Sermon Notes

Themes from Ephesians

"The Way We Were" - Eph. 2:1-3

I. Introduction

- A. The shift to chapter two from chapter one.
 - 1. God's perspective on salvation to our experience in salvation.
- B. The Text: Ephesians 2:1-3
 - 1. An honest appraisal of human nature.
- II. Key points in Paul's remarks.
 - A. The nature of man 3 views.
 - 1. "I'm okay, you're okay."
 - a. The ultimate denial.
 - 2. Man is mortally sick.
 - a. All is not lost; there is still hope.
 - 3. Man is not sick; he is dead.
 - a. Things will never get better unless God intervenes.

Genesis 2:16-17

- B. Walking corpses
 - 1. The death is spiritual, and follows with physical death.
 - 2. Man walks about, spiritually dead, according to the course of this world.
 - 3. Westminster Confession
 - 4. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones
- C. Enslaved by the Devil
 - 1. Slaves do the bidding of their master.

- 2. Satan maintains control by the "spirit" of this world.
 - a. Note original Greek meaning.
 - b. Spiritual slavery outside of Christ.

II Timothy 2:25-26; I John 5:19; John 8:34; Titus 3:3

- D. Man is an object of God's wrath.
 - 1. This is the worst news for man.
 - 2. The Bible says much on the subject.

a. Greek – THUMOS	
also ORGE (Ephesians 2:3)	

- 3. Misconception over God's love.
 - a. Justice versus Mercy

Joshua 11:18-20; Romans 9:13-18; Hebrews 10:28-31

- E. The sting of the bad news is softened by the good news.
 - 1. Ephesians 2:4-5
 - 2. Made alive John 3:3-5

III. Points for Reflection

- A. The Bible is clear in depicting man as dead in sin, and not simply sick.
- B. The world dictates the mores of the ungodly, but the Scripture dictates the morality of the Christian.
- C. The Devil enslaves all men who can only be set free by God.
- D. The wrath of God is growing daily (think fermentation) upon all who continue to follow the lead of Satan and his angels.
- E. Praise God for His mercy which enabled us to turn to Him and then be saved!