



Three Forces Behind Sin

1. The World: in this case the prevailing human way of life that is opposed to God.
2. The Devil: the spiritual power behind all rebellion against God
3. The Flesh: the influence of this rebellion expressed in human lives

Present ways of life → shaped by spiritual rebellion
→ expressed through human desires and behaviour.

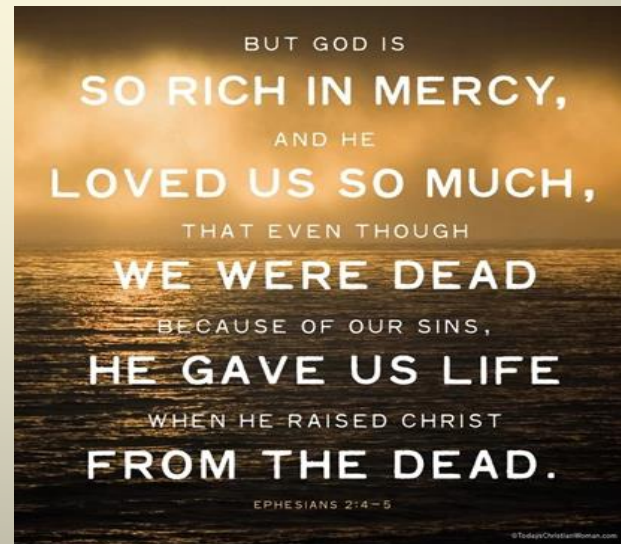
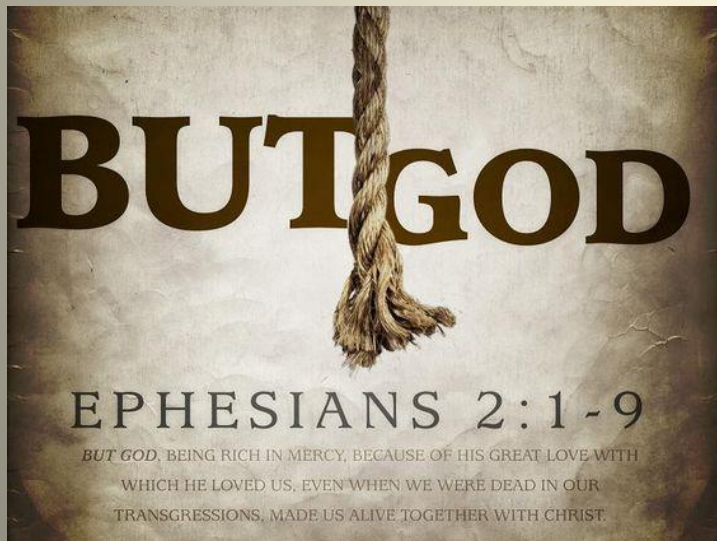
“But God”...from Ruin to Redemption

Love and Mercy (v4)

Alive with Christ (v5)

Raised with Him (v6)

A new position in the heavenly realms (v6)



For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith—and this is not from yourselves,
it is the gift of God—not by works,
so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9



NOTHING IN MY HAND I BRING,
SIMPLY TO THY CROSS I CLING;
NAKED, COME TO THEE FOR
DRESS,
HELPLESS, LOOK TO THEE FOR
GRACE;
VILE, I TO THE FOUNTAIN FLY,
WASH ME, SAVIOUR, OR I DIE!

- AUGUSTUS TOPLADY -

LIBQUOTES.COM





Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

- Attributed to John Wesley in *The Fundamentals of Ethics* by Russ Shafer-Landau



EVIDENCE FOR THE BIBLE:

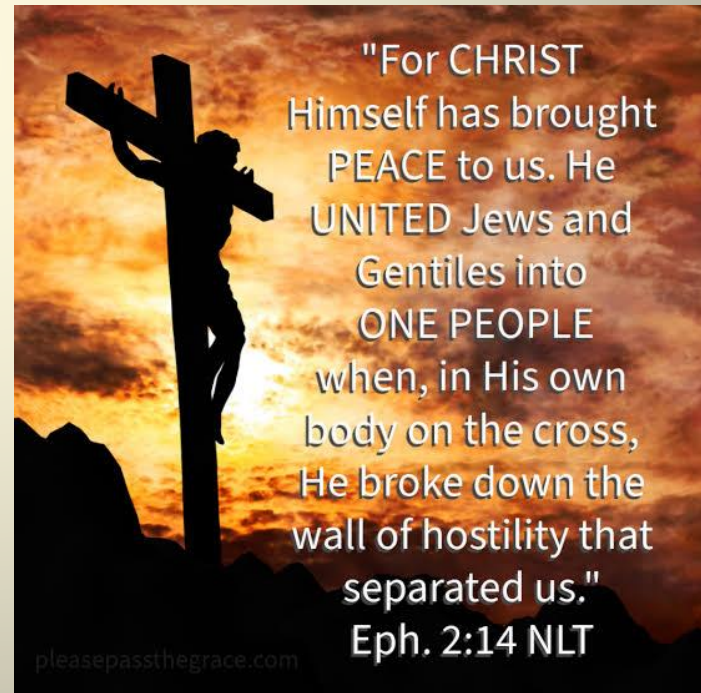


TEMPLE WARNING INSCRIPTION:
ANCIENT TEMPLE WARNING STONE
BANS GENTILE ENTRY, MATCHING
THE BIBLE'S BOOK OF ACTS
NARRATIVE EXACTLY. Pastor Jason

Peace and Reconciliation

v14: Communally – “breaking down the wall of hostility”

v16: Redemptively “reconcile both groups to God through the cross”



**You, too, are being built in Him
along with the others - into a
place for God's Spirit to live**

Ephesians 2:22

Reflection

Am I still amazed by the grace of God, or have I become too familiar with it?

Where/when do I tend to rely on my own goodness, effort, or achievements rather than on Christ?

Is there anything from my past that I am still allowing to define me, even though Christ has given me a new identity?

Is there someone I need to forgive, pursue, welcome, or be reconciled with?

If someone looked at my life this week, would they see someone who has been made alive by Christ?