



## Lesson 5: The Gospel – Phase 2

### Ephesians 2:11-22

The amount of wars and the toll of life taken in the course of human history defies comprehension. According to a 2003 New York Times article: “Of the past 3,400 years, humans have been entirely at peace for 268 of them, or just 8 percent of recorded history. . . At least 108 million people were killed in wars in the twentieth century. . . at the beginning there were 30 wars going on around the world.” Into the chaos of hostility and war comes the message of Christ, a message that spells the end of war and ushers in peace. God’s answer to the hatred and division in the world today is reconciliation with fellow man through Christ’s work. This is seen primarily as Christ brings together Jew and Gentile, once hateful enemies now brothers and sisters of grace.

#### GENTILES BEFORE RECONCILIATION (2:11-12)

- \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel  
In the Old Testament God worked specifically through one nation, Israel, his specially chosen people out of the face of the whole earth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ of the covenant of \_\_\_\_\_  
Because God worked through one nation, his blessings were seen in the covenants he made with Abraham, Moses, and David, covenants that were with Israel.
- **Christless, \_\_\_\_\_, Godless**  
For the most part, if you didn’t have Jewish parents in the ancient world, you had little chance of having a relationship with God.



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### GOD'S RECONCILIATION OF GENTILES (2:13-18)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Christ made peace.
  - Christ made peace through his \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Christ made peace by removing the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Christ made peace by offering the \_\_\_\_\_ salvation to all.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Christ made peace.

Remember, God's ultimate plan for the universe is to unite all things in Christ (1:10). God wants everything to be harmoniously under the control of Christ the King. One day that will be fully realized in the millennial kingdom and then the eternal state, but until then God wants to see that in the church.

### GENTILES AFTER RECONCILIATION (2:19-22)

- **Gentiles are part of God's \_\_\_\_\_.**

Believers are described throughout Scripture as citizens of heaven (Philippians 3:20; Hebrews 11:13-16). Citizenship is another privilege that we take for granted, but this wasn't the case when Paul wrote. Not everyone in the Roman empire was a Roman citizen. In fact, being a citizen was a high privilege
- **Gentiles are part of God's \_\_\_\_\_.**

There is a strong emphasis here on being a part of God's family. Scripture builds this analogy elsewhere as well. God is our father (Ephesians 2:18), Christ is our brother (Hebrews 2:17), and we are adopted (Ephesians 1:5). Jews and Gentiles are now siblings, on equal footing before an impartial father.
- **Gentiles are part of God's \_\_\_\_\_.**

When we hear that Christians are the temple of God, we assume that each person individually is a temple of God. While the Bible does sometimes speak in this way (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), it is more common for the New Testament to think of the whole church as the temple of God.

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