

# Allen Temple Baptist Church

Sunday School Live 

**AUGUST 17, 2025**

**Study Title: The Two Made One**

**Devotional Reading: Romans 9:14-24**

**LESSON TEXT Ephesians 2:11-22 NRSV**

# INTRODUCTION

- **God's plan from the beginning was to unite all nations into one family through Christ.**
- **Our differences in culture, language, and background enrich the church's diversity.**
- **In today's text, Paul teaches the solution to heal a fractured, divided humanity.**

# Background & History

- **Paul writes to Gentile believers in Ephesus, reminding them of their past separation from Israel.**
- **Gentiles faced Jewish council critique over rituals were acceptable to become a Christian.**
- **The divisive beliefs caused conflict and confusion,**
- **Paul teaches the significance of unity in Christ.**

# GOALS FOR TODAY

- **1. Identify Jesus' purpose for the divided to be one in him.**
- **2. Understand how entitlement is not God's will.**
- **3. Illustrate how ALL believers can live in peace and unity with Christ as our center.**

# Lesson Outline

## Introduction

- **I. Humanity Divided (Ephesians 2:11-12))**
  - **A. By Ritual B. By Boundaries**
  
- **II. Humanity United (Ephesians 2:13-22)**
  - **A. By Christ's Peace. B. By God's Spirit**
  - **C. As God's Family D. To Be God's Temple**

# The Two Made One

Ephesians 2:11-12 NRSV 

**11 Therefore, remember that formerly you  
who are Gentiles by birth and called  
“uncircumcised”**

**by those who call themselves “the  
circumcision” (which is done in the body by  
human hands)**

# The Two Made One

Ephesians 2:12 NRSV 

**12 Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.**

# KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- 1. Gentiles are not part of the Israel citizenship.**
- 2. Had no part in *the covenants of the promise*.**
- 3. Labeled without hope and without God.**
- 4. There was and is no true hope in any of the pagan religions.**

# The Two Made One

Ephesians 2:13-14 NRSV 

**13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ,**

**14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility**

# QUESTIONS???

- 1. How is spiritual and total life reflection beneficial for Christians old and new?**
- 2. What ways can I/we help the church cultivate unity in Christ to all persons?**
- 3. What boundaries should you not cross in doing so?**
- 4. What steps should believers take to ensure we are not misled by deceptive teachings?**

# The Two Made One

Ephesians 2:15-16 NRSV 

**<sup>15</sup> by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace.**

**<sup>16</sup> and in one body to reconcile both of them to God, through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.**

# The Two Made One

Ephesians 2:17-18 NRSV 

**17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.**

**18 For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.**

# KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- 1. By grace through faith in Jesus, God made it possible for all to live at peace with one another.**
- 2. Jesus' mission is to reconcile Jews and Gentiles.**
- 3. Reconciliation" originates from the Latin word "reconciliatio", meaning "renewal".**
- 4. To be reconciled means to have peace, harmony.**

# The Two Made One

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Ephesians 2:19-20 NRSV □

**19** Consequently, you are no longer  
foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens  
with God's people and also members of his  
household,  
**20** built on the foundation of the apostles and  
prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the  
chief cornerstone

# The Two Made One

Ephesians 2:21-22 NRSV 

**21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.**

**22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.**

# BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

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**NASB | NIV | NRSV STUDY BIBLE**

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**EPHESIANS EEC - Dr. STEVEN.M. BAUGH**

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**KINGDOM LIVING – Dr. TONY EVANS**

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**BIBLE STUDY TOOLS.COM**

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**THE WILL OF GOD – CHARLES. STANLEY**

# WORD FOR THE WEEK

**Being a family takes work. Little wonder, Paul spent half the Ephesian letter, beginning in Ephesians 4:1, instructing Christians to live in unity in a manner worthy of the gospel. We have quarrels & differences in our own families today that divide us. Most are driven by selfish, unforgiving, unloving behavior. If this is you, ask the Lord Jesus to cleanse your heart.**

**FOR GOD LOVES US ALL**



# *How Allen Temple Receives Members*

- **Candidate for Baptism:** Upon the profession of faith in Christ as Lord, Savior, and Forgiver of your sins.
- **Christian Experience:** You are inactive as a church member and wish to activate your church membership and renew your relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **Transfer of Membership:** From one church to another by letter



**Online via [Allen-Temple.org](http://Allen-Temple.org)**

# **NEXT WEEKS CLASS !!**

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**SUNDAY AUGUST 24, 2025**

**Topic: Sacrifices of Praise**

**Devotional Reading: Psalm 146**

**Lesson Scripture: Hebrews 13:1-21**



**Instructor: Ralph Gordon**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 31, 2025**

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**Living Stones in a Spiritual Temple**

**Devotional Reading: Galatians 3:23-29**

**Lesson Scripture: 1 Peter 2:1-17**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

**REV. ANNETTE CARTER PEOPLES**

