

The Mystery #23

Ephesians 2:11-22

How Grace Unifies the Church Pt7

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. 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. 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.

Discussion Questions:

- **1.** Is there any way to know if you are overlooking, or taking for granted, God's grace in your life?
- 2. How are you specifically concerned with building the household of God? How are you trying to operate independently? Where does the local church rank on your list of priorities? Are your answers in line with God's word? Do they protect or threaten unity?
- **3.** Is there anything in your life that you need to look away from?
- 4. How have you seen continued formation in your church? Do you consider this as much as you should? How might a greater awareness of this help to build and protect unity in your church?
- **5.** How has your church built you up? Do you consider this as much as you should? How might a greater awareness of this help to build and protect unity in your church?
- 6. What are you taking away from this series?