

Remember Ephesians 2:11-22

Pastor Art Hunt

May 24-25, 2014

REMEMBER WHAT IT FELT LIKE TO BE AN OUTSIDER.

*Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called "uncircumcised heathens" by the Jews, who were proud of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies and not their hearts. ¹²In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from citizenship among the people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope.
Ephesians 2:11-12 (New Living Translation)*

Therefore, remember . . . Ephesians 2:11a (New International Version)

REMEMBER WHAT CHRIST DID TO BRING OUTSIDERS NEAR.

But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. ¹⁵He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. ¹⁶Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death. ¹⁷He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near. ¹⁸Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. Ephesians 2:13-18 (NLT)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. Ephesians 1:7 (NIV)

And what God wants is for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time. ¹¹Under the old covenant, the priest stands before the altar day after day, offering sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But our High Priest offered himself to God as one sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Hebrew 10:10-12a (NLT)

REMEMBER THAT ALL BELIEVERS ARE MEMBERS OF GOD'S FAMILY.

So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. ²⁰Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹We are carefully joined together in him . . . Ephesians 2:19-21a (NLT)

REMEMBER THAT THE CHURCH IS THE PEOPLE, NOT THE BUILDING.

*We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. ²²Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.
Ephesians 2:21-22 (NLT)*

The men were sent off and went down to Antioch, where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. Acts 15:30 (NIV)