

Impulse Driven Behavior

Ephesians 2:3 - Message

Before we were saved, our behavior revealed that we were under the influence of our sinful flesh and we were destined to receive God's wrath.

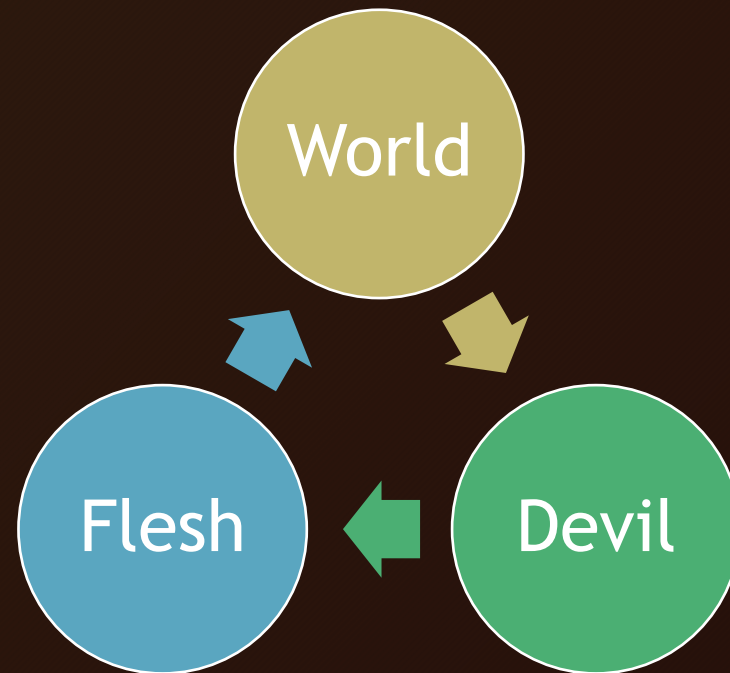
- If you have not been transformed, trust in Christ!**
- Let the greatness of God's power move you to worship and encourage more transforming grace.**

Our individual status has changed (Eph 2:1-10)

By our walk, we proved that we were spiritually dead (1-3)

- ✓ Our former status was spiritual death (2:1)
- ✓ Our former behavior exposed our spiritual death (2:2-3a)
- ✓ Our former spiritual destiny was to receive wrath (2:3b)

Ungodly influences before we were saved



Ungodly influences before salvation...

- I. Our former way of life was influenced by the world
- II. Our former way of life was influenced by Satan
- III. Our former way of life was influenced by our sinful flesh

“Live” (*anastrepho*)



- Steering (like a ship)
- The way a person steered their inner life
- A person’s moral walk or behavior
- How you conduct yourself

Augustine on man's nature

Timeline	Nature	English Translation
• Before the Fall	<i>posse peccare</i> and <i>posse non peccare</i>	able to sin and able not to sin
• After the Fall	<i>non posse non peccare</i>	not able not to sin
• After Salvation	<i>posse peccare</i> and <i>posse non peccare</i>	able to sin and able not to sin
• Eternity	<i>non posse peccare</i>	not able to sin

What Ephesians tells us about the inner workings of man: Way of Life

Sinful

- Walked (in trespasses & sins)
- Lived (old self 4:22)

Godly

- Walk (in good works, 2:10; in worthy manner, 4:1)
- “*Put on the new self*” with its new conduct (4:24ff)

What Ephesians tells us about the inner workings of man: Influences

Sinful

- World
- Devil (as ruler)
- Flesh
 - Senses/Sinful impulses

Godly

- Being built up by fellow saints (4:12)
- Jesus as Head of the church (1:22-23; 4:15; 5:23ff “*sanctify*”)
- Holy Spirit (“*be filled with*”, “*do not grieve*” Him, 5:18; 4:30)
- “*Be renewed in the spirit of your mind*” (4:23, actually think!)

Ephesians 2:3

Wrath “is God’s personal, righteous, constant hostility to evil, his settled refusal to compromise with it, and his resolve instead to condemn it”

Ephesians 2:3

Wrath is “God’s holy anger against sin, which leads Him justly to punish it”

If you're not that
bad, then the
gospel is not that
good.