



Your view of the church
today means more when
you **remember** your
distance from God before.

In the past, we were
far, far away.

We experienced
social separation.

Israel **twisted** God's
command due to
ethnic arrogance.

You shall be a blessing ...
and in you **all the families
of the earth** shall be
blessed.

Genesis 12:2-3

I will also give you as a light
to the Gentiles, that you
should be my salvation to
the ends of the earth.

Isaiah 49:6

Go therefore and make
disciples of **all the nations**

Matthew 28:19

You shall be witnesses to
me ... to the **end of the
earth.**

Acts 1:8

We experienced
spiritual separation.

Jews / Gentiles

- Born spiritually dead
- Controlled by the world, flesh, devil
- Destined for the wrath of God

Gentiles

- No Savior
- No citizenship
- No promises
- No hope
- No God

We had **no Savior**.
("without Christ")

We had **no citizenship**.
("aliens from the
commonwealth of Israel")

You only have I known of all
the families of the earth;
Therefore I will punish you
for all your iniquities.

Amos 3:2

Behold, He who **keeps**
Israel shall neither slumber
nor sleep.

Psalm 121:4

We had **no promises**.
("strangers from the
covenants of promise")

Abrahamic (Genesis 12:2-3; 17:7)

Mosaic (Exodus 19:5-8)

Palestinian (Deuteronomy 29:10-15)

Davidic (2 Samuel 8-16)

We had **no hope**.
("no hope")

We had **no God**.
("no God")

Indeed, when you did not know God, you served those which by nature **are not gods.**

Galatians 4:8

Jethro

- Midianite

Caleb

- Canaanite

Rahab

- Canaanite

Othniel

- Canaanite

Jael

- Canaanite

Ruth

- Moabite

Uriah

- Hittite

Naaman

- Syrian

Nebuchadnezzar

- Babylonian

In the past, we were far,
far away, but today we are
near in every way.

Social and spiritual
separation are only solved
by **the greatest price** –
the violent death of Christ.

We are near **to God**.

The promise is to you and
to your children, and **to all
who are afar off**, as many
as the Lord our God will call

Acts 2:39

We are near to God
and to one another.

Personal, private worship
alone does not display the
spiritual and social
reconciliation the gospel
makes possible.

A great multitude which no one
could number, of **all nations**,
tribes, peoples, and tongues,
standing before the throne

Revelation 7:9