

## A New Humanity

<sup>11-12</sup> So don't forget that you were not born as Jews and were uncircumcised (circumcision itself is just a work of man's hands); you had none of the Jewish covenants and laws; you were foreigners to Israel's incredible heritage; you were without the covenants and prophetic promises of the Messiah, the promised hope, and without God.

<sup>13</sup> *Yet look at you now! Everything is new!* Although you were once distant and far away from God, now you have been brought delightfully close to him through the sacred blood of Jesus—you have actually been united to Christ!

<sup>14</sup> Our reconciling "Peace" is Jesus! He has made Jew and non-Jew one *in Christ*. *By dying as our sacrifice*, he has broken down every wall of prejudice that separated us *and has now made us equal through our union with Christ*. <sup>15</sup> Ethnic hatred has been dissolved by the crucifixion of his precious body on the cross. The legal code that stood condemning every one of us has now been repealed *by his command*. His triune essence has made peace between us by starting over—forming one new race of humanity, Jews and non-Jews fused together!

<sup>16</sup> Two have now become one, and we live restored to God and reconciled in the body of Christ. Through his crucifixion, hatred died. <sup>17</sup> For the Messiah has come to preach this sweet message of peace to you, the ones who were distant, and to those who are near. <sup>18</sup> And now, because we are united to Christ, we both have equal and direct access in the realm of the Holy Spirit to come before the Father!

<sup>19</sup> So, you are not foreigners or guests, but rather you are the children of the city of the holy ones, with all the rights as family members of the household of God. <sup>20</sup> *You are rising like the perfectly fitted stones of the temple*; and your lives are being built up together upon the ideal foundation laid by the apostles and

prophets, and best of all, you are connected to the Head Cornerstone of the building, the Anointed One, Jesus Christ himself!

<sup>21</sup> This entire building is under construction and is continually growing under his supervision until it rises up completed as the holy temple of the Lord himself. <sup>22</sup> This means that God is transforming each one of you into *the Holy of Holies*, his dwelling place, through the power of the Holy Spirit living in you!

A New Humanity:

[1] Gentiles did not have the covenant history. We were foreigners. [11-12]

[2] We are brought near to God, in the Blood of Jesus. [13]

[3] We are reconciled and united in the peace brought by Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection into a new life, a new humanity. [14-19]

[4] We are rising as the Temple of God [20-22]

[5] Mystery is Revealed! Revelation of His Body [3:6]

Ephesians 2:11-22 The Passion Translation (TPT)

**A New Humanity**

**[1] Gentiles did not have the covenant history. We were foreigners. [11-12]**

**<sup>11-12</sup> So don't forget that you were not born as Jews and were uncircumcised (circumcision itself is just a work of man's**

hands); you had none of the Jewish covenants and laws; you were foreigners to Israel's incredible heritage;<sup>[a]</sup>

[a Or "freedom," or "commonwealth."]

you were without the covenants and prophetic promises of the Messiah, the promised hope, and without God.

[2] We are brought near to God, in the Blood of Jesus. [13]

**<sup>13</sup> Yet look at you now! Everything is new! Although you were once distant and far away from God, now you have been brought delightfully close to him through the sacred blood of Jesus—you have actually been united to Christ!**

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**<sup>14</sup> Our reconciling "Peace" is Jesus! He has made Jew and non-Jew one *in Christ*. By dying as our sacrifice, he has broken down every wall of prejudice that separated us *and has now made us equal through our union with Christ*. <sup>15</sup> Ethnic hatred has been dissolved by the crucifixion of his precious body on the cross. The legal code that stood condemning every one of us has now been repealed *by his command*. His triune essence has made peace between us by starting over—forming<sup>[b]</sup> one new race of humanity,<sup>[c]</sup> Jews and non-Jews fused together!**

[b As translated from the Aramaic. The Greek is "to create in himself one new man."]

[c Or "one new man."]

**<sup>16</sup> Two have now become one, and we live restored to God and reconciled in the body of Christ. Through his crucifixion, hatred died. <sup>17</sup> For the Messiah has come to preach this**

**sweet message of peace to you,<sup>[d]</sup> the ones who were distant, and to those who are near.**

a. [d This is Paul's paraphrase of Isa. [57:19](#).]

