

The Walls that Divide Us | Ephesians 2:11-22

Slide 1-4

- Ephesians 2:11-22

Slide 5: Context

- The major disputes in Ephesus revolved around unity. The Gospel was exploding in different ethnic groups and the church wasn't prepared.
- Remember: Ephesus was a port city which had influences from around the known world. It also had a church that would influence people from around the world

Slide 6: Similarities vs Differences

1. Remember the past (11-12)
 - The issue threatening to divide the early church was the wall of separation between Jews and Gentiles.
 - Without...
 - Without Christ – *“separated from Christ.”*
 - Without citizenship – *“alienated from the commonwealth of Israel.”*
 - Without covenants – *“strangers to the covenants of promise.”*
 - Without hope – *“having no hope.”*
 - Without God – *“without God in the world.”*

Slide 7: Similarities vs Differences

2. We are reconciled in the present (13-18)
 - Christ put an end to hostility by....
 - fulfilling the law of Moses: *“By abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances”* (15).
 - Creating a new humanity: *“...that He might create one new man in place of the two, so making peace”*
 - Reconciled the new humanity to God: *“and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility”* (16).

Slide 8: What happens when the walls come down? (19-22)

1. We are citizens of The Kingdom (19)
2. We are members of the same family (19)
3. We are meant to grow together (20-21)
4. We are where God dwells (22)