



Welcome to the Family

Ephesians

Ephesians 2:11-19 (NIV)



Ephesians 2:11-12

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)— 12 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.

(NIV)

Definition of a Jew:

- 1) Derived from the patriarch Judah, at first given to one belonging to the tribe of Judah or to the separate kingdom of Judah, distinct from those belonging to the kingdom of the 10 tribes of Israel.
- 2) During the captivity period and after the restoration the name was extended to the whole Hebrew nation.

Ephesians 2:11-12

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)— 12 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.

(NIV)

Definition of a Gentile:

- 1) All who are not a part of the Jewish race
- 2) The uncircumcision

Ephesians 2:11-12

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)— 12 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.

(NIV)

Ephesians 2:13-15

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

14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, (NIV)

Why the hostility between Jew and Gentile?

- The hostility was rooted in the law
- The new man is the Body of Christ. Through faith in Jesus the two have been joined into one new creation!
 - Gal 6:15-16
15 Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. 16 Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God. (NIV)
(Peace comes through Christ not the law – Read Galatians)

Ephesians 2:13-15

13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.
14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace,
(NIV)

Ephesians 2:16-18

16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. (NIV)

Reconciling both Jew and Gentile to God

- The barrier between God and man: sin
 - Salvation for the Jews now comes through faith in Jesus – Acts 15:5-11
- What was God's desire for the nation of Israel as it relates to the world of mankind?

Ephesians 2:16-18

16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

(NIV)

Genesis 12:1-3

1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go 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."

(NIV)

Deuteronomy 4:5-8

See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the Lord my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. 6 Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." 7 What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the Lord our God is near us whenever we pray to him? 8 And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? (NIV)

Isaiah 49:5-6

And now the Lord says —
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him
and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord
and my God has been my strength —
6 he says:

"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

(NIV)

Reconciling both Jew and Gentile to God

- The barrier between God and man: sin
 - Salvation for the Jews now comes through faith in Jesus – Acts 15:5-11
- **What was God's desire for the nation of Israel as it relates to the world of mankind?**
 - **To be a blessing and a light – that people would be drawn to God by their example - and that salvation (Jesus) would come through Abraham's family line.**

Ephesians 2:16-18

16 and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

(NIV)



Ephesians 2:19

19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens,
but fellow citizens with God's people and members of
God's household,
(NIV)

As citizen's of God's Kingdom, how are we to represent Him to the world?

- Conforming to the world did not work for the Jews and it won't work for the new man, the Body of Christ

1 Peter 2:11-12

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. (NIV)

- Prideful hostility toward the unbelieving did not work for the Jews and it will not work for the new man, the Body of Christ

1 Peter 2:15-17

For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. 16 Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. 17 Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king. (NIV)

Ephesians 2:19

19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,
(NIV)



Welcome to the Family

Ephesians