

Studies in Ephesians

Chapter 2

Hebrews 2:8

“You have put all things under his feet.” For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.

Defining Terms:

1) Church

(ἐκκλησία / קהל) = “a ‘called-together’ group”
ekklesia *kahal*

ASSEMBLY

Acts 19:32

So then, some were shouting one thing and some another, for the **assembly** (ἐκκλησία) was in confusion and the majority did not know for what reason they had come together...

Acts 19:39-40

“But if you want anything beyond this, it shall be settled in the lawful **assembly** (ἐκκλησία). For indeed we are in danger of being accused of a riot in connection with today’s events, since there is no *real* cause for it, and in this

connection we will be unable to account for this disorderly **gathering** (ἐκκλησία).”

2) Age

^{aion} (αἰων / ^{olam} עולם) = “an unspecified period of time that reflects the nature of the ruling authority”

– ? –

1 Samuel 15:23

“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft [or divination], and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry...”

Numbers 15:39

“It shall be a *tzitzit* for you to look at and remember all the commandments of Adonai, so as to do them and not follow after your own **heart** and your own **eyes**, after which you played the harlot.

Romans 5:6, 8, 10

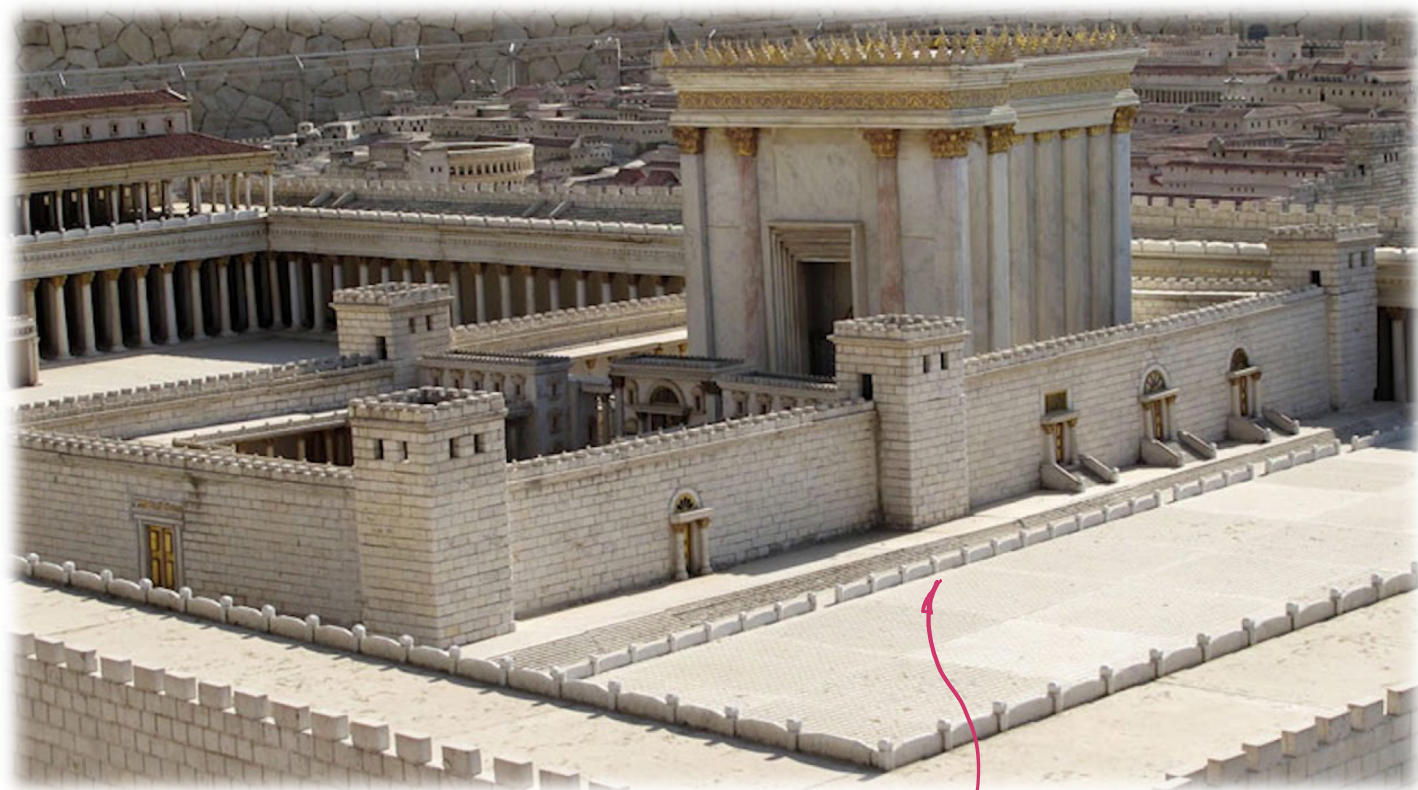
For **while we were still helpless**, at the right time Messiah died for the ungodly... But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were yet sinners**, Messiah died for us... For if **while we were enemies** we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Our Previous Condition

1. Separated from Messiah
2. Alienated from the citizenship of Israel
3. Strangers to the covenants
4. Having no hope
5. Without God in the world

Our Current Condition

1. United with Messiah
2. Coheirs with Israel
3. Members of the covenants
4. Filled with hope
5. Having fellowship with God



Mechitzah



~~No stranger is to enter within
the balustrade round the
temple and enclosure.
Whoever is caught will
be himself responsible
for his ensuing death.~~

Ephesians 2:14-15

For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of **the dividing wall**, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity occasioned by the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace.

Defining Terms:

3) Law

νομος (*nomos*) = “law”

תורה (<i>Torah</i>)	= “ <u>Torah</u> ”
דת (<i>dat</i>)	= “ <u>law</u> / <u>edict</u> ”

– Check context –

1 John 3:4

Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.

Matthew 24:12

And because lawlessness will increase, the love of many will grow cold.

Jewish law separated observant Jews from others. Exodus 19:6 declares that Israel should be a “holy nation”, a notion reinforced at Lev. 19:2 and elsewhere. “Holiness” demands separation. (The early rabbinic midrash, Sifra, translates Lev. 19:2, “you shall be holy” as “you shall be separate”.) ... That such separation led to enmity toward Jews on the part of some Gentiles is best exemplified by Tacitus, who wrote, “Jews are extremely loyal toward one another...but toward every other people they feel only hate and enmity. They sit apart at meals and they sleep apart...”

✎ Jewish Annotated New Testament

Isaiah 56:6-7

“Also the foreigners who join themselves to Adonai, to minister to Him, and to love the name of Adonai, to be His servants, everyone who keeps from profaning the Sabbath and holds fast My covenant, even those I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar, for My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.”