God Made Us Alive

11-1-26

Ephesians 2:4–5 (ESV)
God, when we were dead made us alive!

The Apostle Paul previously expressed the importance of seeking to understand the infinite God. God reveals to us that our issue is not being good or bad. Our issue is whether we are dead or alive. Now Paul desiring for us to fully grasp the work of God, rehearses our previous hopelessness without God and the corruption of the world that influenced us. (This world as God sees it!)

Ephesians 2:1–2 (ESV)
And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience.

World here means world arrangement or world system. Being physically alive but spiritually dead, we followed the arrangement of the world system. This world system is under the influence Satan. This was clearly recognized by Jesus when HE was tempted in the desert.

Matthew 4:8–9 (ESV)
Again, the devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. The devil said to Jesus, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."

Jesus resisted Satan, but significantly HE didn't correct Satan's claim to have authority over the world system. The Bible gives us more insight.
1 John 5:19 (ESV)
We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one, Satan.

-what possibly could go wrong-

As unbelievers living in the world system under Satan's influence our passions and desires ruled.
Ephesians 2:3 (ESV)
Among the disobedient, whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

God identifies those without Christ as spiritually dead, children of Wrath. But God gives us hope.
Ephesians 2:4–5 (ESV)
God, when we were dead made us alive!

Again, note that the issue is not about being good or bad. The issue is about being dead or alive.
Colossians 2:13 (ESV)
You, who were dead God made alive!

We are not only alive; <u>we change kingdoms</u>.
Colossians 1:13 (ESV)
He has <u>delivered us</u> from the domain of darkness and <u>transferred us</u> to the kingdom of his beloved Son.

The Bible calls this being Born Again.
1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! HE has caused us to be <u>Born Again</u> to a living hope.

Born Again = We were dead and God made us alive sealing us with the promised Holy Spirit.
John 3:3 (ESV)
Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is <u>Born Again</u>, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

<u>God has done everything! However, we have a responsibility to continually make decisions!</u>

Romans 6:12–13 (ESV)
[12] Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions (make a decision). [13] Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life (make a decision), and present your members to God as instruments for righteousness (make a decision).

We are alive and have everything we need to live a victorious life. ***Make a decision!*** **Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness but present yourselves to God. Present your members to God as instruments for righteousness. Be occupied with the Holy Spirit (make a decision) and HE will show you what to do and give you the power to do it.**
Galatians 5:16 (ESV)
But I say, be occupied by the Spirit (make a decision), and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.
Start; Fall in love with Jesus who died for you!
1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)
For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.