

# **The Human Dilemma**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Ephesians 2:1-3.
- B. Jesus has come to unite all things together in Him.
- C. When one notes the power of God, he will never live the same way again.
- D. The condition of man in his lost place must be grasped in order to gain God's power.

## II. It takes nothing less than the immeasurable greatness of God's power to break through the human condition.

### A. Humans are dead in their trespasses.

- 1. Death means that one is utterly powerless.
- 2. Death means corruption and decay.

### B. Humans are dead because of trespasses.

- 1. The impotence of life is that we cannot fulfill the ideal.
- 2. Man is also dead because of the sin in which he chooses to partake.

### C. Three forces at work.

- 1. The age that we live pressures man to conform.
- 2. The devil is at work to increase disobedience.
- 3. The flesh.
  - a. Desire is not always wrong.
  - b. When our desires become drives, they become wrong.
  - c. No one can escape these overwhelming desires leaving mankind hopeless without intervention.

### D. Mankind is subject to the wrath of God. Wrath is designed to make a person realize he is violating a principle of his own nature.

## III. There is no escape "but God..." A man must first accept the condition that he is in before he can receive the answer God has for him.

**Application questions:**

1. What powers make man's condition utterly hopeless?

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2. How would you respond to someone who says that God should accept him or her into heaven because he or she is generally a good person?

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3. What actions in your life remind you of that depraved human condition? How do they make you feel?

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