

**Review:** Circumcision:

- Jews focused on the physical aspect. Developed a “pride” causing them to look down on others.
- God’s goal was the spiritual aspect. Circumcision of the heart. Romans 2:28 - 29  
Put to death **Col 3:5-11**

How do the actions of our daily life impact other believers?

Christian Liberty. Meat came from temples of idol worship. Modern day: TV, Dance, restaurants, etc

We non-Jews (Gentiles) were isolated and separate from Christ. Without God and without hope.

Verse 13: Brought near through the blood of Christ!

- 1<sup>st</sup> Passover in Egypt. Place blood from lamb on doorframe. All 1<sup>st</sup> born died in Egypt, but not one human or animal of the Jews died. They were covered by the blood!
- Looking back we can see how God was trying to prepare the Jews for accepting the blood of the perfect unblemished Lamb of God!
- God knew fear would grip us until we were cleansed once and for all from penalty of sin.

**Chapter 2:14**

**He is our Peace.**

Amp: (our bond of unity & harmony) **GKL:** (a set of favorable circumstances involving peace & tranquility)

John 14:27: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

What brings you peace in life? How long does that peace last in our daily lives?

What takes peace away from you?

Jesus sleeping in the boat. Do you think it really would have sunk?

**He made the two be one.** Theme of “ONENESS”. (Jews/Gentiles and with God)

John 10:14 – 16

John 17:20 – 21 God desires a “oneness” and unity among believers.

Eph 4: 3 – 6 Unity of the Spirit is through the bond of Peace.

Who is our Peace? JESUS!

Eph 4:11 – 13 focus on “unity” “oneness”

**Destroyed the barrier.**

Barriers are annoying. I hate having something blocked off by a barrier. Driving, hiking, or online. **Curtin** in the temple was a barrier, a dividing wall between the glory of God and humans.

What is the **dividing wall of hostility**? The LAW.

**Chapter 2:15**

**Abolishing GK:** “reduce to inactivity” in his flesh the law {enmity NASB/AMP/KJV} Enmity = Enemy

How could the law be our enemy? **Purpose of the law?**

- Gal 3:23 - 25 Law was our guardian, school master – See their need of Christ.
- Romans 3:19-20 Law makes us conscious of sin but doesn’t save.
- Romans 7:7-8 Every inclination of our heart continually evil. Corrupted -- Adam & Eve.
- Romans 6:1-14
- I John 4:18 There is no fear in love. IE we have peace before God!

No man could fulfill the righteous demands of the law... except CHRIST! (in His flesh)

LAW brings fear. Love brings peace. **GK:** a set of favorable circumstances involving peace & tranquility

We live by grace, no the law.

**Purpose to create one NEW man** from the Jew and barbican Gentile  
Getting rid of the Law, the “barrier” and “dividing wall of hostility” made this possible.  
New creation in Christ II Cor 5:17.

**Thus making peace** GKL: (a set of favorable circumstances involving peace and *tranquility*)  
We are one in Christ: a note of equality. No one is better than anyone else.  
The relationship with others went from stress, anger, hatred, bitterness, malice, wickedness to tranquility!

### **Chapter 2:16**

**Reconcile** GKL (to reestablish proper friendly interpersonal relations after these have been disrupted or broken) GK: (To reconcile completely)

#### **“Putting to death the hostility”**

Hostility: GK: A state of enmity. Hatred, hostility, SYN: defamation, wickedness, malice, plot  
Jews looked down on Gentiles with disdain. Inferior - Barbarians  
(Col 2:13-14) Read

**I Cor 15:56-57** The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Devil** tries to use the **law** to accuse you to take away your peace.  
But we don’t live by the law and are NOT justified by the law.

### **Chapter 2:17**

**Preached Peace** GKL: (a set of favorable circumstances involving peace and tranquility)  
Near and far away. Positional: Mike Thought – both geographically and belief.

### **Chapter 2:18**

**Access/Approach** GK: (right or opportunity to address someone, implying higher status of that person)

- Imagine having immediate access anytime to your boss’s sympathetic ear.
- To your senator or representative in DC or Harrisburg. Access to the President? How unique and special would that be?
- Back Stage passes to your favorite musical group?

