

BREAKING DOWN THE WALLS OF HOSTILITY

Ephesians 2:11-22

Intro: Two Great Separations. (11-12)

1. God & man.

2. Jew & Gentile.
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(Chosen people) (Uncircumcised)

- Separate from Christ. (12)
- Excluded from citizenship (God's kingdom) (12)
- Foreigners to the Covenants (God's truth) (12)
- Without hope. (12)

I. He Himself is "our peace."

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:13

Peace is not the absence of conflict.

Peace is being one.

II. He Himself is "making peace."

His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. Eph. 2:15b-16

In the Jewish temple:
There was a dividing wall to keep the Gentiles out.

III. He Himself preached peace.

He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Ephesians 2:17-18

The curtain was torn from top to bottom.
Therefore we all have access. (Matthew 27:51)

2016 Theme: Love God – Love People

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