

# Dead in Trespasses and Sins

by Charles E. Fuller

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of understanding the concept of death, including physical death, spiritual death, and eternal death, and the need for repentance and conversion to escape eternal death.*

**Duration:** 51:43

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:3

**Topics:** "Sin"

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## Description

In this sermon, Dr. Fuller focuses on the second chapter of Ephesians, specifically verse 1. He emphasizes the desperate need for regeneration in every individual, as without being born again, one cannot see the kingdom of God. The passage describes the sinful condition of the natural man before conversion, highlighting the influence of the prince of the power of the air and the desires of the flesh and mind. Dr. Fuller emphasizes the importance of understanding and acknowledging this sinful condition in order to fully grasp the need for regeneration.

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## Transcript

We have heard in this joyful town, Jesus' name, Jesus' name. Friends of kind all around, Jesus' name, Jesus' name. Free in Cooperation with Fuller Seminary proudly presents the Old-Fashioned Revival Hour, a broadcast of the Gospel with Dr. Charles Eagle.

Jesus' name. A friend I have called Jesus, Whose love is strong and true, And never fail, how it is right, No matter what I do. I've sinned against this love of His, But when I now to pray, Confessing all my guilt to Him, The sin doth roll away, It's just like Jesus.

Sometimes a cloud of trouble Leaves in the sky above, I cannot see my Savior's face, I doubt His wondrous love, But He from heaven's mercy Has showed me His way. When sorrows cloud or take me, And break upon my head, When lies seem worse than useless, I've found a friend in Jesus, He's everything to me, He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul. The lily of the valley, In Him alone I see, All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole.

In sorrow He's my comfort, In trouble He's my stay, He tells me every care on Him to row. Hallelujah, He's the lily of the valley, The bright and morning star, He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul. He'll never, never leave me, Nor yet forsake me here, While I live by faith and do His blessed will.

A wall of fire above me, I've nothing now to fear, With His manna He my hungry soul shall fill. Then sweeping up to glory, We'll see His blessed face, Where rivers of delight shall ever roll. Hallelujah, He's the lily of the valley, The bright and morning star, He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul.

He all my griefs has taken, And all my sorrows borne, In temptation He's my strong and mighty God. I have all for Him forsaken, And all my idols torn from my heart, And now He keeps me by His power. Though all the world forsake me, And Satan tempt me sore, Through Jesus I shall safely reach the shore.

Hallelujah, He's the lily of the valley, The bright and morning star, He's the fairest of ten thousand to my soul. Heavenly sunshine means it certainly has captivated the hearts and minds of people around the world. And literally millions just love this chorus Heavenly Sunshine.

So now what a privilege for you, the visible audience, to sing out to the unseen audience. And do your best now. Turn around, shake hands with me, as many as possible.

Heavenly sunshine, heavenly sunshine, Sun is always, always shining. Heavenly sunshine, heavenly sunshine, Sun is always, always shining. Thank you.

Under His wings I am safely abiding, Though the night deepens and tempests are wide, Still I can trust Him, I know He will keep me. He has redeemed me and I am His child. Under His wings, under His wings, Who from His love can sever Under His wings my soul shall abide, Safely abide forever.

Under His wings, oh, what precious enjoyment There will I hide till life's trials are o'er. Sheltered, protected, no evil can harm me. Resting in Jesus I'm safe evermore.

Under His wings, under His wings, Who from His love can sever Under His wings my soul shall abide, Safely abide forever. I hear my risen Savior say, Follow me, follow me. His voice, His calling of the day, Follow me, follow me.

For thee I trot a bitter way, For thee I gave my life away, And raised the load I dare to pay. Follow me, follow me. Those hours in our pardoned day, Follow me, follow me, follow me.

From every sin our pardoned day, Follow me, follow me. In all thy changing life I'll be, Thy God, thy guide on land and sea, Thy blood through all eternity, Follow me. You've just heard a mixed quartet from the Chorus Choir composed of Beth Farnham, Viola Cocker, Randy Mosher, and Ray Dahl.

We're so happy to have this fine music. And now Honey's going to read from the letter, and a little later I'll speak to you. All right.

Greetings, friends. That song was beautiful, wasn't it? Thank God for these fine musicians. From Colorado, a letter from a lady.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Fuller, We lost our only son and have been forced by age to leave our home in the country because we could not take care of it. We are 80 and 83 years old. I had a few rows of choice iris I reserved when the place was sold.

And I promised the dear Lord that if he would give me the strength to harvest the bulbs, that I would give the money for his work. Well, I sold \$50 worth, and it all goes for missions except this little gift for the old-fashioned revival hour. Now I know the Lord will bless it in carrying on this ministry.

