

ONE IN CHRIST

Ephesians 2:11-22

I. **THE EXCLUDED** (11-12)—Gentiles (heathen, lost, unchurched)

A. **The Attitude** (11; Deut 10:16; Jer 9:25-26; Rom 2:25-29; Phil 3:2-9; 2 Cor 2:11-13; Gal 5:6; 1 Cor 7:19)—disdain, disrespect, disgust

B. **The Status** (12)

1. **Separated from Christ**—no Savior

2. **Alienated from Israel** (Rom 9:3-5)—not part of nation with whom God was in covenant relationship

3. **Strangers to the Covenants**—no legal relationship with God through covenant made with Abraham

4. **No Hope** (1 Thes 4:13)—no certain hope for the future

5. **Without God in the world** (Acts 17:22-31; Rom 1:18-2:16; Gal 4:8)—no personal or official relationship of favor with God in this life

II. **THE BARRIER** (14-15)—the division between Jews and Gentiles

A. **The Dividing Wall of Hostility** ()—animosity, offense

B. **The Law of Commandments and Ordinances**

1. **The Covenant of Law** (Ex 19:5; Lk 22:20; Heb 12:24)—Jesus established the New Covenant in His blood—based not on our obedience but upon His.

2. **Jewish Cultural Regulations** (Mk 7:19; Gal 5:6; Heb 9:9-10)—set them apart from the nations—they came to feel superior because of it.

III. THE PEACE (13-17)—ended the animosity

- A. Who Made Peace (14; Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12; Rom 5:1)—Jesus IS our peace**
- 1. There is no peace with God apart from Jesus Christ.**
 - 2. Peace is found in the person of Christ, not in our performance.**
- B. How the Peace Was Made —the sacrificial atonement of Christ**
- 1. The Blood of Christ (13; Heb 9:22)—**
 - 2. The Cross of Christ (16)—reconciles God and humans as well as humans with one another**
 - 3. The Gospel of Christ (17)—the good news of forgiveness and reconciliation with God (and man)—Jesus brought the message**

IV. THE INCLUDED (Col 3:11)—

- A. One New Humanity (15,16)—neither Jew nor Gentile but Christian; the two have become one, something new**
- B. The New Family (18-19)—members of God’s household**
- C. The New Nation (19a; Ex 19:6; 1 Pet 2:9)—the New Israel; fellow citizens with the saints**
- D. The New Temple (20-22; 1 Pet 2:5)—God’s dwelling place**

V. APPLICATION

- A. Remember to be Thankful to God. (Lk 10:20; Mk 5:19)—celebrate your salvation!**
- B. Remember to be Compassionate to others. (Ex 23:9; Lk 6:31; 1 Pet 3:15; Heb 2:17-18)—one beggar telling other beggars where to find bread**

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