

BE THE CHURCH

Ephesians



Ephesians →

UNITY

2:1-10 Principle

God's grace through Jesus has saved all believers by faith apart from any work of their own to earn or maintain it; BUT that same grace is intended by God to empower a new, corresponding lifestyle that they must choose to walk in. It is His desire for believers to live this way so that He may reward them.

Ephesians 2:11-22

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.

Ephesians 2:11-22

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.

Ephesians 2:11-22

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.

Ephesians 2:11-12

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—

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked...

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy ⁵ ...made us alive together with Christ...

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works...

Ephesians 2:11-12

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| and strangers to the covenants of promise,
| having no hope and without God in the world.

“Circumcision”



God, Law, Covenants,
Promises, Hope

“Uncircumcision”



Godless, Ignorant,
Lost, Hopeless

Ephesians 2:13-18

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,

“Circumcision”

Israel

God, Law, Covenants,
Promises, Hope

Purity Laws Holy Days / Festivals / Sabbath

Circumcision

Marriage Restrictions Dietary Laws

“Uncircumcision”

Gentiles

Godless, Ignorant,
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“Circumcision”

Israel

God, Law, Covenants,
Promises, Hope

Purity Laws Holy Days / Festivals / Sabbath

Circumcision

Marriage Restrictions

Dietary Laws

“Uncircumcision”

Gentiles

Godless, Ignorant,
Lost, Hopeless

Chosen to be Holy
and Blameless

Predestined for
Adoption



One Family
of God

Redemption

Inheritance

Sealed with/by
the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 2:13-18

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| ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Ephesians 2:19-22

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but you are fellow citizens with the saints
and members of the household of God,

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²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,



Ephesians 3:5

[this mystery] was not made known to the sons of men in other generations
as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:19-22

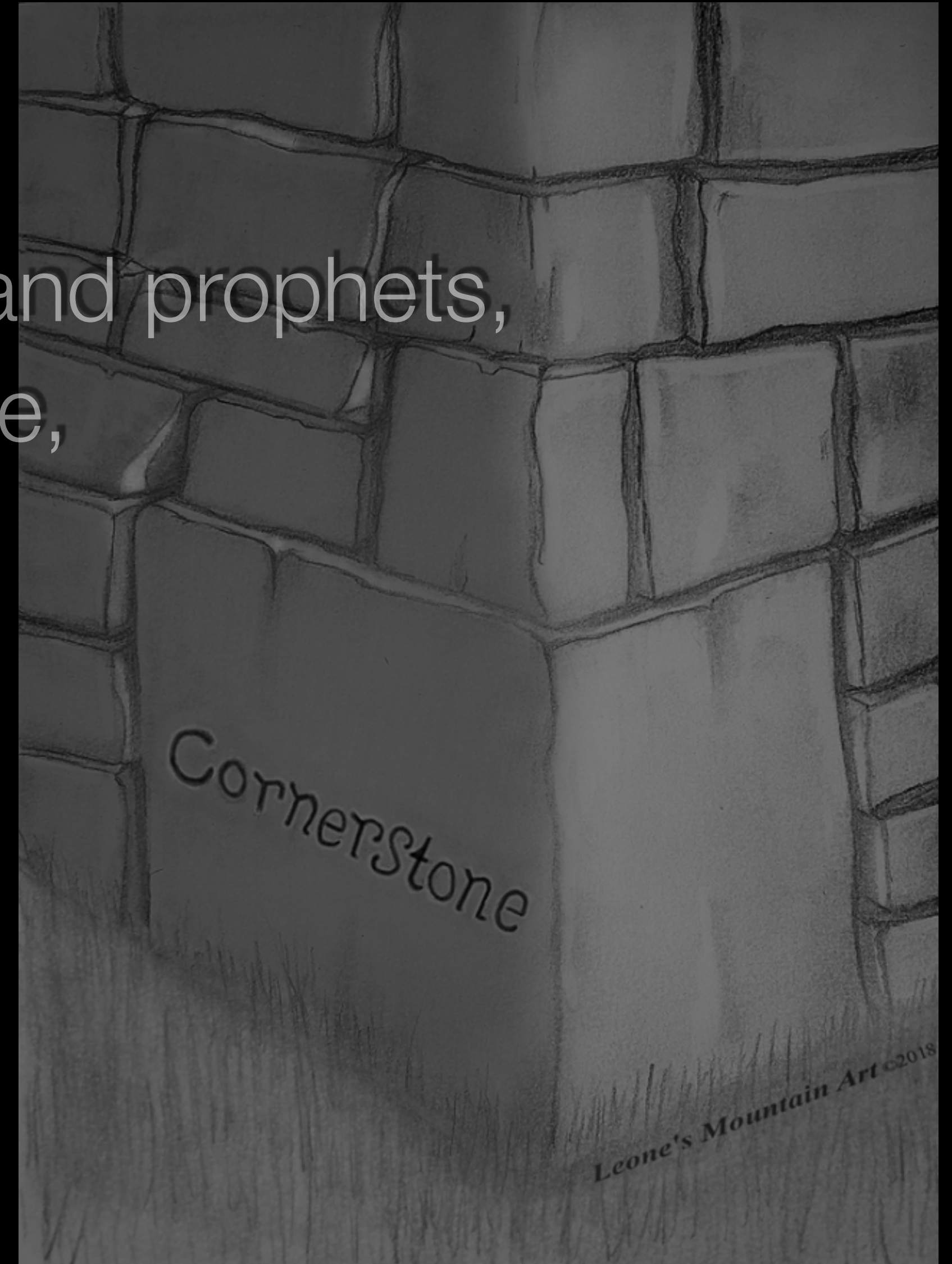
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Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,