The sweet lady could have a part in carrying the gospel out through many avenues of missionary work in selling her bulbs. I think that's a very sweet letter. Dear Christian friends, there are many of us in Iceland who are listening to your program, and we pray that they may be saved everywhere.

From Michigan, dear Mr. Fuller, My brother is over in England in the Air Force, and I received a letter from him this afternoon. He said I never could guess who he heard on the radio the other night. It was somebody we used to listen to every Sunday morning at home.

Yep, it was Dr. Fuller, he said. And boy, did it ever sound great to hear some of the good old gospel again. And the singing was great.

Boy, it really made me have a few lumps in my throat. It's wonderful to be a Christian. Nothing like it, nothing in the whole wide world, especially if you're in the service.

That's the way the serviceman wrote to his kid brother in Michigan. The lady writes from Florida, We have a son in the Coast Guard, and the other day he wrote, I have the old-fashioned revival hour turned on. I know he used to like it when he was at home, and it pleased his father and me to know that he's listening to you while he's away from home.

From Germany, dear Dr. Fuller, Last night I was in charge of quarters and was listening to the radio at midnight when the American stations went off the air. So I decided to try to find some good German music and was dialing. There I found this wonderful singing, and I said to a friend, I believe that's Mr. Fuller from the States, and sure enough it was you coming to the Luxembourg station.

I spent the best hour I ever had in Germany last night while listening to your program. I'm not a Christian, but I want to be one. It's wonderful that our American soldiers in Europe can hear the gospel preached over the radio, and I thank God for it.

That is all I shall have time for today, friends.

I know that my Redeemer lives And I know eternal life He giveth I know my mansion He prepareth That where He is, there I may be O wondrous God, for me He meriteth And He adores me For me He adores me We sing and men you hum in the background Soon we'll reach the shining river I'd love to hear the ladies sing I think they can do so much better job of it than we men We'll reach the shining river Standing for prayer, our gracious Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the beautiful promise that the path of the just shines brighter and brighter unto the perfect day While the world is growing darker and darker we thank Thee that the path of the just becomes brighter and brighter And the coming of the Lord draweth nigh We thank Thee for the prospect of the time when the dead in Christ shall arise

first We which are alive and remain shall be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord Those in the homes that have laid away loved ones this past week, we pray that Thou wilt comfort the sorrowing hearts and if they've died in Christ they have the blessed hope that if the Lord comes those that have gone on before whose bodies are now asleep in the graves will be raised in a moment in a twinkling of an eye and fashioned like unto Thy glorious body and we which are alive and remain will be caught up together So may we comfort one another with these words May those outside of Christ be pierced and brought to a quickening, saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus for we ask it in His name Amen Our Lord is leading us to glory Oh so wonderful is He Who

leads us lovingly above Wonderful, wonderful Wonderful is Jesus our matchless King Wonderful the praise which to Him we sing Wonderful the friend unto whom we cling On the way to glory land Our Lord is leading us to glory Oh so wonderful is He Wonderful is He Wonderful is He Leading us to realms of glory Singing as we go Making all the love that made us free Wonderful salvation He is offering to all Our Lord is offering to all He is offering to all Wonderful is He Who leads us lovingly above Wonderful, wonderful Wonderful is He Wonderful is Jesus who saves us all Wonderful is He who can keep us all That is why we seek the eternal goal In the wondrous glory land Our Lord is leading us to glory Oh so wonderful is He Wonderful is He Wonderful is He Leading us to realms of glory Singing as we

go Making all the love that made us free Wonderful salvation He is offering to all Our Lord is offering to all He is offering to all Wonderful is He Who leads us lovingly above Wonderful, wonderful Wonderful is He Our Lord is leading us to glory Oh so wonderful is He Who leads us lovingly above Wonderful, wonderful Wonderful is He Brightly beams our Father's mercy From His light thus evermore But to us He gives the keeping of Let the lower lights be burning Send the gleam across the way Some poor faith in struggling You may say Dark the night of sin has settled Loud the angry bellows roar Eagle eyes are watching, longing For the lights along the shore Let the lower lights be burning Send the gleam across the way Some poor faith in struggling You may rescue You may save Please take your

Bibles and turn to the second chapter of Ephesians, first three verses.

You probably only have time to speak upon the first verse of the second chapter.

This second chapter is a remarkable one, and I believe one of the outstanding portions of the Word of God. Personally, I refer to this chapter frequently in the messages given over the Old Fashioned Revival Hour. And also, this chapter is especially precious to me, for the tenth verse of that chapter was used of the Lord to transform me from a nominal church member into active service in the Lord's vineyard.

The Lord willing, we'll plan to speak upon Ephesians 2.10 at a later date. In Ephesians chapter one, the Holy Spirit reveals what all truly born-again believers are and what they have in Christ Jesus. And there in the first thirteen verses of the first chapter, we learn that God the Father has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.

