



Metamorphosis – ‘Becoming the dwelling place of God’

1/ The state of those outside of Christ

Eph. 2:11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— 12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

Gentiles = uncircumcised

Jews = circumcised

The promises of God were to the Jews: Romans 9:4 ‘They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises’

Paul says remember – ‘be mindful of’ - the temptation is to put this out of our minds...

2 responses

1.) **Unbeliever** – run to Christ. Outside of Christ, you **will** spend eternity without God.

2.) **Believer** - motivation for witness.

2/ Unity found in our access to God

13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

- He abolished the law: the ceremonial law totally and the moral law as a means of salvation.
- One new man has been created – there is no place for division.
- Peace. Notice it says he ‘made peace’ (v15) and ‘preached peace’ (v17) .

POINT: The potential peace that was made on the cross must now be declared (preached) to bring it into being.

We are literal ‘carriers of peace’. *Matt. 10:13 “And if the house is worthy, let your **peace** come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your **peace return to you.**”* Are you bringing peace?

- Reconciled – ‘we must be a reconciling people because we are a reconciled people. Not a people who don’t get offended and offend – but a people who are soon on the road to reconciliation.’ John Piper

- You have been brought near. You have access in one spirit to the Father

Eph 2:6 ‘Seated with Christ in the heavenly places’

3/ Becoming a dwelling place for God

*19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into **a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being **built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*****

Not just access – there’s more than that. An actual dwelling place.

Dwelling place of God through the Bible

Jacob – Presence of God/Angelic/Supernatural activity - Gen 28:12

Moses’ tabernacle – Mercy seat – Ex 25:21

Soloman’s temple – Treasuries – 1 Chr 28:11

Jesus – ‘the new house of God’ - John 1:51

Jesus – ‘mercy seat becomes the throne of grace’ - Heb 4:16

Church – ‘**built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.**’
(Eph 2:22)

Notice that we’re being built together into this. God is too big for an individual – it’s about a community. Solo Christians miss it!