



## Eph 2:11–22, One in Christ

September 22

### REVIEW: [Ephesians](#)

**CONTEXT:** Paul planted the church in Ephesus, the leading and cosmopolitan city of Asia Minor (W. Turkey). See Acts 19. Here he spent 2+ years. En route to Jerusalem he affectionately visited these brothers in Act 20. His ministry was often challenged but also knew great blessing. Now from prison he writes to the church. Focusing on the BIG picture, Paul shares how the sovereign triune God has made a covenant people in Christ from all nations by His grace and through faith. How and what that people ought to look like is the subject of our passage.

### FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Eph 1:3–14)

- What can you say about the church in Ephesus?
- What were some of the issues they faced?
- What are some of the high and lofty things Paul celebrates?
- Within this he likewise touches on the high-mystery of predestination. How is this biblical teaching a positive thing, especially in light of their context?
- How can these lofty truths help us when we face trials like the Ephesians?

### READ: Eph 2:11–22

### QUESTIONS:

1. *Our passage springs from 1:10 where Paul reminds the Ephesians of God's great plan in salvation history, to create and unite a covenant people to Himself in Jesus, a work begun in Abraham and now being completed in the Gentiles. This is the new creation (2:10).*
2. **Share a time when you received a gift and a) thought you deserved it and b) knew you didn't deserve it. In what spirit did you respond to the giving of the gift?**
3. Eph 2:1–10- Salvation by grace through faith. What does this mean?
4. **V.11–2 "Therefore remember"- How does Paul describe their state before coming to Christ (being adopted into the covenant family)?**

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6. **What is the value of family? What is the beauty of joining the family of God?**
7. **Like 2:4, how is the "but" in v. 13 so marvellous for the believer?**
8. V. 13- Aside from the scope of the NC being broader, how is this possible?
9. V. 14- How has Christ made us at peace with God and with one another (i.e. Jew and Gentile, think the divide in the Court of Gentiles). **How has He made one new multi-ethnic covenant people? How does this reflect God's pre-Fall design?**
10. V. 17- (*see Isa 57:19*), *far- Gentiles, near-Jews.*
11. V. 18- How does this describe the great goal of redemption? (Notice the Trinity's involvement!).
12. V. 19 *begins with "so then" (the implications). Using Ephesians distinctions, in Christ the believer is not a stranger (non-resident visitor), nor an alien (resident) but a fellow citizen in the covenant family of God!*
13. **Given that we were once far off what is the amazing nature of this statement?**
14. **What are the implications for Christian unity today? Why should Christians reflect the unity they have in Christ? How should they demonstrate that unity in Christ?**
15. *There is an old Christian adage: "In Essentials Unity, In Non-Essentials Liberty, In all Things Charity." Discuss*
16. **Commenting on truth (v. 17) and unity (v. 21) in Jn 17, the late John Stott said this, discuss: *If this is so, and Christian love is founded upon Christian truth, we shall never increase the love which exists between us by diminishing the truth we hold in common. In the contemporary movement towards church unity we must beware of compromising the very faith on which alone true love and unity depends.***

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17. V. 20- **What is a cornerstone? How is Jesus, and then the apostles and prophets, the foundation of the new covenant people of God?**
18. V. 21–22- **How is the Church a living temple for God? What is our purpose? How does our unity help this?**

**NEXT TIME:** Sept 29, Congregational Meeting