

**February 12, 2023**

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom:

**1 Cor. 2:14** *The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. (NIV)*

Early on in my academic studies, I was focused on the sciences. As a young person, I thought that litmus paper was interesting. You probably know that this little strip of paper is used to determine whether a liquid's pH is acidic or basic (alkaline). Now this is the fascinating thing about this paper. It is primarily used to identify bases. A base is a substance that accepts hydrogen ions (H<sup>+</sup>) in water. What is the significance of that, you might be wondering? Well, in our 'acidic' state (without Christ), we do not accept the things of the Spirit of God. We consider them foolishness. I can't number the times that I've heard 'educated' people say that to believe in God, one must commit intellectual suicide. The litmus paper does not lie. It just shows outwardly what is on the inside. So does the Spirit of God. Those people who do not yet know Jesus as the Savior, only look at things from the 'worldly' or 'temporal' state. They cannot accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but consider them foolishness. The problem is that they are spiritually dead in their trespasses and sin; and there is no life in them.

The Greeks had a word for this which is translated for us. It is the word zombie - the walking dead. Folks, this world is full of spiritual zombies. They are walking through life with no real life at all. The only hope for them is to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. When that happens, what was dead is made alive. When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, their spirit died. Sin caused them to fall from the place of grace that they had with the LORD. That is why the LORD had to put them out of the place of perfection that He had made for them. They had once been truly alive, but instead they were just existing. But praise the LORD that in **Gen. 3:21** *The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. (NIV)* A picture of the atonement. He can take what is dead, and make it come alive and set free!

**Dear LORD, You have done all of this because of Your perfect and great love for us. Thank You for taking us in our dead, sinful state and breathing new life into us by Your Holy Spirit. Praise You LORD! In Jesus Name, Amen**