

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ENITY
(Ephesians 2:19-22)

Matthew 16:18

I. The Wealth Of The Church (chp1-3)

A. The Plan of God for the Church (1:3-14)

B. The Prayer of Paul for the Church (1:15-23)

C. The People of the Church (2:1-22)

1. The Salvation that is offered to all lost sinners (2:1-10)
2. The Reality of the Gentile Believer's Union with Jewish Believers In the Church (2:1-13)
3. The Significance of This Union & The Peace Mission of Christ (2:14-18)

4. The Results of This Union - a _____ (2:19-22)

- a. Speaking to the _____ Gentiles, Paul says you are strangers and foreigners to God, _____ (Eph. 2:19a)

“strangers& foreigners” =

- What precipitated this change?

- b. Because of _____ in Christ, these believing Gentiles are now _____ with the saints, and _____ of the household of God! (Eph. 2:19b)

“fellow citizens” =

- c. They were part of this *new creation*, the _____, which is based on a new _____ with God through _____ & what He accomplished on the _____!

- d. Paul compared this spiritual house to a holy _____ built on a _____ (Eph 2:20-21)

Acts 19:23-41 – referred to the Great Temple Of Diana in Ephesus

- 1) The foundation of the church temple was laid by the _____ & _____ (Eph 2:20a)

2) Paul mentions Jesus Christ as the _____ / _____ to this building project!

- What did that mean exactly?

e. The Church is an _____ building project that began on the day of _____ with believing Jews & Gentiles being _____ into the _____ of Christ and it will culminate in the future, with the _____ of the church to _____ (Acts 2; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; 1Thessalonians 4:13-18)

f. During this present age, the Church is being _____ and _____ by _____ to become a holy _____ in the Lord! (1Peter 2:5)

g. The *function* of this building project is to be the _____ place for _____ in the _____ in this age of grace!

- What does all this mean to us today?

1. A physical temple, whether the temple in Jerusalem or the temple of Diana in Ephesus,... was designed to reflect & honor the God, or gods they represented. So the Church of Jesus Christ is designed to _____ and _____ the _____ it serves today!

2. Though the Gentiles were formally _____ looking in at God's work in the world, they, along with believing Jews are now one _____ – the _____! As such they are _____ with _____ spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ!

3. This "*new man*" (the Church) is likened to a temple that has been established on the foundation of the _____ & _____, with Jesus Christ as it's _____ / _____.

4. The "holy temple" mentioned here is the _____ of Jesus Christ which is indwelt be the _____ to enable it to _____ of its Savior & to accomplish God ordained _____ for the Lord.

5. This means that the presence of God & His testimony today is not _____ as it was in the OT temple, but has been _____ / _____ to wherever _____ reside today! (God is not restricted today as He was in the OT tabernacle, temple, or even in the humanity of Christ!)