

Good People in Dead Culture

NEW CREATION OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Introduction

Culture and cultural understanding

Ephesians and Artemis

War, motherhood, good people and death

Good people in dead culture

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32. Geta (Caesar 198-209AD). Obv. [AYT K ΠIO CE] ΓET[AC]. Head of emperor. Rev. ΕΦΕCΙΩ[N]. Two naked children playing astragali before the cult statue of Ephesian Artemis. Bronze. Wt. 2.72g; dia. 17mm. (ACANS/AHDC Col.)

Ephesians 2:1-3

3

**As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,
2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.
3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh^[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.**

Sinner

Lite/Medium/Large

- ▶ Dead to sin – following the enemy – disobedience
- ▶ Hide sin
- ▶ Sinners newly presents Extra Large
- ▶ 1 John 1:8; Romans 3:23; Galatians 5:19-21
- ▶ Misconceptions

World Says	Christians should translate it as:
1. Good people go to heaven	Sinners go to heaven
2. Good people are good because they do good things	Sinners are good because they do good things
3. Good people can not become bad people	Sinners can not become bad people(sinners)
4. Good people do bad things	Sinners do sin.
5. Good people are happy	Sinners are happy
6. Good people after their death become guardian angels	Sinners become angels
7. Good people die but their good lives on	Sinners die but their deeds live on.

Satisfied Flesh Unfulfilled Soul (gratification)

- ▶ Constant satisfaction VS constant fulfillment
- ▶ Culture of sin and satisfaction
- ▶ Addicts and world's trust
- ▶ Sin does not satisfy us, sinner does not satisfy God
- ▶ The ways of the world are to hide sin and ways of God to acknowledge who you are – a sinner.

Ephesians 2:4-8

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- ⁴ **But** because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ **made us alive** with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and **seated us with him** in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

God's Love

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- ▶ God loved Sinners
- ▶ Made us alive
- ▶ This is Grace
- ▶ Grace is a gift and not a bribe
- ▶ If He is not in the tomb, are you alive?
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zPQKj2Zptr0>

Seated with HIM

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- ▶ Anthony - “your seat”
- ▶ If you have a seat beside God why don't you want to sit beside God?
- ▶ Matthew 7:21-23

Seated with HIM... (continued)

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- ▶ The seat is reserved for those He knows :
 - ▶ The ones who are righteous (*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9, ESV*)
 - ▶ Those who are holy (1 Peter 1:16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” ESV)
 - ▶ Those who are covered with his blood (*“for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” Matthew 26:28, ESV*)
 - ▶ Those who are raised from their transgressions. (Ephesians 2:4, NIV made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.)
 - ▶ Those who repented (Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, Acts 3:19 NIV)
- ▶ Not those who are good people, for the wealthy, for presidents, for nurses for any professions but for those who believe Jesus is the Lord and is risen from the dead. (Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.)

Are you always around church, but never around God? – Application

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Why is it that we come out of sinful culture and still associate ourselves with sin? For example, when people walk out of alcoholism, they are coming out of an alcoholic culture. So, they abandoned not just alcohol but also the culture they were surrounded by.

Ephesians 2:9-10

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⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

God's Handiwork

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Jeremiah 18:1-6

The process of making a pot

The potter does not fix the broken, he makes it new

Different types of pots and their purpose

Pots overflow – Empty pot has nothing to give

God fills the pots

Conclusion

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Church of Ephesus

Hold the line – Hold on to the word of God

Sin is sin

You are alive

You got a spot

Let the pot overflow

Its better be Godly than good and live than die