

## Sermon Outline

*The Peacemaker – part two*

Ephesians 2:11-22

All Saints' Sunday

The walls of division between God and humanity and between various peoples have been torn down through the labors of Christ on the Cross. “He is our peace,” writes Paul, since by him we all have new covenant relationship with the Father and with one another. That new covenant was made “with the house of Israel and the house of Judah” (Jeremiah 31). Paul is emphasizing in this passage the wonder of God’s grace that has made “one new man” out of a broken and divided humanity. This new humanity gathers together the many Old Testament images of God’s people to gloriously express the life of the Lord for all the world to see.

### I. *Salvation’s Story*

- “You were ... but now ... so then” – Ephesians 2:12, 13, 19
- How? The Peacemaker: “He ... is our peace ... so making peace ... he came and preached peace ...” Ephesians 2:14, 15, 17

### II. *Salvation’s Testimony*

- Solitary confinement is a punishment for a reason!
  - A. The City of God - Ephesians 2:19
    - 1. *Sumpolitai* – **the City** of God
    - 2. Immigration and adoption – **the Family** of God
      - a. “I was born a citizen ...” Acts 22:28
      - b. “Our citizenship is in heaven ...” Phil. 3:20
    - 3. Learning the Culture
  - B. The Family of God – Ephesians 2:19-20
    - 1. Revelation and truth – apostles and prophets
    - 2. Christ the Cornerstone
      - a. Isaiah’s vision for rest – Isaiah 8 and 28
      - b. Rejection as necessity – 1 Peter 2:1-9
  - C. The Temple of God – Ephesians 2:21-22
    - 1. An expanding building project – Why some people hate the Church
    - 2. *For God by the Spirit*
      - a. The Owner and Designer who is also the Builder
      - b. Don’t move the furniture.

### III. *Salvation’s People*

The Church is not an optional extra to aid personal spiritual growth. It is the story of grace incarnated – it is the Body of Christ, grace in flesh and blood for all to see. It is the City among the fallen cities, the heavenly Jerusalem rising among the ruins of the city of man. This is not a place we visit; it is where we live.