

**THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD**  
**CHRIST THE LORD CENTRAL PARISH**  
**PROVINCE 20**  
**LEKKI PHASE 1**

**DIGGING DEEP:** TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2023

**THEME:** LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS (2)

**TOPIC:** THE NATURAL MAN BEFORE GRACE

**TEXT:** Ephesians 2: 1-12

**INTRODUCTION:**

Our lesson today continues to look at the letter of Paul to the Ephesians. We are familiar with before and after pictures where side by side the transformation of a person is seen following an intervention. In medicine, this could be following surgery e.g. surgery for cleft lip and palate. Today we want to look at the state of man before grace and next week by the grace of God we will look at the state of man after grace.

**GOD'S PICTURE OF THE NATURAL MAN**

1. Dead in transgressions and sins Psalm 51: 5, Rom 5: 12; John 5:39-40
2. Walks in the ways of this world - Math 7:13-14; Psalm 1
3. Follows the ways of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. Gen 3: 1-13, 1 John 5:19; Rev 12: 9; 2 Corinth 4: 4
4. Gratifies the cravings of our flesh and follows its desires and thoughts – Rom 7: 18; Rom 8: 8, Gal 5:19-21
5. Deserving of wrath- John 3: 18-18, 36; Rom 1: 18-32
6. Separate from Christ Eph 4:18-19; John 14: 6; Acts 4: 12; 1 Timothy2: 5-6
7. Excluded from citizenship in Israel- John 14: 1-3; Gal 6: 16; Rom 9: 6-8
8. Foreigners to the covenants of the promise- Math 22:11-13; Luke 13:25-26
9. Without hope – John 8: 23-24
10. Without God in the world Luke 12: 16-21, 24
11. Hostile to God Rom 8:5-8

**Conclusion:**

In summary, the state of man without Christ is a sad, helpless, pitiful, appalling and terrible state. A LIVING DEAD. Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved except Jesus Christ. What shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul. Accept Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour and come alive by faith.