

# ***Identity: Made Alive in Christ***

*PASTOR MIKE YODER • EPHESIANS 2:1-10*



*As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,*

**Ephesians 2:1**

*in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.*

*All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.*

*But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,*

**Ephesians 2:4**

*made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved.*

*And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,*

*in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.*



*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God —*

*not by works, so that no one can boast.*

*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

**Ephesians 2:10**

**Walking Dead (2:1–3)**  
**The Depth of Our Sin**





**There's a big difference between mostly dead and all dead. Mostly dead is slightly alive. With all dead, well, with all dead there's usually only one thing you can do.**

**Without God, desires are the lord in control. They must be gratified and followed. In the former life we lived by our sinful desires, doing whatever they told us.**

**Klyne Snodgrass**

**What the heart desires, the will chooses, and the mind justifies.**



**The spiritually dead are totally unresponsive to God, but they are not unresponsive to other influences. They are very much alive to the world, the flesh, and the devil. They walk, live, and seek fulfillment. But they are spiritual corpses.**

**Tom Julien**

**‘Total depravity’ means neither that all humans are equally depraved, nor that nobody is capable of any good, but rather that no part of any human person (mind, emotions, conscience, will, etc.) has remained untainted by the fall.**

**John Stott**

The apostle's description is not that of 'some particularly decadent tribe or degraded segment of society, or even the extremely corrupt paganism of his own day.' Rather, it is 'the biblical diagnosis of fallen man in fallen society everywhere.'

**Peter O'Brien**

**Our world is one vast graveyard, filled with people who are dead while they live.**

**Warren Wiersbe**

**Alive and Displayed (2:4–7)**  
**The Wonder of God's Grace**



**It's not that God helps those who help themselves; it's that God helps the helpless.**

**If you think that your salvation rides on anything that starts with “I did something,” then you’ve missed the Gospel.**

**Afshin Ziafat**

**You are more sinful than you could ever dare imagine  
and you are more loved and accepted than you could ever  
dare hope — at the same time.**

**Tim Keller**



**By Grace for Works (2:8–10)**  
**The Purpose of God for Us**



**Faith is a confident trust in God whereby we refuse to justify ourselves based on our achievements but gratefully receive what God has already accomplished in Christ.**

**We don't earn salvation by faith; we access salvation by faith. It's like a key we've been handed by the grace of God.**

**To accept is to receive Christ into our lives not simply as someone who lived twenty centuries ago, but as our personal Savior and the Lord of our life.**

**Tom Julien**

**Good works are the fruit of, not the root of, salvation.**

**God cannot work in us unless He has first worked for us,  
and we have trusted His Son.**

**Warren Wiersbe**

**Believers are trophies of  
God's grace in Christ.**

