

SESSION 8
EPHESIANS 2.11-18

Context: Paul's proclamation of the kindness of God toward us as we receive in Christ the immeasurable riches of His grace, our salvation, through a faith given us by the sovereign illumination and revelation of His Being to our souls. The works that we do in Christ have been prepared for us from of old, an expression of the artistry of God wherein our unique giftedness, empowered by our unity and communion with Christ Jesus, brings praise to the glorious grace of God.

Learning Targets For Enduring Understanding From This Session: Through the blood of Christ shed upon the Cross for the forgiveness of our sin we have reconciliation to God, and in Christ all ethnic and cultural barriers between peoples are abolished, thereby reconciling us to one another.

V 11-12 How are the Gentiles described?

What is the significance of "But now"?

What is the one great source of unity among all tribes and cultures?

V 13 What does it mean to be in Christ Jesus?

What does it mean to be in the blood of Christ?

What is the practical outworking of the truth that we are in Christ and in His Blood? Rm 11.17

V 14 What is peace?

What prophecy is brought to mind by the statement "Jesus is our Peace"?

From what do you think Paul draws his image of the dividing wall?

What is meant by the statement "He (Jesus) has made us both one"?

V15 What is the mechanism by which the great reconciliation of Jew and Gentile is effected?

Mtt 5.17

Rm 3.19-25

Gal 3.13-14

What is the result of the resounding peace that is in Christ?

V 16 What is reconciliation?

What is inferred by this word?

What is the foundational reconciliation that must take place before any reconciliation can be made between peoples?

What is the fundamental human emotion and its most terrible fruit?

The Cross: Construction bespeaks revelation as the vertical must precede the horizontal.

V 17 In Paul's day how did Jesus come to Jew and Gentile?

How does Jesus come now to the nations of this diverse and disparate world?

V 18 What does this verse beautifully portray?