

**Ephesians Part 6:
Peace through the Cross**
Ephesians 2:11-22



Tim Strickland

February 12, 2017

¹¹ *Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh,
called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision,
which is made in the flesh by hands—*

¹² *remember that
you were at that time separated from Christ,
alienated from the commonwealth of Israel
and strangers to the covenants of promise,
having no hope
and without God in the world.*

¹³ *But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by
the blood of Christ.*

¹⁴ *For he himself is our peace,
who has made us both one
and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility
¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances,
that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two,
so making peace,*

¹⁶ *and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross,
thereby killing the hostility.*

¹⁷ *And he came and preached
peace to you who were far off
and peace to those who were near.*

¹⁸ *For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.*

¹⁹ *So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,
but you are fellow citizens with the saints
and members of the household of God,*

²⁰ *built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,*

²¹ *in whom the whole structure, being joined
together,*

grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

²² *In him you also are being built together
into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

Ephesians 2:11-22

Ephesians Part 6:
Peace through the Cross
Ephesians 2:11-22

1. You have been brought near to God through Christ (11-13)

¹² remember that

*you were at that time separated from Christ,
alienated from the commonwealth of Israel
and strangers to the covenants of promise,
having no hope
and without God in the world.*

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

- a. Gentiles and Jews - "the uncircumcision" and "the circumcision"
 - *which is made in the flesh by hands*
- b. Remember the way you were: (Source:Hendriksen)
 - **Christless:** *you were at that time separated from Christ,*
 - **Stateless:** *alienated from the commonwealth of Israel*
 - **Friendless:** *and strangers to the covenants of promise,*
 - **Hopeless:** *having no hope*
 - **Godless:** *and without God in the world.*
- c. But now you have been brought near...
 - ...in union with Christ
 - ...by the blood of Christ

2. Jesus is your peace (14-18)

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace,

*who has made us both one
and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility*

¹⁵ *by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances,
that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two,*

so making peace,

¹⁶ *and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross,
thereby killing the hostility.*

- a. Here is what Jesus, has done for you to make peace
 - *he has made us both one and has broken down...the dividing wall*
 - *by abolishing the law of commandments*
 - **The law is no longer the system that governs you**
 - You no longer need to follow Jewish ritual laws
 - **God's moral laws are fulfilled through Jesus in you**
 - *that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two*
 - Jesus creates a new humanity in himself
 - *and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross*
 - Jesus offers you peace with God through the cross

Ephesians Part 6:
Peace through the Cross
Ephesians 2:11-22

¹⁷ *And he came and preached
peace to you who were far off
and peace to those who were near.*

¹⁸ *For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.*

- b. Jesus preached peace to Jews and Gentiles alike
 - Peace with God and then peace with one another
- c. Through Jesus, you can access God the Father, in the Spirit
 - *For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.*

3. You have new identity, belonging, and purpose in Christ (19-22)

¹⁹ *So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,
but you are fellow citizens with the saints
and members of the household of God,*

²⁰ *built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,*

²¹ *in whom the whole structure, being joined
together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.*

²² *In him you also are being built together
into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

- a. You are **Citizens** in God's Kingdom (Source:Stott)
 - *You are no longer strangers and aliens*
 - *You are fellow citizens with the saints*
- b. You are **Family** in God's Household
 - *You are members of the household of God*
- c. You are **Building Stones** in God's Temple
 - You are being built into a temple where God dwells
 - *you are built on the foundation of the apostles and profits*
 - We now have the Bible, handed down from them
 - *Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone*
 - Jesus is the cornerstone in the foundation
 - *In Jesus, the whole structure, being joined together,
grows into a holy temple in the Lord.*
 - *In Jesus, you also are being built together
into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

4. Will you receive salvation in Jesus: a free gift of God, by faith?

- *Believe in Jesus, and His death and resurrection*
- *Repent of your sin and place your trust in Jesus*
- *Commit to Jesus as Lord of your life*

**Ephesians Part 6:
Peace through the Cross
*Ephesians 2:11-22***

Your Response

1. Thank God for all he has done for you. Meditate on your identity in Christ.
2. Read Ephesians in your Bible. Use an accurate, readable translation such as the English Standard Version or the New Living Translation.
3. Believe in Jesus for forgiveness of sins and eternal life in Him.

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus Romans 3:23-24

because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Ephesians Series: God's Purposes for You in Christ

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| January 8 | Part 1: Introduction to Ephesians |
| January 15 | Part 2: God's Blessings to You in Christ |
| January 22 | Part 3: A Prayer for Spiritual Knowledge |
| January 29 | Part 4: Dead in Sin, Alive in Christ |
| February 5 | Part 5: Saved by God's Amazing Grace |
| February 12 | Part 6: Peace through the Cross of Christ |
| February 19 | Family Day Special: The Rubber Chicken Company!
It's a great day to invite friends to Waverley! |

Questions for Reflection

1. What are the five problems that you have apart from the cross? (point #1b)
2. How is the law abolished in Jesus? How is it fulfilled in Jesus? (point #2b)
3. What three metaphors describe your identity, belonging and purpose in Christ? (Point 3abc)
4. Have you responded to the God's grace in faith and repentance, trusting in Jesus Christ for forgiveness of sins, and eternal life? Why not do so today?
2 Cor. 6:2b *now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

*Other sermons and notes are available for free download at www.waverleyroadbaptist.ca
Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. To learn more about the ESV, please visit www.esv.org
Message and Notes are copyright © 2017 by Tim Strickland.*