**"I offer peace to those who are far from me, and I offer peace to those who are near, and I will heal their deepest wounds," says Yahweh.**

**<sup>18</sup> And now, because we are united to Christ, we both have equal and direct access in the realm of the Holy Spirit to come before the Father!**

**<sup>19</sup> So, you are not foreigners or guests, but rather you are the children of the city of the holy ones, with all the rights as family members of the household of God.**

**[4] We are rising as the temple of God [20-22]**

**<sup>20</sup> You are rising like the perfectly fitted stones of the temple;<sup>[f]</sup>**

[f The "temple" is not found in the text here, but is explicitly mentioned in [v. 21](#).]

**and your lives are being built up together upon the ideal foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, and best of all, you are connected to the Head Cornerstone of the building, the Anointed One, Jesus Christ himself!**

**<sup>21</sup> This entire building is under construction and is continually growing under his supervision until it rises up completed as the holy temple of the Lord himself. <sup>22</sup> This means that God is transforming each one of you into *the Holy of Holies*, his dwelling place, through the power of the Holy Spirit living in you!**

A New Humanity:

[1] Gentiles did not have the covenant history. We were foreigners. [11-12]

- A No Circumcision
- B No Covenants
- C No Law
- D No Incredible Heritage
- E No Prophetic Promises
- F No Hope
- G No God

[There is Hope! Hope Springs Eternal! The Life-giving flow with Power!]

[2] We are brought near to God, in the Blood of Jesus. [13]

- A Once Distant, Now delightfully close.
- B Actually United to Christ!

[He came down, went down into the grave, and rose up high!]

[3] We are reconciled and united in the peace brought by Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection into a new life, a new humanity. [14-19]

- A Jews and non-Jews merged.
- B Broken down walls of prejudice.
- C Christ makes us equal in union with Him. The great equalizer!

D Ethnic Hatred dissolved in the Blood of Jesus.

E Forming one New People, fusing us together.

F Neither foreigners nor guests, but children of the city of the Holy ones

G All the rights as family members of the Household of God.

[He is building His Holy Temple out of Living Stones. Many stones make up a Mosaic of Worship and Eternal Life in Him]

**[4] We are rising as the temple of God [20-22]**

A We are perfectly fitted stones, carved by Him.

B Foundation laid by apostles and prophets.

C Connected to the Cornerstone, Christ Jesus the Anointed One.

D Construction continues, raising us up to completion.

E Transforming into the Holy of Holies, His Dwelling Place.

F The Holy Spirit lives in us.

**[5] Mystery is Revealed! Revelation of His Body.**

Ephesians 3:6 Mystery Revealed.

**<sup>6</sup> Here's the secret: The gospel of grace has made you, non-Jewish believers, into coheirs of his promise through your union with him. And you have now become members of his body—one with the Anointed One!**

Dividing Walls are down.

We are being built up into the edifice of Christ.

Edifice Rex. Temple of the King.

Eternal Life with the King.

Dr. Bobby Haney writes in his daily devotional Tuesday morning: "But Jesus is quite clear that when He speaks of eternal life what He is talking about is life that is absolutely wonderful and completely desirable. And it can never be diminished or stolen from us.

**I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.** John 10:10

Jesus does not say, "I have come to threaten you into good behavior." He does not say, "I have come with a long list of demands." He doesn't even say, "I have come primarily to forgive you and save you." Rather He simply says, "My purpose is to bring you life in all its fullness and abundance."

In his book, *The Divine Conspiracy* (one of my all-time favorites), Dallas Willard writes:

*Jesus offers himself as God's doorway into the life that is truly life. Confidence in him leads us today, as in other times, to become his apprentices in eternal living. Those who come through me will be safe. They will go in and out and find all they need. I have come into their world that they may have life, and life to the limit."*

In other words, when Jesus talks about eternal life it is not primarily duration He is speaking of but instead He is talking about **quality** of life. It is life to the limit. It cannot be stolen from us – the thief is banished – and so it does go on. It starts today, where we still measure time by the clock, but it extends into the time when we will no longer need or even want to measure time.

So, the focus for Jesus – and what He wants us to receive from Him – is life itself.

**In him was life and that life was the light of men. John 1:4**

Friends, let's receive this full life promise into our minds and hearts today. It will change us. Our attitudes and emotions will shift in clear focus. Abundant life is ours to have in Christ. This doesn't mean that there will not be pain or suffering but that even in the midst of whatever the broken world might throw at us, we will still be marked by peace and joy.

It works friends. Jesus promised it.

Go ahead – take it now.

You are loved, you know!"

I agree with Dr. Haney.

ALTAR CALL