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what the cross of Jesus offers us. for free.







# Ephesians 2:11-22

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Jesus' cross is for US...not just ME

# How Paul makes his arguments in Ephesians 2

- A) What we were like BEFORE Jesus
- B) What Jesus accomplished on the cross
- C) What we are like NOW

Members of God's  
Family

What WE are  
because of Jesus.

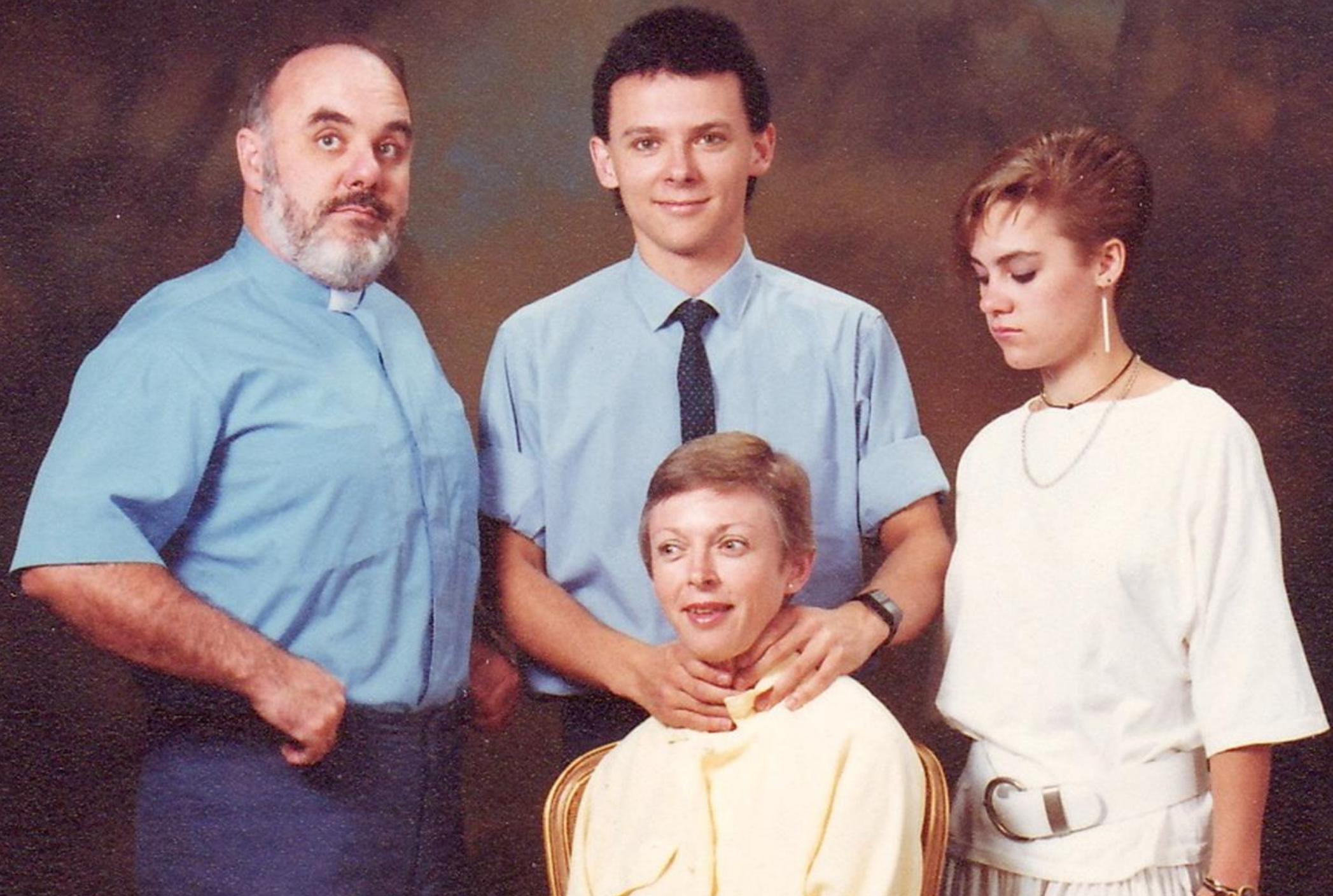
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Even before he made the world God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bring us to himself through Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:1-5





Members of God's  
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A Temple in which  
God Lives

What WE are  
because of Jesus.

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Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.

Verse 20-22

A Temple in which  
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What is the purpose of the new temple? In principle, it is the same as the purpose of the old, namely to be a dwelling place of God... The new temple, however, is neither a material building, nor a national shrine, nor has it a localized site.

It is a spiritual building (God's household) and an international community (embracing Gentiles as well as Jews), and it has a worldwide spread (wherever God's people are to be found). This is where God dwells. He is not tied to holy buildings but to holy people, ... He lives in them, individually and as a community.

