

Ephesians Series

Lesson #071

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Dean Bible Ministries

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EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Christ IS Our Peace
Ephesians 2:14

Eph. 2:11, “Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—

Eph. 2:12, “that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

Eph. 2:13, “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”

1. Eph. 2:11 reminds them of the former division between Jew and Gentile that was marked by the haughty arrogance and separatism by the religious Jews.

Eph. 2:11, “Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—”

2. Since the call of Avram in Gen. 12:1–3 a new age had begun, the Age of Israel. Subdivided into three dispensations: Patriarchs, Law, Messiah.

The Ages of Civilization

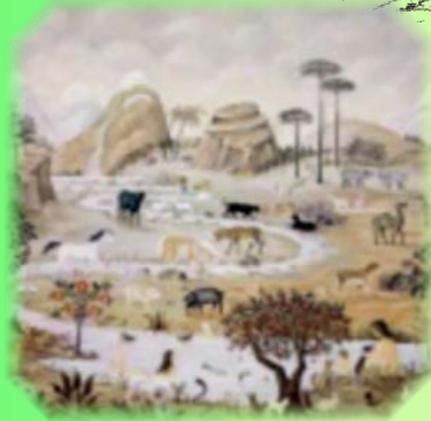
Creation

Abraham

Christ's
1st Coming

Christ's
2nd Coming

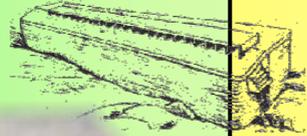
Eternity Past



Age of the
Gentiles



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Age of
Israel



Church
Age



Millennium



Messianic
Age



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Eternity Future

3. What distinguished them was a covenant—the eternal, unilateral, permanent covenant with Avraham. (Gen. 15, Gen. 17)

Abrahamic Covenant

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:1–13

“land”

“seed”

“blessing”

Israel Land Covenant

Gen. 12:7

Deut. 29:1

“land”

Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7

“seed”

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31

“blessing”

4. “At that time” refers to the time period of the Age of Israel. During that Age, five things characterized the Gentiles as a whole, as a class of people.

Eph. 2:12, “that at that time you were

without Christ,

being aliens from the commonwealth of

Israel and

strangers from the covenants of promise,

having no hope and

without God in the world.”

5. But now, similar to Eph. 2:4, *But God,* there is a major shift because of what Christ did on the Cross—*But now in Christ.*

The death of Christ brought them near.

Eph. 2:14, “For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,

Eph. 2:15, “having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

Eph. 2:16, “and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.”

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Eph. 2:15, “[by] having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

Eph. 2:16, “and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.”

Eph. 2:15, “by abolishing the law of commandments ... that he might create ...

Eph. 2:16, “and might reconcile us both to God ...” (~ESV)

Eph. 2:15, “when he nullified He did this to create in himself one new man ...

Eph. 2:16, “and to reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross,” (~NET)

Two Purposes:

Eph. 2:15, “[by] having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,

Eph. 2:16, “and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.”

Result:

Eph. 2:17, “And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.”

Eph. 2:18, “For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.”

**Eph. 2:14, “For He Himself is our peace,
who has made both one, and has broken
down the middle wall of separation,”**

Col. 1:21, “And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

Col. 1:22, “in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—”

The WEALTH of the CHURCH, Eph. 1–3

The WALK of the CHURCH, Eph. 4:1–6:9

The WARFARE of the CHURCH, Eph. 6:10–24

**Eph. 2:14, “For He Himself is our peace,
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Eph. 2:14, “For He is in HIMSELF our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,” [~RD]

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**Isa. 57:19, “ ‘I create the fruit of the lips:
Peace, peace to him who is far off and to
him who is near,’ says the LORD, ‘And I
will heal him.’ ”**

Eph. 2:14, “For He is in HIMSELF our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,” [~RD]

**εἰρήνη *eirēnē* fem
sing nom *peace*
based on the Old
Testament**

Eph. 2:14, “For He is in HIMSELF our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,” [~RD]

**εἰρήνη *eirēnē* fem
sing nom *peace*
based on the Old
Testament**

1. A state of physical violence.

Matt. 10:34, “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.”

2. A state of peace with God in contrast to a state of enmity, or hostility, or alienation; animosity.

3. A mental attitude of peace:

Phil. 4:6, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Phil. 4:7, “and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

John 14:27, “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

John 16:33, “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Isa. 26:3, “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.”

4. The New Testament concept, of course, is not based on the Greek meaning, but the Hebrew meaning.

שָׁלֵם (*shālēm*) “be complete, sound.”

שָׁלוֹם (*shālôm*) “Peace, prosperity, well, health, completeness, safety.”

TWOT: The general meaning behind the root *sh-l-m* is of completion and fulfilment—of entering into a state of wholeness and unity, a restored relationship.

Isa. 32:17, “The work of righteousness will be peace, and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.”

Isa. 9:6, “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isa. 9:7, “Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”

**Luke 2:14, “Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”**

Acts 10:36, “The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all—”

Acts 10:28, “Then he said to them, ‘You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean.’ ”

Rom. 5:1, “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rom. 5:2, “through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

2 Cor. 5:18, “Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

2 Cor. 5:19, “that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

2 Cor. 5:20, “Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.”