

Become What You Believe (Ephesians) – Part 2

Notice the word “**ACCORDING**” in Ephesians – same root as the musical term “chord” – acting in harmony with God’s pleasure, purpose and power.

1:11 – “worketh” – God is constantly manipulating, moving, maneuvering, and arranging all things **ACCORDING** to His purposes – things don’t happen at random or by coincidence for Christians!

1:13 - "sealed" - it is incontestable! (that's why they agreed to baptize the household of Cornelius - because the Holy Ghost already fell on them!)

1:14 - "earnest" = "downpayment" ("I'm coming back to claim my possession!") // I'm not a human being having a spiritual experience; I'm a spiritual being having a human experience!

1:17 – many are quick to seek more of God’s power and mercy, but few are hungry to seek for His wisdom and revelation (Paul had a revelation on the road to Damascus and it made him a powerhouse for God!)

1:18 – “in the saints” – you don't need to know what you have in God, nearly as much as you need to know what God has in YOU

1:19 – “his power to us-ward” – this is **INHERENT power**, or power that is in our possession but dependent on our releasing it or activating it – and it works **ACCORDING** to God’s **DOMINION power** or authority

1:20 – in the OT the defining event of God’s delivering power was the crossing of the Red Sea (Israel and the Lord continually referred back to it) – in the NT the defining event of God’s delivering power is the resurrection of Jesus – it is our “point of reference” for God’s power in our individual lives – because death is the greatest enemy we will ever have to confront!

1:20-21 – “right hand” – figurative language for the PLACE OF POWER

1:22-23 – if it is under His feet, and you are in His body – it is under YOU!

BECOME WHAT YOU BELIEVE!

2:1 – “and you” – you have the same resurrection power IN YOU!

2:1 – “were dead” – death in the Scriptures is “separation” – we were dead in the most significant way – DEAD SPIRITUALLY

Just as your body separated from your spirit cannot function on earth, your spirit separated from God’s spirit cannot function in God’s Kingdom!

Physical death “silences” the body, but spiritual death “silences” the spirit!
WE WERE WALKING AROUND, BUT WE WERE DEAD!

2:2 – because we were DEAD, we tried everything possible to make ourselves FEEL ALIVE – that’s basically where SIN comes from (but that little nagging voice from God continually says, “but you’re still EMPTY”)

ACCORDING – same root as the musical term “chord” – in harmony with one’s pleasure, purpose and power (**watch this word in Ephesians!**)

2:2 – “the air” – the atmosphere where human beings live

2:2 – “disobedience” – to be totally noncompliant (OT – “stiff necked”)

2:3 – “children of wrath” – warring and seething against all that is holy by serving the god of SELF, fulfilling every carnal desire and inclination

THE WAY WE WERE BEFORE SALVATION WAS UGLY!

Satan was supernaturally powerful and much smarter than we were, the world system surrounded us from birth, and we were imprisoned in our carnal sin nature – yet we somehow managed to escape. HOW?

2:4 – “but God, who is rich in MERCY” – there is no other solution but God!