In chapter two, the Holy Spirit reveals, listen carefully, what the believers were in sin before being converted and what they have been saved from. As believers, we take a backward look in chapter two and see the miry pit of sin from whence we have been delivered. Hence, we see in chapter two the construction of the church, the kind of material God uses to erect this spiritual body.

In verses one to three, the basis of our meditation today, we find nine things describing the unregenerated or the natural man's sinful condition before conversion. The nine items set forth the natural man's desperate need of regeneration. For except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Furthermore, if a man dies any sins, that is, dies unconverted, unregenerated, he cannot go where Jesus is. And everyone, without exception, is in need of regeneration. And thus in verses one to three of Ephesians two, we have God's candid camera shot of the natural man's sinful condition and of his desperate need of regeneration.

For except a man be born of the water, that is, the word of God and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. And you hath he quickened who are dead in trespasses and sins, wherein time past you

walked according to the course of this age, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience, among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lust of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature the children of wrath even as others. Now today I'll only have time to speak upon verse one.

And future broadcast, Lord willing, next Lord's Day, upon the prince of the power of the air. Now notice verse one. And you, being dead, he made alive.

And the word you, that means you are the person's address, that is, believers, saints, the faithful in Christ Jesus. And Paul the apostle has been telling them what they are and have in Christ, and now he tells them what they were in sin and what they have been saved from. And God's word tells us believers.

Notice, you were dead. You, being dead, he made alive. And so I'm going to speak upon a subject that's not very popular.

I grant you it's not very pleasant. But I'm, I think you'll agree with me, it's very necessary to give forth. That's the subject of death.

Death. For the word of God says it's appointed unto men once to die, but after this judgment. Now death in the scriptures is never annihilation.

Some believe and teach even that death ends all. But when a man dies, that's the end of it. That at death one ceases to exist.

And let me say back to you, no, a thousand times no. After death comes the judgment. And when a man, if he dies unconverted, unrepentant, will be punished according to his sinful deeds.

Death is the separation of a person from the purpose or use for which he was intended. Let me repeat. Death is the separation of a person from the purpose or use for which he was intended.

Now there are three kinds of death set forth in the word of God. Copy them down if you wish. Three different kinds of death.

And you need to know God's word on this matter. And the entrance of God's word give us life. First of all, there is physical death.

The separation of the soul or life from the body. When you say so and so died, you mean that so and so left his earthly tabernacle to depart to be with Christ if he were a Christian or to a place of conscious torment if he is not a Christian. I have to be plain spoken.

Romans 5, 12. Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin, so death passed upon all men for that all have sin. Again in 1 Corinthians 5, 21 and 22.

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ. If you wish to remain in Adam, you will die in your sins and you cannot go where Jesus is.

But even in Christ shall all who are in Christ be made alive. Now that's the physical death. When you hear of a party dying, it means their physical death.

The soul or life has been separated from the earthly tabernacle or from the body. Now the second death referred to in the scriptures and it's one that people are not clear upon, as clear as they should be. And that is spiritual death.

Separation of the spirit from God. Ephesians 4, 18. I'm giving you the word.

Being alienated, cut off from the life of God. That spiritual separation or spiritual death. She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

1 John 5, 12. He that hath the Son hath life. He that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

And there's no middle ground. Let me illustrate. Now follow closely.

The day that Adam sinned, as recorded back there in the third of Genesis, he died spiritually. That is, he became alienated and cut off from the life which is in God. Later, as time went on, according to the fifth chapter of Genesis, the great obituary chapter, we read as follows.

In the day that God created man and the likeness of God made him, male and female created them and blessed them and called their name Adam. In the day when they were created, they were created in God's image. And the day that Adam lived 130 years and begat a son in his own likeness after his image and called his name Seth.

And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were 800 years. And he begot sons and daughters. And all the days that Adam lived were 930 years and he died.

As by one man's disobedience, sin entered into the human race and death followed sin. First, spiritual death for Adam and Eve were cast out of the Garden of Eden and a protecting sword and flame were there at the entrance. And only through God's gracious provision, providing a coat of skins, could they have fellowship back as redeemed sinners before God.

And when they were given graciously a coat of skins, it meant that some innocent substitute had to die in their place instead. But, notice, death, spiritual death, entered in and later, 930 years later after creation, Adam died and he died physically. Now, we conclude that according to the Scripture, since all have sinned, all are separated from God, spiritually dead, and later will die physically.

For remember, it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment. I say to you, sinning friend before God, as God is my witness, you are lost, spiritually separated from God. And if you die in your sins, die physically in your sins, you cannot go where Jesus is.

But wait, the Scripture speaks of a third kind of death. And that I want to bring to you for the remaining portion of this broadcast. And I'm praying as I'm speaking, that the Holy Spirit will burn these words into your heart, you murderer, you drunkard, you fornicator, you adulterer.

