

YOU GENTILES ARE NO LONGER STRANGERS, BUT FELLOW CITIZENS!

(Ephesians 2:19-22)

I. INTRODUCTION (1:1-2)

II. THE BELIEVER'S POSITION IN CHRIST (1:3-3:21)

A. The State of the Union Address (2:11-18)

B. The Consequences of this Remarkable Union (2:19-22)

1. Paul taught that Jesus Christ had brought peace between saved Jews and Gentiles (vv. 11-18), and that there were certain consequences that developed from this union (vv. 19-22); this was crystal clear to Paul, but not to the rest of the early Church, so he went on to explain...
 - a. As a believer you are “_____” the person you once were prior to salvation. (v. 19a, cf. Eph. 2:1-3; 2 Cor. 5:17)
 - b. In the early Church many saved Jews naturally looked down on saved Gentiles, but Paul stated emphatically that his readers were no longer a _____, nor a _____. (v. 19b, cf., Lam. 5:2; Acts 10:9-16, 24-28; 15:4-5; Col. 1:21-22)
 - c. It would be easy for a Gentile believer to see himself as a _____ - _____ citizen, but here the apostle underscores that _____ Christians who are “in Christ” are now _____ with the saints. (v. 19c, cf. Philip. 3:20)
 - d. It goes without saying that the members of a family are tied together much closer with the head of the family than with the head of a state; thus, Paul illustrates this from another angle by saying that _____ of us are _____ of the _____ of God. (v. 19d, cf., Gal. 6:9-10; 1 Tim. 3:14-15; 1 Pet. 4:17)
2. This spiritual union (this new entity called the Church) was built upon the biblical _____ and _____ of “*the apostles and prophets*.” (v. 20a, cf. 3:5; 1 Cor. 3:10-11; Jude 1:3)

3. The Body of the Church belongs to Christ, He is the Head (Col. 1:18), and He is the _____ of the Church's foundation. (v. 20b, cf. Isa. 28:16; Acts 4:11; 1 Pet. 2:4-8).
4. This word "*being* _____" (Gr. *sunarmologéō*), indicates that the Body of Christ is a living organism with new members _____ daily and each member making his/her own _____ through the Spirit's gifted leading. (v. 21a)
5. Though there are many members being joined together in this "*holy temple*", there is _____ chaos- because the "spiritual mortar" that is _____ this building _____ is none other than Jesus Christ. (v. 21b, cf. 1 Pet. 2:4-5)
6. These Gentles (these former pagans) once worshipped their false gods in physical temples where they falsely assumed these deities resided; but with the Church, believers are "*being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.*" (v. 22)
- a. In 1 Corinthians 6:19 Paul teaches that the _____ of the individual believer is the _____ of the Holy Spirit.
- b. However, here in Ephesians 2:22 the apostle is teaching something different- that in addition to individuals... the Holy Spirit indwells, and works in and through the _____, the _____ Church of Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 3:16; 2 Cor. 6:16)

* What can you personally apply from this amazing passage?