

## “The Wall”

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Ephesians 2:11–21 | August 3, 2025

### Ephesians 2:11–21:

*Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—<sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup> by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup> And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.*

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### Time Indicators from Ephesians 2:11–13:

Therefore remember that **at one time** [before the cross] you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision [Jews], which is made in the flesh by hands— remember that you were **at that time** [before the cross] separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth [citizenship; vs. 19] of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise [Abrahamic & Davidic], having no hope and without God in the world. **But now** [after the cross] in Christ Jesus you who once were far off [Gentiles] have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

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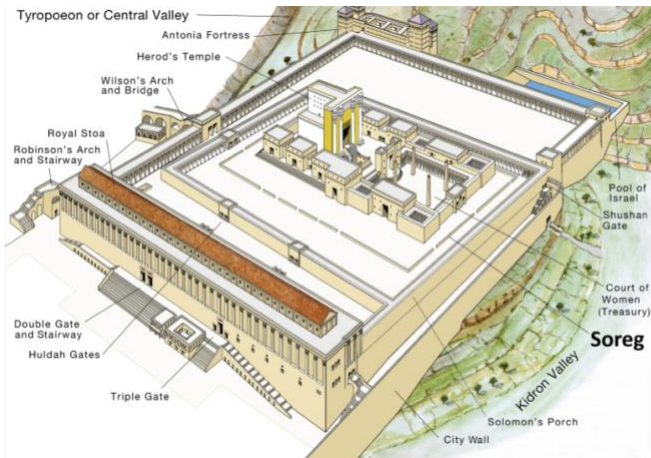
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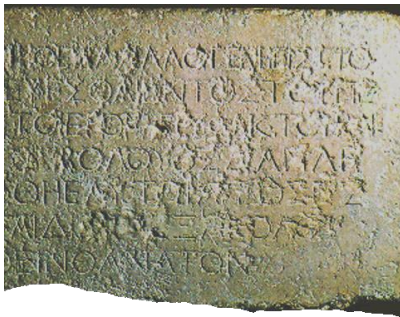
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### Ephesians 2:14–16:

For he himself is our peace, who has made us both [Jews & Gentiles] one and has broken down in his flesh the **dividing wall of hostility** [the sore] by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances [Mosaic Law], that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two [Jews & Gentiles], so making peace [racial reconciliation], and might **reconcile us both** [Jews & Gentiles] **to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.**



### Gentile Prohibition Inscriptions from the Temple Soreg (Josephus, Wars 5.194)



### Galatians 3:23–28:

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law [νόμον], imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> So then, the law [νόμον] was our guardian [παιδαγωγός] until Christ [=Διδάσκαλε] came, in order that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian [παιδαγωγόν], <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all sons [υιοί] of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave [δούλος] nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

### Ephesians 2:17–19:

And he [Jesus] came and preached peace to you who were far off [Gentiles] and peace to those who were near [Jews]. For through him we both [Jews & Gentiles] have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then, you [Gentiles] are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God...

### Ephesians 2:20–21:

... built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets [24 elders], Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

### Revelation 21:9–17:

One of the seven angels... said, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. **It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And the one who spoke with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width. And he measured the city with his rod, 12,000 stadia. Its length and width and height are equal. He also measured its wall, 144 cubits by human measurement, which is also an angel's measurement.**