We need to be plain spoken. The Scripture speaks of a third kind of death. And that is eternal death, eternal separation or banishment from God.

2 Thessalonians 1.9 When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, taking vengeance on them that know not God and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now note, who shall be punished with everlasting destruction or banishment from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power. You can kick against God's Word and say, I don't believe it.

But I tell you, on the authority of God's Word, you will experience the truth that I've read to you unless you repent. Now notice, 1 Corinthians 6.9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived, neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor the effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortionists shall inherit the kingdom of God. And except ye repent and be converted, ye shall likewise perish.

And in Matthew 25.30 says, cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Verse 41.

Depart from me, ye accursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels. And verse 46. And thee shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous unto life eternal.

You better not be so smug and so complacent, for how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? And then in Revelation, the twentieth chapter, beginning at the eleventh verse, we find these words. These are not my words. And I saw a great white throne and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away, and there was found no place for them.

And I saw the dead, and it refers to the wicked dead, those that die in their sins, small and great stand before God. And the books were opened, and another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, not the book of life, according to their works.

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades delivered up the dead which were in them. And they were judged, every man, according to their works. And these ruthless, godless, Christ-hating dictators that are putting millions to death will get their just reward at the judgment of the great white throne.

And death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. Notice, this is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Now, this is eternal separation or banishment from God. No second chance to you, my friend. The moment that you die, if you die in your sins, your eternal destiny is sealed forever without any hope, without Christ, and without God.

Listen, for my Bible tells me without heaven are dogs, that is, the sinful, lustful servants are connected with the indulgent sins and sinful practices of the heathen temple worship. That's what the word dogs refers to there. Outside are these sinful men, these licentious persons, whoremongers, murderers, idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

But wait, is there a way out? Is there a way of escape? For I say to you, on the other side, God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. For our Savior Christ hath abolished death and hath brought life and incorruption through the gospel. For as much then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same, that through death he might destroy him that hath the power of death, that is, the devil.

And the last enemy, death, is going to be put under his feet some day, and death is an awful enemy. To take our loved ones away, see them suffering sometime, others silently slip away, strange that you can be by the bedside of a loved one, be talking to that loved one, and then in a few moments just the earthly tabernacle left and that soul, that godly mother that you loved, almost adored, slipped away, departing to

be with Christ. Death is an enemy.

Now notice, he's going to deliver us, and he's going to deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage, and then speaking to Mary and Martha, at the tomb of their brother Lazarus, he sent forth these words, I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? We see Jesus for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

Listen, physical death all of us will have to experience if the Lord carry long enough, spiritual death, every soul unregenerated in his natural state. You are now spiritually dead, dead in trespasses and sin, and unless you repent it will be eternal death, eternal banishment from the presence of God forever and forever. But come now, let us reason together, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.

And I'm praying that no one will leave this visible audience here, auditorium here in Long Beach, or leave the radio. Until you repent, confess your need of Christ as a Savior, and say, God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and save me for Christ's sake. If you go out, I'm free from your blood.

You'll have no excuse at the judgment of the great white throne. You've heard the gospel. Let's bow our heads in prayer.

No one stirring plea. Every head be bowed. Friends outside of Christ, in the radio audience, today if you hear my voice, harden not your heart as in the day of provocation, but come now.

I'm not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. Come all you labored, heavy laden. I'll give you rest.

Will you come? God bless you. While our heads are bowed in this visible audience here in Long Beach, how many will quickly put their hands up and say, Brother Fuller, pray for me. I need Christ as my personal Savior I'd like you to remember me in a word of prayer.

God bless you. Anyone else here on the lower floor, God bless you. God bless you.

Anyone else here on the lower floor, quickly put your hand up and say pray for me. Tomorrow may be too late. Come now.

God bless you back there. Anyone else on the lower floor here, quickly put your hand up and say pray for me. I need Christ as my personal Savior.

I'd like to have you remember me in a word of prayer. There's another hand to go up here on the lower floor. I'll only wait just a moment.

God bless you back there, my dear man. Up in the balconies to my right, anyone up there, put your hand up and say pray for me. I need Christ as my personal Savior.

I'd like to have you remember me in a word of prayer. In the balconies to the rear, anyone there? Just as God speaks to you, I am pressed for time. In the balconies to the left, God bless you.

Anyone else, God bless you back there. Any place, any other place in the auditorium? Is there another hand to go up just before we close the old-fashioned revival hour? Continue in prayer as we leave the air. This is Carl Z. Fuller bidding you goodbye and God's richest blessings upon you.

While we plead, while you see your souls be clean, while our Father calls you home, will you not, my brother, call me home?

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