

Vs.1- “hath He quickened”- most Bibles will have this phrase italicized

(this means it wasn’t in the original manuscripts but included by the translators for better understanding)

*the verb “quickened” does occur in vs.5

-“quickened”- (zoopoieo) to make alive or to restore to life

(the word picture is of seeds germinating, springing up, and growing)

-“were”- past tense that implies that something before is no longer relevant

-“dead”- (nekros) destitute of life

(the idea here is a life that was given up to trespasses and sins- the wage of sin is death- Rom.6:23)

Truth- the only way something can be dead is if at one time there was life (the fall of mankind)

-“trespasses and sins”- trespasses are a stepping out of line or a deviation from the truth

*sins are missing the mark or to err (trespasses are the result of sins)

*Notice the word “in” – this indicates the realm or sphere in which the unregenerate sinner exists

Truth- sinners aren’t dead just because of sinful acts, they are dead because of their sinful nature

(this is the realm in which they are in)

Vs.2- Paul now reminds them of the past of all those who have been “quickened”

-“course of this world”- this term is used in Scripture as being contrary to the path of righteousness

Truth- since the world is headed for destruction, those on that course are headed for it as well

-this course is governed by man’s values, morals, and standards

*in II Cor.10:4-5, Paul refers to those ideologies like fortresses that keep people imprisoned

-“prince of the power of the air”- a reference to Satan (notice how Paul links these 2 things together)

-“air”- like air, Satan is an invisible force that shapes things it contacts

(his goal is to shape human behavior away from God- he uses demonic forces to do this)

-“spirit”- (pneuma) this word also translates to “breath” or “wind”

-“worketh in”- means that they can and will inhabit a person such as this

Truth- saved people are indwelt by the Holy Spirit and therefore cannot be possessed by devils

(Satan exerts himself effectively in the society of unregenerate men- John 8:44)

*the conduct of men show this in their disobedience

Vs.3- Notice Paul changes it from “you” to “we”

-“conversation”- (anastrepho) to conduct, behave, or live a certain way

-“lusts of the flesh”- this is much more than a sexually explicit meaning

(this is any burning desire that appeals to our flesh and not our redeemed spirit)

-“fulfilling”- Paul is being an open book here by telling his readers that they didn’t just think about them, but they acted on them

-“of the mind”- this is where all lust and sin begin

(this is why when God saves, He first resurrects man’s dead spirit, then that quickened spirit begins to be guided by the Holy Spirit- this is where your thought process begins to change)

*this is the beginning of sanctification

Truth- once the thoughts begin to change, the flesh will no longer give in to those lusts

Vs.4- “But God”- Paul never claims that he nor anyone else can do this by their own desire or willpower

-“mercy”- this is simply not receiving what one deserves to receive

(Paul said he was of the “children of wrath” -meaning that he was to face the wrath of God)

Truth- it wasn’t Paul that stopped it, it was God’s great mercy

-“His great love”- this is the source of our salvation- John 3:16

Vs.5- Paul uses “we” again to confirm to the believers that like them, he too was condemned at one time

-“quickened together”- He made us alive spiritually by imparting Christ in us- this is the new birth

-“with Christ”- just as Christ was resurrected physically, our salvation was a spiritual resurrection from death to life (Romans 6:3-11)

-“grace”- (charis) goodwill and loving-kindness, unmerited favor

(where mercy keeps away what we deserve, grace gives us something we don’t deserve)