace of God has appeared (epiphaino / a.p.ind.3ps), bringing salvation to all men.” (Titus 2:11)

“It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.” (1 Tim.1:15)

3. Paul identified every believer’s position in Jesus Christ “in the heavenlies” by three positional truths.

- God made us alive together with (suzoopoieo / a.a.ind 3ps) Christ (Eph.2:5).
- God raised us up with (sunegeiro / a.a.ind.3ps) Him (Eph.2:6a).
- God seated us with (sunkathizo / a.a.ind.3ps) Him (Eph.2:6b).

The aorist tense is point in time when we believed that Jesus died for our sins and was buried and raised on the third day for our salvation (1 Cor.15:3-4).

The active voice is the voice of volition (believe) – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” (Rom.1:16)

The indicative is the mood of reality. The moment we believe we are made alive with Christ, and raised up with Him and seated with Christ.

4. Paul taught that the moment a person believes the gospel of grace salvation he is transferred from a position in Adam (13 judicial charges of AOS) to a position in Jesus Christ (37 spiritual blessings of salvation) (1 Cor.15:21-22).

This is called **Positional Sanctification** in theology (hagismos) [to set apart in a position of holiness]. (1 Cor.1:2; Heb.12:14; 13:12; 1 Thess.4:3; Acts 26:18; Col.1:13) (1 of 8 salvation works of Holy Spirit).

“According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: may grace and peace be yours in fullest measure.” (1 Cor.6:11; 1 Pet.1:2; 2 Thess.2:13-14; Rom.15:16)

“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.” (Rom.8:11; John 6:63; Gal.3:2-3; 2 Cor.3:6) **“Even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved). (Eph.2:5)**