

Sermon Discussion Questions: Ephesians 2:1-7

**“And you were dead in your trespasses and sins . . .”—Shipwrecked from birth**

**“A real and present death, the spirit is dead to the most important factor in life: God.” (Calvin)**

1. Vv 1-3 speak of spiritual death. *Death* on one level refers to a separation. For eg., *Physical death* refers to the separation of the soul of a person from his body. What kind of separation is *spiritual death*? Cite Scriptures that explain the cause of this separation.
  
2. *Spiritual death* on another level refers to the bad heart, the corrupt nature and the moral inability of a sinner. Spiritual death does not mean that a person is idle and inactive (as in the case of the physically dead); but it is a moral inability to do good and please God. Cite Scriptures that describe the badness of a dead sinner’s heart.
  
3. In vv 2,3 Paul describes the walking, living, desiring and reasoning of those who are dead.
  - a. Cite passages that help to explain what it means to walk “according to the course of this world”.
  - b. Cite passages that help to explain what it means to walk “according to the prince of the power of the air”.
  - c. When “we formerly lived” (while we were dead), what drove and motivated us—what did we crave and desire?
  - d. How does Paul describe our family trait, our family pedigree?
  - e. How would you define the *wrath* of God?

**“But God . . .”—The ship flying the flag of grace came to our rescue**

4. *Who* rescued us (v4)? Why is that especially remarkable?
5. Identify and list (vv4-6) the 3 *verbs* that explain *what* God did in rescuing us to undo our death. This list of 3 in some ways reflects what Paul described earlier in 1:3 as being “blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”. Those blessings in Christ also help us to appreciate the nature of our rescue. List some of those blessings found in 1:3-12.
6. V 4 declares that our rescue is solely the work of God through Christ. What other verses (see vv 5-8) emphasize that same point?
7. What explanation does Paul offer to explain what motivated and moved God to rescue sons of disobedience and children of wrath, such as us?