

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for September 7, 2008

The Mission of the Church
Ephesians 2:1-2
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Marriage is defined in Genesis 2:24 as the joining together of a man and a woman in an exclusive partnership that is both intimate and lifelong.

In light of the current tracking data in the State of California, proposition 8 could fail to pass.

Understanding how the church should respond to the prospect of proposition 8 not passing, based on what the Scriptures teach, requires that we know three different things.

The church needs to know the real problem that we are facing.

The real problem facing the church today is that the world is spiritually dead and under the control of Satan (Ephesians 2:1-3).

When Paul in Ephesians 2:1 described the members of the Ephesian church prior to their conversion as “dead,” he was referring to their spiritual state not to their physical state.

When a person is spiritually dead it means that he is alienated from the life of God and is therefore unable to respond to Him.

Those who are spiritually dead will live in the sphere of trespasses and sins.

The word “world” (KOSMOS) in Ephesians 2:2 does not refer to the physical world but to the evil world system.

The “prince of the power of the air” (ARCHOS) is none other than Satan who is referred to as the ruler of this world in John 14:30.

The “spirit” that is now working in the sons of disobedience in Ephesians 2:2 is the spirit of rebellion.

May we, by the grace of God, see the world as God sees the world and engage the world as God would have us to engage the world.