

Sermon Notes

Themes from Ephesians

“The Way We Were” – Eph. 2:1-3

I. Introduction

A. The shift to chapter two from chapter one.

1. God’s perspective on salvation to our experience in salvation.

B. The Text: Ephesians 2:1-3

1. An honest appraisal of human nature.

II. Key points in Paul’s remarks.

A. The nature of man – 3 views.

1. “I’m okay, you’re okay.”

a. The ultimate denial.

2. Man is mortally sick.

a. All is not lost; there is still hope.

3. Man is not sick; he is dead.

a. Things will never get better unless God intervenes.

Genesis 2:16-17

B. Walking corpses

1. The death is spiritual, and follows with physical death.

2. Man walks about, spiritually dead, according to the course of this world.

3. Westminster Confession

4. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

C. Enslaved by the Devil

1. Slaves do the bidding of their master.

2. Satan maintains control by the “spirit” of this world.

a. Note original Greek meaning.

b. Spiritual slavery outside of Christ.

II Timothy 2:25-26; I John 5:19; John 8:34; Titus 3:3

D. Man is an object of God’s wrath.

1. This is the worst news for man.

2. The Bible says much on the subject.

a. Greek – THUMOS _____

also ORGE (Ephesians 2:3) _____

3. Misconception over God’s love.

a. Justice versus Mercy

Joshua 11:18-20; Romans 9:13-18; Hebrews 10:28-31

E. The sting of the bad news is softened by the good news.

1. Ephesians 2:4-5

2. Made alive – John 3:3-5

III. Points for Reflection

A. The Bible is clear in depicting man as dead in sin, and not simply sick.

B. The world dictates the mores of the ungodly, but the Scripture dictates the morality of the Christian.

C. The Devil enslaves all men who can only be set free by God.

D. The wrath of God is growing daily (think fermentation) upon all who continue to follow the lead of Satan and his angels.

E. Praise God for His mercy which enabled us to turn to Him and then be saved!