The God who no one can look upon without dying due to our sinful body, we have access to Him without fear of death, rejection, pain, etc.

#### **Hebrews 10:19 – 20**

Confidence GK: state of boldness & confidence, can imply intimidating circumstances. Courage & Freedom in speaking all that one thinks!

Imagine knowing a person that allows you to speak all you think.

You don’t have to worry about being “politically correct” or offending.

How awesome would of a relationship to experience?

**Most Holy Place.** Share diagram of Holy and Holy of Holies

Only the high priest could go into the Most Holy Place once a year behind the curtain. The BELL on robe.

**Curtain** was the thickness of a hand. That curtain was Jesus.

Makes sense: We go to God through Jesus. Priest went through curtain to get to God.

#### **Matthew 27:50-51**

The minute Jesus died on the cross, that curtain tore from TOP to Bottom.

We now had open access to our Heavenly Father!!

**Chapter 2:19**

Consequently!!

God's People GK: Holy Ones ie Saints

Fellow citizens. Citizenship in the USA is very valued by many in the world. Some born as citizens take it for granted. Don't realize the blessing to be a citizen of USA vs China, Russia, Somalia, etc.

Members of God's household Chp 1 adopted as sons. We are his family and His heirs and inheritance!

**Chapter 2:20**

Are Built/Having Been Built: Aorist Participle PASSIVE voice.

**Foundation GK** Foundation. That on which a structure is built. Metaphorically: 1<sup>st</sup> principal of institution or truth. Purpose of foundation for a house, any building, even a wall? Jodi's falling wall.

**Cornerstone** – Essential to construction of the entire building. Everything is measured and laid out from that cornerstone. The stone must be perfectly level, properly oriented, and aligned. If the cornerstone is off, then the whole building will not be right.

JESUS is our Cornerstone!

**Chapter 2:21**

Building rises/growing Present Imperative Mood (command) Col 1:17

Joined together

Holy Temple Old Testament

**Chapter 2:22**

Built together **GKL**: (to be built together with some other object or objects)

God Dwelling in us individual and collectively.

Colossians verse about living stones being built together.

What happens if you pull a few blocks out of the foundation of a building? Heb 10:25 forsake the assembling together.

There is a "togetherness" in the last 4 Eph verses. Its only "together" that we reach those higher levels.

## **Applications to us:**

### **1. Peace:**

What takes peace away from you?

Jesus sleeping in the boat during intense storm that scared seasoned fishermen. Do you think it really would have sunk?

Peace I leave you peace I give you. He is inside of you – just like inside of boat. - Peace

**GK:** a set of favorable circumstances involving peace & tranquility

Jesus dwells in each of us who asked him to be their Savior and Lord.

*Eye of hurricane*

### **2. Access.**

You have the privilege to go into the very throne room of God!

The greatest of the greatest gave you as a believer a “back stage” pass to spend personal time with him!

How often do you take advantage of that opportunity?

How often do you share how your day is going with him?

When things don't go smoothly, how often do we panic rather than seek peace through him?

### **3. Speaking your Mind!**

Who do you know among your family and friends that you can say anything to them without having to think ahead of time if what you are saying is safe or okay?

Our Heavenly Father wants to hear all that is on your mind.

You don't have to worry about using “spiritual” vocabulary or being “politically correct”.

You have the freedom to speak whatever is on your mind!

- Your having a stinky day. He wants to hear about it.
- You feel like you failed at something. He wants to hear about it.
- Just as parents want to hear about your life when you were growing up.
  - Mom ask how school went. We'd say “good”.
  - U have an awesome day, God wants to hear from you.
  - U have a less than fun day, God wants to hear from your lips and heart.

~~Paneled Houses. Hagg 1:4~~

~~a. How does the amount of time we put into our own temple/residence compare with the amount of time we put into his house?~~

~~b. —?~~

~~4. Being built into a living temple.~~

~~a. How is your end of the construction going?~~

~~b. Are you supporting others in the living temple or is there an empty spot where your brick/rock should be that supports others?~~