

## God's Organic Temple

Eph. 2:11-22

### **Before: excluded from spiritual blessing but now near to God, 11-13**

- Formerly-now contrast is also made in 2:1ff, and later in 5:8.
- Called *uncircumcised* = is a contemptuous title (prejudiced)
- Five privileges are listed that we didn't have as aliens to Israel.
- *Jesus' blood* (cf. 1:7) brought nearness to us far-off aliens.

### **Before: division and hostility but now at peace with God, 14-18**

- Wall from OT Law was smashed by Jesus' peace-making death.
- Jesus is our peace, made peace, and preached peace (gospel is a *gospel of peace*), 6:15). Church imagery = one new man, united and all w/same privileges). No room for segregation!
- The "preaching of Jesus" must be Spirit-inspired preaching later, since Jesus' preaching was not to Gentiles, 3:5-7.
- Peace (4x) is often spoken of in Scripture. Do we have it?

### **Before: aliens but now citizens and a living temple of God, 19-22**

- This offers a summary of 11-18.
- Church pictured as . . . a new person (later a bride, 5:27).  
. . . citizens of God's household.  
. . . a living temple under construction.
- This living temple is fitted together by God (4:16) for His habitation (building off of idea from literal OT temple), 1 Pt. 2:4-6.
- Jesus, the apostles, and prophets have key places in the construction of the Church. How can a construction site appear?



Do you know  
where you fit  
into God's  
living temple?