John Stott



A Temple in which  
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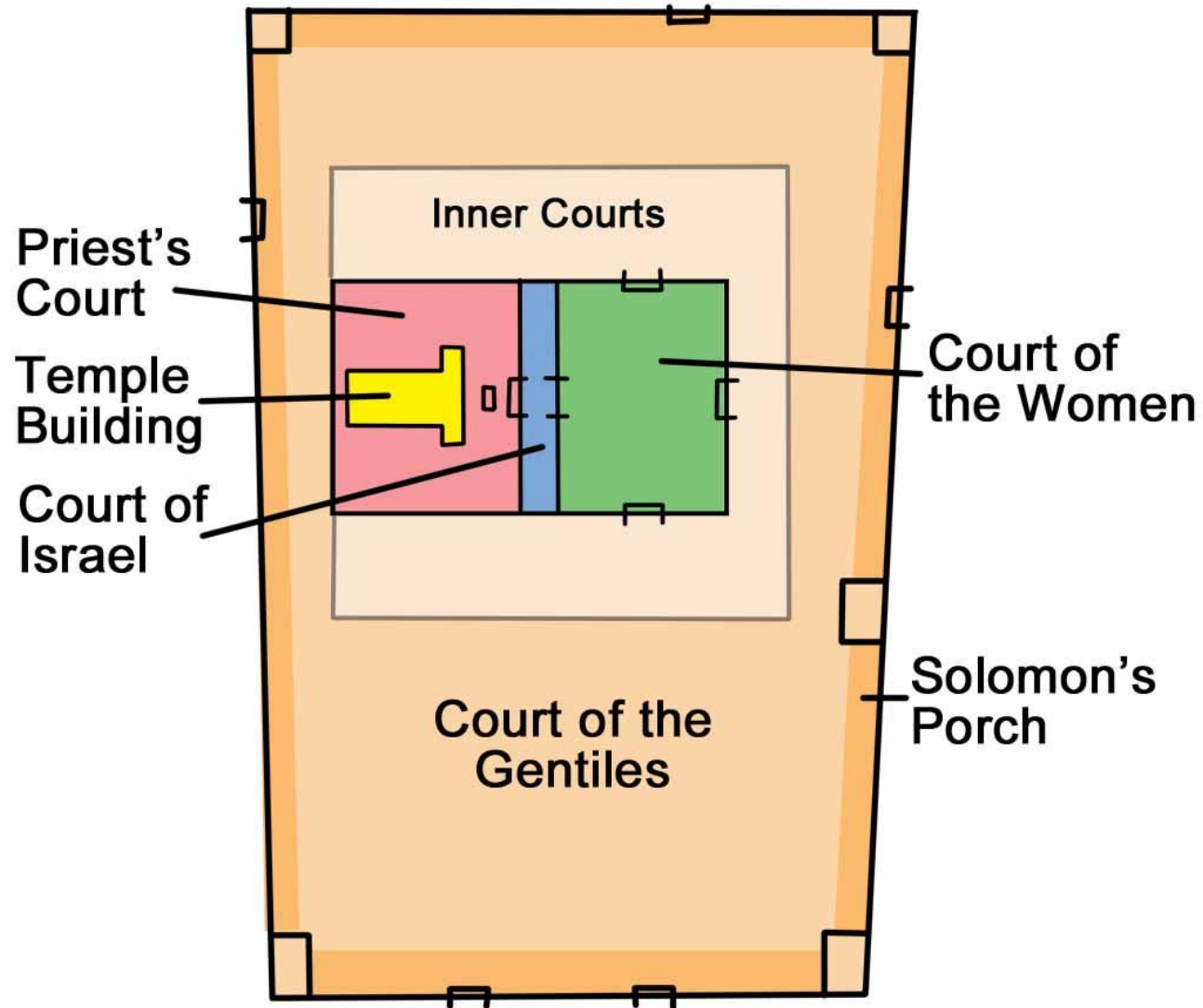
Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called "uncircumcised heathens" by the Jews...You were excluded from citizenship among the people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them.

Verse 11-12

The Jew had an immense contempt for the Gentile. The Gentiles, said the Jews, were created by God to be fuel for the fires of hell. God, they said, loves only Israel of all the nations that he had made ... It was not even lawful to render help to a Gentile mother in her hour of sorest need, for that would simply be to bring another Gentile into the world. Until Christ came, the Gentiles were an object of contempt to the Jews. The barrier between them was absolute.

William Barclay

# The Temple in Jesus' Day (simplified)



But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ. For Christ himself has brought peace to us.

He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.

He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near.

Ephesians 2:13–14, 17, 19

**A New Society of  
equal citizens**

What WE are  
because of Jesus.

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There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:28-29





**A New Society of  
equal citizens**

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The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance....

Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody.

Ephesians 2:14-16 (Message)

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