| ²¹ in whom the whole structure,

| being joined together,

| grows into a holy temple in the Lord.



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²² In him you [**Gentiles**] also are being built together [**with the Jews**]
into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:19-22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,
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and members of the household of God,
| ...

²² In him you [Gentiles] also are being built together [with the Jews]
into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 14:24-25

²⁴ ...if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he
is called to account by all, ²⁵ the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling
on his face, he will worship God and declare that *God is really among you*.

Comparing 2:1-10 to 11-22

¹ And you were dead [to God]
in the trespasses and sins

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy
⁵ ...made us alive together
with Christ

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship,
created...for good works...that
we should walk in them.

Individual

—purpose—
—you are—
—you were—

¹¹ ...at one time you Gentiles...
¹² were ...separated from Christ

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you
who once were far off have
been brought near...

²² In him you also are being built
together into a dwelling place
for God by the Spirit.

Corporate

Principle

The cross of Jesus Christ spiritually unites all believers in Him without distinctions so that **He might build His Church through the functional unity of her members.**

*Jesus Christ builds
his Church through
the functional unity
of the members of
the local church.*

Vision (Matthew 16:18)

“And I tell you, you are Peter,
and on this rock I will build my
church, and the gates of hell
shall not prevail against it.”

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of the members of
the local church.*

Power (John 17:20-21)

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only,
but also for those who will
believe in me through their word,
²¹ that they may all be one, just
as you, Father, are in me, and I
in you, that they also may be in
us, so that the world may
believe that you have sent me.”

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the functional unity
of the members of
the local church.*

Doctrine (Ephesians 2:19-22)

¹⁹ So then you [Gentiles] are...
fellow citizens with the saints
and members of the household
of God... . ²² In him you...are
being built together [along with
the Jews] into a dwelling place
for God by the Spirit.

***Jesus Christ builds
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the local church.***

Example (Acts 2:42-47)

⁴² And [all the believers] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers...⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common... ⁴⁷And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

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the local church.*

Rebuke (Revelation 2:2-5)

² “I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance...

⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember...from where you have fallen; repent and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place...”

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the local church.*

Rebuke (Galatians 2:11-14)

¹¹ ...when Peter came to Antioch,
I opposed him to his face,
because he stood condemned. ¹²
For before certain men came from
James, he was eating with the
Gentiles; but when they came he
drew back and separated himself,
fearing the circumcision party.

*Jesus Christ builds
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the local church.*

Rebuke (Galatians 2:11-14)

¹³ And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him...

¹⁴ But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all...

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Next Week

Ephesians 3:1-13