

Ephesians 2:13-3:21

Fellow Citizens with the Saints and Members of the Household of God

Vs 13-22 It is an amazing thing that we can be dead in our sin and through faith in Jesus, we can be raised into a new eternal life in Jesus.

From dead to alive. From lost to saved. From sin and shame to freedom and joy. From far away from God to near to God. From enemy of God to friend of God.

Christ brings us peace with God. Christ makes it not about the law and rules, but through faith we are saved.

When we repent of our sins and ask Jesus to take control of our life, we become a new creation in Christ!

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

We are made new in Jesus. No more shame, sorrow, or enmity between us and God.

God makes us one with Him and one with each other.

Through Christ, we have access to God Himself! This means you can go to God, talk to God, be helped by God, and live for God and with God.

When Jesus is your Lord and Savior you are not strangers to God or each other. You are friends of God and friends to each other. God gives us an eternal community together. We are citizens with God and we are citizens in heaven.

We are not Americans anymore..... We are Christians. Our citizenship is in heaven with God and He will provide the housing on the streets of gold!

Philippians 3:20 *But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.*

God builds His church in us. We, as Christians, are the church. Heaven will be filled with us! We are to be united together. God dwells amongst us.

Vs 1-13 God's people in the Old Testament were the Jews. With this new covenant in Christ, both Jews and Gentiles can be one family in Jesus. Through Christ, all cultures can come together.

Paul was radically saved and his mission is to now share Jesus to everyone, especially the Gentiles. Paul is a Jew. Paul killed Christians. God made united him with the ones he used to hunt, and made him one with all other people groups.

We are rich when we come to Jesus. Rich in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The good news of Jesus is to be spread by the church! Gospel sharing must be done by all Christians. It is our job to make Jesus famous. Do you share Jesus with others?

Vs 14-21 Our prayer should be that this church, and other Christians, are strengthened with power from the Holy Spirit to live for God and tell others about Jesus.

If Jesus is in you, you should be rooted and grounded in love.

In Jesus, we are given the Spirit to help us understand the length and depth and height of Jesus's love for us and for others.

God wants us to be filled with His fullness.

God can, and does, far more than we ask or even think possible!

To Him be the glory! And, those who have trusted in Jesus, and the coming Messiah, will be in heaven with us.

Romans 8:1-5 *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. 3 For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.*

- **Do you see yourself as one with God through faith in Jesus?**
- **Do you see yourself as one with the people at this church?**
- **Is your citizenship in heaven or your citizenship in America more important to you?**
- **Are you boldly telling others about Jesus?**
- **Are you rooted and grounded in Jesus? Are you rooted and grounded in love?**