

I appreciate J.I. Packer and his book "Knowing God." The malady humankind faces isn't a volitional rejection of the Gospel but a spiritual catastrophe from birth requiring grace. We were born as enemies of God, ungodly, guilty, without love, broken, enslaved, spiritually blind, in darkness, and shattered, spiritually dead, under condemnation and wrath, and under the authority of Satan. "But now...being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness," (Rom 3:21,24,25)

- "For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." (Rom 5:6)
- "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." (Rom 5:10)
- "Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." (Rom 5:9)
- "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom 5:8)
- "even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)" (Eph 2:5)
- "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already" (Jn 3:18)
- "He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed" (Lk 4:18)
- "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind." (Jn 9:39)
- "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (Jn 8:12)
- "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love," (Col 1:13)
- "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1Pet 2:9)
- "For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace." (Rom 6:14)
- "having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever" (1Pet 1:23)
- "but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior" (Tit 3:5-6)
- "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1Jn 4:10)
- "to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God" (Acts 26:18)
- "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others." (Eph 2:1-3)
- "but deliver us from the evil one." (Matt 6:13)
- "but deliver us from the evil one." (Lk 11:4)
- "But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded" (2Cor 3:3,4)