

# ONE NEW HUMANITY: BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH

Message #4, Ephesians 2:1-22

September 27, 2020



## How the dead live

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. <sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:1-10

1) By grace, through faith, for \_\_\_\_\_

2) Location matters: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

## Sticks and stones . . . .

*<sup>11</sup> Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (that done by the hands of men) . . . .*

Ephesians 2:11

1) Key question: Who gets to \_\_\_\_\_

2) Not so subtle warning: Watch out for \_\_\_\_\_

## And what we are: one new humanity (with access, see Keller’s sermon!!)

*. . . remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

*<sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup> by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. <sup>17</sup> He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.*

Ephesians 2:12-18

1) Location still matters: \_\_\_\_\_

2) The new humanity can never forget its story: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

3) Access means \_\_\_\_\_

And one very contemporary issue: 4) \_\_\_\_\_ humanity is still radical!

## Pictures of God's new people

Building our theological vocabulary:

stranger = *zenos*, “stranger, different, other” as in xenophobia

house = *oikos*, primary root for “home,” both in terms of family home and structure

household = *oikeios*, refers to the members and structure of the extended household

alien = *para* + *oikos*, “those alongside of the permanent residents”

fellow citizens = *sum* + *politēs*, refers to the shared life of the “polis”

built upon = *epi* + *oikos* + *domeō*, refers to completion/permanence of the “roof on top”

cornerstone = *akro* + *gonia*, the top or key “angle” in an arch, both figurative and literal

being joined together = *sum* + *armos* + *logeō*, borrows from imagery of joining in marriage

being built together = *sum* + *oikos* + *domeō*, refers to the shared experience of being “built”

dwelling = *kata* + *oikos* + *tērion*, the “placeness” of the life of the household

### 1) “Together” Citizens

<sup>19</sup> *Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people.*

Ephesians 2:19

This means: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2) The extended family

*... and also members of his household . . . .*

Ephesians 2:20

This means: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3) A temple

*... built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.*

<sup>21</sup> *In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.* <sup>22</sup> *And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

Ephesians 2:20-22

This means: \_\_\_\_\_

# **My working outline of Ephesians**

Overall Theme:

Chapters 1-3 The Glory of God in the Church

Chapter 1 The glory of God in redemption

Chapter 2 The glory of God in reconciliation

Chapter 3 The glory of God in the revelation of the mystery of the church

Chapters 4-6 The Glory and Pleasure of God through the Church

Chapter 4 The glory of God in the unity and growth of the church

Chapter 5 The glory of God in the imitation of Christ by the saints

Chapter 6 The glory of God in victory of Christ

## Resources for further studies of Ephesians

For studying Ephesians 2:

Horatio Bonar's short study at <https://www.monergism.com/without-god>

Bob Deffinbaugh at <https://bible.org/seriespage/8-guilt-men-and-grace-god-part-1-ephesians-21-10>

Kim Riddlebarger at <https://www.monergism.com/immeasurable-riches-his-grace>

The classic Tim Keller at <https://www.monergism.com/christ-our-house-%E2%80%93-ephesians-214-22>

Rabbi Loren Jacob's message at <https://www.shema.com/erev-yom-kippur-psalm-32-8588/>

This is a wonderful Bible Project introduction on youtube:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=12&v=Y71r-T98E2Q&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=12&v=Y71r-T98E2Q&feature=emb_logo)

Bob Deffinbaugh's Ephesians series is at <https://bible.org/series/ephesians-glory-god-church>

Spurgeon's series of messages on Ephesians are at [http://www.romans45.org/spurgeon/index/r\\_eph.htm](http://www.romans45.org/spurgeon/index/r_eph.htm)

Kim Riddlebarger's sermons on Ephesians are at <http://kimriddlebarger.squarespace.com/sermons-on-ephesians/?jsessionid=3799445CA50CA06F2F395D4FBE89D586.v5-web017>

ThirdMill has produced "Paul and the Ephesians" at <https://thirdmill.org/seminary/lesson.asp/vid/19/version/>

Desiring God, John Piper's media ministry, has some wonderful resources at

<https://www.desiringgod.org/scripture/ephesians/1/messages>

Mark Johnston's "Preaching Ephesians" at <https://www.reformation21.org/articles/preaching-ephesians.php>

Doug's favorite commentaries are John R. W. Stott's *The Message of Ephesians* (IVP, 1979), William Hendriksen, *Exposition of Ephesians* (Baker Book House, 1967); Ephesians in the *Expositor's Bible Commentary* (Zondervan, 1981) by A. Skevington Wood; and, much shorter, F. F. Bruce's *The Epistle to the Ephesians* (Revell, 1961).

Martyn Lloyd-Jones has a wonderful seven volume series on Ephesians (Baker Books, 1978).

The text we spent the most time on in Darrell Johnson's class was Timothy Gombis' *The Drama of Ephesians* (IVP Academic, 2010)

The Gospel Coalition has resources on Ephesians at <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/ephesians/>

Alexander Maclaren's commentary on Ephesians 1 is at

<https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mac/ephesians-1.html>

F.F. Bruce's paraphrase is available at [https://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/eq/1962-3\\_163.pdf](https://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/eq/1962-3_163.pdf)

	A.D.	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80
Death, resurrection of Christ (A.D. 33 [or 30])†		█										
Paul's conversion (33/34*)		●										
Paul's first Jerusalem visit (36/37*)			●									
Paul's second Jerusalem visit (famine relief) (44–47*)					█							
Paul's first missionary journey (46–47)					●							
Paul's third Jerusalem visit (apostolic council) (48–49*)					●							
Paul's second missionary journey (48/49–51*)						█						
Paul's third journey (incl. 3 years in Ephesus) (52–57*)							█					
Paul, under house arrest in Rome, writes to Ephesus (62*)									●			
Paul martyred in Rome (64–67*)										█		



ACTS CHAPTER 19

THE CITY OF **EPHESUS**

# EPHESIANS

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE

PAUL SUMMARIZES  
THE GOSPEL STORY  
& NOW IT SHOULD RESHAPTE EVERY PART OF  
OUR STORY.

## 1-3 THE GOSPEL STORY

13-17  
OPENING PART

PRaise GOD FOR WHAT HE'S DONE  
**IN CHRIST**

**OUR EXPERIENCE**  
THAT RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD

21-10  
GOD'S GRACE

21-22  
A NEW, MULTI-TASKING CAPABILITY

NO ONE'S DECEPTION SIN PURPOSES SELFISHNESS  
A NEW, UNIFIED HUMANITY THAT LIVES IN  
**PEACE**

"THEREFORE"

## 4-6 OUR STORY

**ONE**  
UNITY & UNIFORMITY

**one SPIRIT, MANY GIFTS**

- APOSTLE
- PROPHET
- TEACHER
- PASTOR
- EVANGELIST

TO BUILD UP THE CHURCH:



**OLD**

**NEW**  
SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT  
SINGING TOGETHER  
SINGING ALONE  
SINGING IN GROUP  
SINGING WITH INSTRUMENTS  
SINGING IN VARIOUS VOICES

**CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLD**  
- HUSBAND = CHRIST  
- WIFE = CHURCH  
- CHILDREN = BAPTIZED BELIEVERS  
- FATHER = GOD THE FATHER  
- MOTHER = GOD THE MOTHER  
- SON = JESUS  
- DAUGHTER = THE CHURCH

6:10-21  
THE ARMOR OF GOD

