

# EPHESIANS 2 vs 11

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Paul who was Jewish, just wrote...

**We are His poem, created in Christ Jesus... to work His good, which God previously determined... that we should walk in them** / It is all His gift to us, as we walk with Him; we are going with Him. Right?!

**<sup>11</sup> Wherefore** / why was this said? **As you read this remember Paul who was Jewish is speaking to non-Jewish people**

**Remember previously, you were Gentiles in the flesh who are called: Uncircumcision.** / called: **akrobustia**.

Now, most bible scholars won't tell you what that means. But Paul passed along their slang nick-name... those he was writing to were called: The Acrobats!

And this name calling was...

**by those who are called: the Circumcision in the flesh, made so by hands** / skillfully, carefully made by hands. So, those who had their vital part clipped, or at least, delicately trimmed -- and you get the impression Paul has a sense of humor as he is writing. But with all the name-calling over, he says...

**<sup>12</sup> That at that time you were outside, separated from Christ** / the Messiah, like a Grand Canyon separating us from God. So hopelessly we ask: how are we going to get to Him?

**being alienated from the commonwealth of Israel** / from the **politeia**... the policies and citizenship; from the community and freedoms...

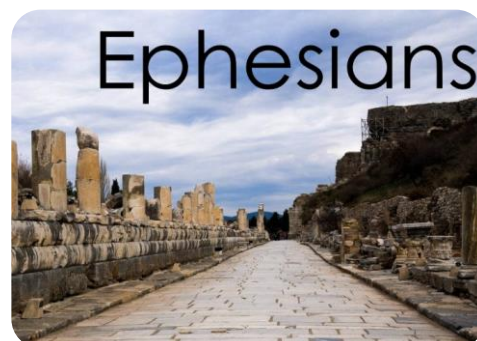
**of Israel** / remember: **Isra El** means: **governed, by God**. Isaiah tells us **ISRAEL** to the Lord GOD is not just descendants of one-man Jacob, but also those led by the great **Servant** the Lord's **ISRAEL** given as a promise to all who come from the ends of the earth. Paul speaks to people even those not Jewish.

**being alienated, and strangers** / foreigners, **to the covenants of the promise** / they did not know God spoke to a people, giving them blessing and attention beyond all others, but instead of sharing the Good News, they embezzled the blessings and luxuriated in their status... leaving the world behind;

**having no hope** / you know, without hope... people are left with no reason to get up in the morning; they have no motive to keep going,

**being alienated, and strangers, having no hope, and without God in the world** / **atheos**; left as loveless, heartless atheists:

**<sup>13</sup> but now in Christ Jesus, you who were far off are made near in the blood of Christ** / Paul the Jew tells the Gentiles



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<sup>14</sup> **For He is our peace**, who made both one, and broke down the middle wall of partition between us / and loosened; and destroyed the hedge or fence... constructed between us;

<sup>15</sup> **abolishing in His flesh the enmity** / *echthra*; the hatred; the hostility. What hostility did Jesus stop?

**the law of commands in ordinances** / in dogma... Paul is not talking about the 10 commands written by God's own hand; those 10 commands are perfectly good to prosper here on earth. Paul talks about the traditions of men; about all those little: do this; but don't do that stuff and things – Paul knew what Ezekiel and Hosea said: because they would not do the 10 commands; so, I gave them statutes that were not good, and ordinances by which they could not live – *Ezekiel 20:24*, and the Lord said, were I to write for him 10,000 laws, they would be regarded as strange – *Hosea 8:12*; the ceremonial laws were destroyed.

**abolishing in His flesh the enmity: the law of commands, in ordinances... to make the two one new man in Himself** -- **making peace** / not only between God and man; but also, between Jew and Gentile – which includes the 10 northern tribes who were Israelites, but not Jewish;

<sup>16</sup> **And that He reconcile both to God in one body** / the southern Jewish people and everybody else, non-Jewish Gentiles; God our Father has one family, who come from the one blood of Adam's race;

**by the cross, thereby having slain the hatred** / having put to death the hatred; Christ Jesus by taking up His cross, something only He could do, He killed the hostility we had with God; by the cross: that's how Jesus did it.

And if that wasn't enough...

<sup>17</sup> **And came and preached peace to you far away** / to all the Gentile nations, still going on today,

**and to those who were near** / the Jewish people were near.

<sup>18</sup> **For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.**

<sup>19</sup> **So, you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but joint-citizens with the saints** / notice, the Gentiles are no longer called strangers, but saints... which shoots holes in the hocus pocus workers, who think saints do freaky stuff... to earn some special recognition. No! not where God rules!

**you are... joint-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;**

<sup>20</sup> **and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone** / wow! So where do all those monks and nuns and friars and prelates and vicars and cardinals and monastics and clerics and priests and primates and canons and archdeacons and archbishops... serving in the ossuary or lectorate or: diaconates, presbyteries, and episcopates; and, all the other lovers of those creepy man-made traditions... where do they fit in? Oh, they don't! So, hear it again...

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built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,

**Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone** / and what is being built? His Church

<sup>21</sup> **in whom all the building fitly framed together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord** / in Jesus Christ Himself... holding the whole structure together; properly jointed and connected together – Jesus is a Master carpenter: He said I will build My church, didn't He?! He is the one who purchased them with His blood, didn't He?! And His edifice continues to grow... it is not finished; it will grow... until the last called-out-one responds on that last day. And for a second time, in case someone is not paying attention... or thinks they can slip in a confusion or error... Paul is inspired to write:

<sup>22</sup> **in whom you also are being built together** / in Jesus Christ Himself, holding it all together; remember: Paul writes to Gentiles; you men and women from every nation, every tribe and every tongue; you are not merely being added on; **you also constitute a significant part of this edifice being built...**

**for a dwelling** / this same word is used for a second time... only in Revelation 18 where we read: **the harlot, fallen Babylon the great** -- the Mother of whores... who has merchandised the souls of men; she is drunk with the blood of the saints... and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus; and has fornicated with the politicians and rulers of the world. **She is fallen and is become the habitation of demons**, and every foul spirit and every unclean hateful bird. She is no Bride of Christ, wrong woman!

So, when Paul and the prophets speak of the desolation coming in the last days... coming to the holy place ... the temple of God... we probably should not look for brick and stone buildings. Paul said...

**in whom you also are being built together,**

**for a dwelling of God through the Spirit.**

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