

Sermon Outline

ONE NEW HUMANITY| Geoff Lin

Bible reading: Ephesians 2:11-22 (Page 1665)

The Ephesians memory verse challenge so far ...

1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

2:8-10 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

The 2 Halves of Ephesians Chapter 2

vv1-3	Dead in our sins	vv11-12	formerly ... without hope
vv4-7	Made alive in Christ	vv13-18	but now ... peace with God
vv8-10	Saved from and saved for	vv19-21	consequently ... built together

1. "Formerly ... without hope" (vv11-12)

Gen 12:1 The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

2. "But now ... peace" (vv13-18)

i. we can all have peace with God

ii. we have no hostility with each other

Acts 19:8 Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. 9 But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. 10 This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

Gal 3:26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

3. "Consequently ... built together" (vv19-22)

i. fellow citizens with God's people (v19b)

ii. members of His household (vv19c-20)

iii. the whole building rising to become a holy temple in the Lord (vv21-22)

This week's memory verse: Ephesians 2:19-20

4. (Some) Application

i. how we welcome others

"Our church family should be inter-generational and inter-racial"

ii. how we forgive each other

And is not what has been given us enough: brothers, who will go on living with us through sin and need under the blessing of his grace? Is the divine gift of Christian fellowship anything less than this, any day, even the most difficult and distressing day? Even when sin and misunderstanding burden the communal life, is not the sinning brother still a brother, with whom I, too, stand under the Word of Christ? Will not his sin be a constant occasion for me to give thanks that both of us may live in the forgiving love of God in Jesus Christ? (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together* (1939))