

BUT GOD...
Ephesians 2:1-10

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Do you remember the day you became a Christian?
- B. Along the way something happens and it seems many of us lose a little of our passion.
- C. Perhaps we lose some of our passion because we forget what God has truly done in our lives.

WITHOUT JESUS PEOPLE ARE HOPELESS (2:1-3)

- A. Paul reminded them that at one time they were dead in their trespasses and sins (Rom. 6:23; Lk. 15:32).
- B. They were dead because of the way they were living (Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:4; Jn. 8:4; I Jn. 2:15-17).
- C. They were deserving of the wrath of God like the rest of mankind (Rom. 1:18).

WITH JESUS PEOPLE HAVE HOPE (2:4-5)

- A. BUT GOD: God loved His creation too much to allow them to stay spiritually dead.
- B. God made us alive together with Christ (Rom. 5:6-8; Jn. 3:16).
- C. Being alive in Christ requires a person to be "In Christ" (Jn. 14:6; Gal. 3:26-27).

BEING "IN CHRIST" PROVIDES: (2:6-10)

- A. A new life
 - 1. When we are baptized into Christ, we are raised to walk in a newness of life (Rom. 6:1-7).
 - 2. Paul thought he was the chief of all sinners (I Tim. 1:15; Eph. 1:7).
- B. A sense of security
 - 1. By the grace of God we are saved through Jesus (I Jn. 5:13; 2 Tim. 4:6-8).
 - 2. Jesus has done for us what we could never do for ourselves.
- C. A purpose
 - 1. We are not saved by our good works but to do good works (Jam. 2:24; Matt. 5:16).
 - 2. God's purpose is not for us to just sit around, but for us to serve in His name.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Maybe some here this morning do not know what having such hope is like because you are still dead in your sins and trespasses. By the grace of God you can move from being spiritually dead to being spiritually alive in Christ Jesus this very day.
- B. If you're here but have lost some of your passion for the Lord, think back on how hopelessly lost you once were and recognized the hope you now have because of what God has done through Jesus.
- C. Jesus died so that you and I might live. Let's take advantage of this glorious gift of life.