

## **One in Christ**

Ephesians 2:11 – 3:21

by Don Falkos

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There was a time when you Gentiles were outsiders. We who are Jews called you "uncircumcised", which is true, but we were using the word as a pejorative. We were so proud of being "the circumcision", even though circumcision only affects the body, not the heart. We Jews were sitting on our laurels as "God's chosen people", trusting in covenant promises God made with our ancestors. Meanwhile, you were excluded from those promises, without hope and without God. But through the blood of Christ Jesus, peace has come; Jews and Gentiles have been united into one people. Now we may all approach the Father boldly and confidently through the one Holy Spirit.

Together we are being built up in Christ Jesus into one body where God the Father will live through the Holy Spirit. Because of Jesus' death on the cross and the power that raised him from the dead, all who believe, whether Jews or Gentiles, are members of the same body. All who belong to Christ Jesus inherit equally.

God's wisdom, in all its rich variety, is to be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms; and this is to be achieved through the assembly of believers. This is God's eternal purpose, accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Praise God, who is able to do far, far more than we could ever imagine. May the love of Christ find a firm foothold in your hearts, that you may experience its breadth and depth and length and height. May you be filled to overflowing with the fullness of God.