

## Sermon Outline

### Poverty of Sin to Wealth of Mercy Ephesians 2:1-10

*(We) were by nature the children of wrath . . . but God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us . . . has made us alive together with Christ. Ephesians 2:3-6*

- I. Our reason was impoverished by Adam's sin vv. 1, 3
  - a. Know you are subject to error
    - A. Alone, we err in our heart Ps 95:10; Jer 17:9
    - B. Left to ourselves, we stray Isa 53:6
    - C. Corrected by Apostolic teaching I John 4:1-6
  - b. Do not be seduced by deceit
    - A. Deceit: powers, signs, wonders, - II Thess 2:8-10  
*cf.* Acts 2:22, 43; Heb 2:4
    - B. Worldly affections deceive us - Matt 13:22
    - C. Non-Christian philosophies deceive us Col 2:8-9
      - 1. Beware of philosophy and empty deceit  
*contra* Paul's teaching 1:27-28
      - 2. Refuse Jewish falsehoods Mk 7:8; Mt 15:2-9
      - 3. Refuse pagan cosmological determinism
      - 4. Look only to Christ for wisdom 1:9, 28; 2:3
  - c. Do not surrender to stupor
    - A. Sin dulls us Isa 59:1, 2, 8-10 *cf.* Rom 11:25
    - B. So, don't live like the blind Eph 4:17-18  
*cf.* Rom 1:26-32
- II. Salvation arises from the wealth of God's mercy Eph 2:4-5
  - a. We extol the mercies of God Isa 63:7; Ps 25:4-8 *cf.* 79:8
  - b. Zacharias on John's arrival Lk 1:76-79
  - c. The New Covenant heart Jer 31:31-33; Psa 119:77, 156  
God puts HIS law in the heart; he does not endow us with the ability to decide right & wrong for ourselves. Like the psalmist, we delight in God's judgments because they are holy and right.