

Refrigerator Notes 15 March 2015  
Are We Dead In Our Transgressions?  
DPC Ephesians 2:1-10

1. Paul writes about God's power as exercised in the resurrection of Christ from the dead and Jesus' exaltation to the right hand of God
2. Paul's epistle is directed at the church of Ephesus, who have been transformed, since they received the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
3. Ephesus reaps the benefit of God's blessings (all) upon their church, because of their obedience to the word of God
4. Prior to Ephesus receiving the gospel, the people were walking in their transgression – they were the 'walking dead'
5. When these sinners heard the gospel, they believed and were baptized, and were raised from the death because of their sins – made alive in the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ
6. "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sin" suggesting possibly two resurrections. (1) the literal resurrection of Christ from the dead, and (2) the spiritual resurrection of the dead sinner to life in Christ
7. In both resurrections, there is the same power at work – GOD!
8. Paul is reminding the church of Ephesus that they once walked in transgressions, but by the power of God, they have been saved by grace through faith
9. Paul is also telling the church that there is a natural stumbling block in their path – the prince of the air (that would be Satan)
10. Paul indirectly is also telling the church that Satan is the second most powerful entity on planet earth (who roams the earth looking for his prey)
11. Before the people of Ephesus responded to the gospel, they were like the walking dead 'according to the course of this world' and 'according to the prince of the power of the air'
12. The people did what everybody else was doing, conforming to the fashions of the world, following dead traditions and practices, and crafted sinful habits of the society they live in (much like many of us today)
13. Paul's words are amplified to the point that they included us sinners today
14. That is why, though we are awake and alive, we are spiritually dead, because of the spirit that works in the sons of disobedience (if you follow the impulses of the flesh then you are walking dead in your transgressions)
15. What's really interesting about this text is that it applies to us as well – we become spiritually dead by our own choice
16. For the lost sinner, there is no such thing as a Do-It-Yourself Plan Of Salvation, if you are dead in trespasses and sins
17. It takes the power of the almighty to raise us from the dead, along with sincere repentance of our omissions and commissions