

I Have a New Community

Ephesians 2:11-22

We either come _____ in Christ or _____ ways with Christ!

Reasons to share common ground:

1. The rationale for arrogant _____ has been destroyed. 11-13

- Race
- Rites

2. We have been called together into one “_____.” 14-15

- “Reconcile” –
- Repeated emphasis: 14, 15, 16, 18

We *must* come together in Christ because we only have one _____!

3. We all have a common mission: “_____!” 15-16

- Christ established peace by “putting to death the enmity!”
- “He Himself _____ our peace!” 14

4. We all have common _____ to God in Christ. 18

- Christ Himself is the only _____-giver! cf. 1 Timothy 2:5
- By His priesthood He grants us access and calls us to “_____!”
Hebrews 4:16, 7:19, 25, 10:22

5. We all have a common _____ in God’s kingdom. 19

We are not:

- Strangers
- *Aliens*

We are “fellow-citizens _____!”

6. We all have a common _____ for eternity. 20

- Christ is the _____.
- The _____ delivered by the apostles and prophets is foundational.
- We are “_____ built.” Which means we are not...

Challenge: Living in God’s community or parting ways?

The signpost to God’s community

John 13:34-35; John 17:21-23

Who/what is the stumbling-stone in the road?

Observation Notes on Ephesians 2:11ff

Argument (logical flow of the passage)

“Remember” the distance. 11-12

Bringing you “near.” 13

Breaking the “barrier.” 14

“Abolishing the enmity.” 15

“Establishing peace.” 15

“Reconciling” both.” 16

Granting “access.” 18

Personal Pronouns: (focus)

“You” 11-12

“He” 13-17

“we” 18

Connectives:

Recall former position

“Remember” 11-12 **Your distance and despair**

“You... called...” 11

“You were...separate...” 12

“You were...excluded...”

“You were ...strangers...”

“You... had **no hope, w/o God**/in the world...”

adversative (contrast or turn of events)

“But now” 13-15a **Christ’s work, breaking barriers**

“...brought near (by the blood of **Christ**.” 13

“...(**He**) who made both groups (into) **one**...” 14

“...**He Himself** is our **peace**.” 14a

“...**abolishing** in **His flesh** the enmity...” 15a

purpose, of action

“**that** He might” 15b-18 **Providing access through Him**

“... make the **two into one** new man...” 15

“...establishing **peace**...” 15

“...**reconcile** both in one body, to God...” 16

“...put to death the **enmity**...” 16

result, personally

“so then” 19-22 **Resulting work of building you**

“...you are **no longer strangers and aliens**...” 19

“...you are **fellow citizens**, with the saints...” 19 (position)

“...you are God’s **household**...” 19

participles (ing), abiding effect

(past) “...having been built upon the **foundation** of a. & p.” 20

“...having been built upon...Christ, the **cornerstone**...” 20

“...being **fitted together**...” 21

(present work) “...growing into a holy **temple**...” 21

“...being **built together** into a **dwelling** of God...” 22

I Have a New Community

Ephesians 2:11-22

We either come together in Christ or part ways with Christ!

Reasons to share common ground:

1. The rationale for arrogant distinctions has been destroyed. 11-13

- Race
- Rites

2. We have been called together into one “new man.” 14-15

- “Reconcile” –
- Repeated emphasis: 14, 15, 16, 18
We *must* come together in Christ because we only have one life!

3. We all have a common mission: “preach peace!” 15-16

- Christ established peace by “putting to death the enmity!”
- “He Himself IS our peace!” 14

4. We all have common access to God in Christ. 18

- Christ Himself is the only access-giver! cf. 1 Timothy 2:5
- By His priesthood He grants us access and calls us to “draw near!”
Hebrews 4:16, 7:19, 25, 10:22

5. We all have a common citizenship in God’s kingdom. 19

We are not:

- Strangers
- *Aliens*

We are “fellow-citizens with the saints!”

6. We all have a common foundation for eternity. 20

- Christ is the cornerstone.
- The message delivered by the apostles and prophets is foundational.
- We are “being built.” Which means we are not...

Challenge: Living in God’s community or parting ways?

The signpost to God’s community

John 13:34-35; John 17:21-23

Who/what is the stumbling-stone in the road?