

# **A Study of the Epistles of Paul**

## **(NT Survey Lesson 167--Ephesians 2)**

**Introduction:** In the first chapter Paul prayed that the Ephesians might know the exceeding greatness of God's power working in the Christian. He first shows that power working in the Savior (1:19b-23) and then working in the sinner to save him from sin (2:1-10). It was this power that resulted in the reconciliation of both Jew and Gentile to God and to one another (2:11-22).

**Lesson aim:** To see how God has demonstrated his power in the salvation and union of Jew and Gentile in one body.

### **God's power working in the sinner--Ephesians 2:1-10**

1. What 4 things is God said to have done for Christ that demonstrate the surpassing greatness of His power? (1:19-23)
2. Look now at 2:1-10 and see the parallel between what God did for Christ and what He did and does for sinners. What are those things?
3. Paul discusses Gentiles in 2:1-2 and Jews in 2:3. How does Paul depict a sinner as walking?
4. What four attributes of God motivated Him to save men from sin?
5. What does Paul mean when he says we are "saved by grace, not works..."?
6. What does it mean when Paul says the church is "His workmanship"? For what was the church created? And who decided what those works should be?

## **The results of God's work: reconciliation & peace--Eph. 2:11-22**

1. What was purpose of circumcision in the O.T.? What then, does it imply when the Gentiles were called "Uncircumcision"?
2. What four things did Paul say were true about the Gentiles formerly?
3. Who were those who were "far off" and how were they "brought near"?
4. What did Christ do in order for there to be peace between Jew and Gentile?
5. Both Jews and Gentiles are reconciled to God in what? Through what?
6. Through whom do all men have access to the Father? (v. 18) Is this the basis for the "oneness" or "unity" we should have? (Cf. Eph. 4:3)
7. What four things did Paul say were true about the Gentiles as the result of the gospel (v. 19-22)?
8. Verses 20-22 use the construction metaphor. What is God "building"? What is the "foundation"? What is the "chief corner stone"? What are the "stones"? What is this "building's" purpose?