

GOSPEL of *Grace*
FELLOWSHIP

Ephesians 2:14-15 Pt. 2

One New Man

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Key Concepts to Be Addressed

- Jesus is true peace for all believers
- The dividing wall between Jews and Gentiles defined
- How the dividing wall is destroyed
- The nature of removed hostility
- The role of Jesus' flesh in bringing peace
- In what sense was the Law nullified?
- How creating "one new man" is the purpose of destroying the wall

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1

Jesus' Flesh Annuls the Law

Ephesians 2:15a (NET)

When he nullified in his flesh the law of commandments in decrees

- "Nullified" is *katargeo* in the Greek which literally means "abolished"
- "In His flesh" refers to the incarnation with a focus on the blood atonement
- This concerns the Mosaic covenant as a whole not just part of it

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Creating One New Man

Ephesians 2:15b (NET)

He did this to create in himself one new man out of two

- Greek "*hina*" is used here to explain the purpose of God annulling the Law
- The "one new man" is composed of Jewish and Gentile believers
- This new creation (Galatians 6:15) is God's redemptive work, not ecumenism

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Making Peace

Ephesians 2:15c (NET)

thus making peace

- This completes the *inclusio* from vs. 14
- Both Jews and Gentiles who turn to Christ are brought into one new body in Christ
- All who turn to Christ have true peace and this without regard to their past
- We must not create man-made eccentricities that hinder the gospel

Chiastic Structure Overview

- 1) He is our peace
- 2) Making both
 - 3) Wall and fence destroyed
 - 4) Hostility (*removed* in His flesh)
- 3') The law of commands abolished
- 2') The two created into one new man
- 1') Making peace

Implications and Applications

- The Mosaic covenant was annulled
- The new covenant is for all who believe, not just Jews
- The veil which signified separation has been removed. There is access to God for all who turn to Christ

The New Covenant Predicted

Jeremiah 31:31, 32a (NASB)

“Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt.”

- This will not be like the Mosaic covenant

A True Covenant Relationship

Jeremiah 31:32b-33 (NASB)

"My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

- All will know God (Jeremiah 31:34)

A Covenant of Promise

Galatians 3:17 (NASB)

What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise.

- The promise given by God to Abraham was unconditional
- Moses predicted a future Prophet who would speak for God (Deut. 18:15)

Turn to Christ for Liberty

2 Corinthians 3:14b-17 (NASB)

for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.