

# MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST

*Ephesians 2:1-5* “And you he made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved.”

In the Old Testament - Christ is **concealed**.

In the New Testament - Christ is **revealed**.

The book of Ephesians sets out clearly the finished work of Christ and the believer's relationship with Him.

## FROM DEATH TO LIFE

*Ephesians 2:1* “made alive” implies that once upon a time we were dead or lifeless.

Everyone wants to live forever, if not here and now, certainly in an afterlife.

Consider the lengths people go to, to preserve their bodies in the hope of living forever.

# A PICTURE OF DEATH

*Ephesian 2:1 "Dead in trespasses and sins"*

*Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"*

The disobedience of Adam (his sin) condemned all humankind to bear a burden of a sin nature.

This separates mankind from God and prevents us having a relationship with Him.

The full ramifications of the sin nature are found in *Ephesians 2:2-3*.

## BUT GOD

*Ephesians 2:4 (nkjv) But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us.*

*AMP Because of and in order to satisfy the great and wonderful and intense love with which He loved us.*

*Wuest's "Being wealthy in the sphere of mercy."*

## ALIVE

*Ephesians 2:5 (nkjv) even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved.*

Greek word SUNZOOPOIEO means to "quicken together with, to make alive with."

English word quicken - to restore to life, to become alive, to receive life, to give and preserve life.

In *Romans 8*, the Apostle Paul sets out the freedom believers have; “...no longer bound by a sin nature, **BUT NOW**, in Christ we have spiritual life.”  
(see *Romans 8:10-11*)

## AN EXPLANATION

*1 Thessalonians 5:23* “Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul and body be **preserved** blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ”.

The Greek word for *preserved* has the following sense: Body, Soul, Spirit.

The continuous preservation of the believer as a single, complete act, without reference to the time in its accomplishment!

## THE QUESTION

How does all this take place in us?

- Refer to Gospel of *John 3:3-6*
- See also *Romans 10:9-10; 13*