

# Unity of Jews & Gentiles

Ephesians 2:11-22

## ***The Problem 11-12***

11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

1. What time past?
  1. OT revelation: God chose one man & nation to deal with (Deu 7:6-8; Amos 3:1-2)
  2. The rest of the world was left to wander in ignorance Acts 17:30
2. Jesus initially came to minister to the Jews
  1. Matt 10:6 The 12 were sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
  2. Matt 15:24 Consider what Jesus said to the woman of Canaan.

12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

1. at that time - Before NT preaching that went to Cornelius (Acts 10).
2. without Christ -
  1. Practically outside of Christ as Gentiles
  2. They were outside the national promises to Israel.
  3. They were without the knowledge of God's salvation given to Israel.
  4. They were without the true worship of God which Israel had.
3. aliens from Israel - The nation of Israel was the visible, corporate body of God's people.
4. strangers from the covenants - The hope of Israel, God's promises to them.
5. no hope - As a Gentile you were separate from the source of hope, God's revelation.
6. without God in the world - Gentiles had no access to the true God.

## ***The Resolution 13-18***

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

1. But now - This is the time of Gospel preaching, started in Acts 10, to Jews & Gentiles.
2. in Christ - Gal 3:28-29 In Christ we are all one, all Abraham's spiritual seed.
3. made nigh by His blood - Jesus brings us into the family of God by His (1Cor 6:11; Col 1:13-14; 21-22; 1Pe 3:18; Rev 5:9-10)

14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

1. Jesus, our basis for peace in His new kingdom, the church
2. hath made - perfect tense
3. both one
  1. Look at the unity of Jews & Gentiles in Jesus (1Cor 12:12-13; Col 3:11).
  2. Clearly, the division between Jew & Gentile has been eliminated.

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15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

1. having abolished .. the enmity
  1. He abolished the enmity with God
  2. He abolished the enmity between sinners
2. in his flesh
  1. Based on His perfect life.
  2. Secured by His sacrificial death.
3. law of commandments - Compare Col 2:14
  1. The Jews were condemned by them
  2. The Gentiles never even had them
4. From two He makes one new man (Gal 6:15)

16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

1. both - Two thoughts
  1. Peace with God
    1. He reconciles both Jew & Gentile to God
    2. Rom 2:12 The Jews under the Law & the Gentiles without the Law.
  2. Peace with one another - the Law separated Jews from Gentiles
2. one body - the church, God's spiritual kingdom

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

1. Practical salvation
2. He preaches peace to those afar off - Gentiles
  1. Eph 3:1-7 Paul gloried in his ministry to the Gentiles.
3. He preaches peace to those near - Jews
  1. The Gospel was first preached to the Jews.
4. Notice God subtly changing the order
  1. Here "afar off" is listed first.
  2. Acts 15:11 Peter said Jews saved like Gentiles

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

1. we both - BOTH, Jew AND Gentile, have access through Jesus.
2. have access - What was Jewish by ordinances both now have by grace
3. through him ... by one Spirit
  1. Through Jesus Christ both now have open access to the Father by the Holy Spirit
  2. Heb 10:1,4-14,19-20 This is the new & living way.

### ***The Results 19-22***

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

1. Now therefore - because of what Jesus Christ has done vs. 13-18.

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2. No more strangers - Gentiles are no longer strangers from God's kingdom.
3. fellow-citizens
  1. Gentiles are not 2nd class, but full citizens in God's kingdom.
  2. Consider the verses that deal with God's kingdom
    1. Rev 1:5-6 He makes us kings & priests unto God by His blood.
    2. Rev 2:1-7 This was written to the angel of the church at Ephesus.
  3. Jews & Gentiles in the same kingdom
  4. Acts 15:16 the rebuilt tabernacle of David
4. with the saints
  1. Saints = the children of God.
  2. Heb 12:22-24 This is the heavenly Jerusalem, Mount Zion
5. of the household of God - Gentiles are part of the household of faith (Gal 6:10).

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

1. built on a foundation
  1. apostles
  2. prophets - John the Baptist the greatest OT prophet (Matt 11:11; Lk 7:28).
  3. Jesus Christ
2. this is a NEW building
  1. The Law ended with John (Lk 16:16).
  2. The reformation of God's religion came (Heb 9:10).
  3. There is a new center of focus: our Apostle & High Priest Jesus! (Heb 3:1)
  4. This new building holds both Jews & Gentiles.

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

1. this new BUILDING
  1. In Jesus Christ Jews & Gentiles make up the house of God.
  2. This is the visible kingdom of God, Jews & Gentiles, everywhere.
2. fitly framed together - believers' activity in the church (Eph 4:16).
3. is the Lord's temple
  1. 1Pet 2:4-10 Lively stones built into a spiritual house.
  2. 1Tim 3:15 house of God = the church of God
  3. Paul in this epistle speaks of "the house of God" & "the whole family in heaven and earth"

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

1. this new building - this is the local assembly
2. ye also ... together
  1. this is a different body from vs. 21
  2. the Spirit's habitation
  3. every local congregation is the habitation of the Holy Spirit

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### **Summary Points**

- Gentiles in Jesus Christ are Abraham's seed & heirs of the promises made to him - Gal 3:29
- Those redeemed out of every nation, tongue & people are kings & priests unto God - Rev 5:9-10
- God's Holy Spirit baptizes Jew & Gentile into ONE body - 1Cor 12:12-13
- BOTH elect Jew & Gentile are made a new spiritual man in Christ - Gal 6:15
- The Gospel preached to the Gentiles & their inclusion into the family of God, the church, fulfills God's promise to rebuild David's house - Acts 15:14-18
- God's intent from eternity was to bring TOGETHER His elect into ONE body, the church, and it is made up of saved Jews & Gentiles - Eph 3:1-7

The Dispensational / Premillennial scheme that views the church as an after thought & promotes a privileged place for Jews in God's future dealings is heresy. It ignores the clear teachings of the New Testament that God's special, hidden plan has always been a spiritual kingdom, His church, made up of converted elect Jews & Gentiles. This kingdom has been in existence since the days of the apostles. This plan was plainly taught by the apostle of the Gentiles, Paul.

Jew & Gentile were united into one body, the church of Jesus Christ, roughly 2000 years ago, never to be divided in the worship and adoration of their Great and Glorious Savior, Jesus Christ! It is as Dispensationalism minimizes the glorious work of Jesus Christ to redeem His elect people in all nations so that carnal Jews can be in the spotlight of prophetic speculation that it is most damnable heresy!