

3. Read Ephesians 6:1-3. How should we view this verse which is clearly taken from the Ten Commandments and repeated in the New Testament?

Does this mean the Law is still in force? Why, or why not?

4. How is the power of the cross revealed in the relationship of the Jew and Gentile as one new man in the church?
5. How does the reconciliation of the Jew and Gentile in the first-century church expose the false and superficial notions of modern-day pluralism?



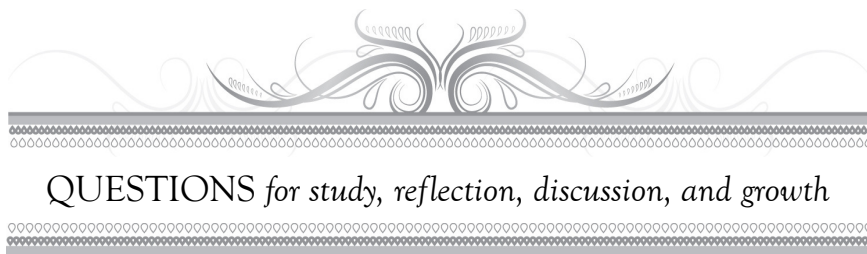
## Lesson 9: THE END OF ENMITY: TWO INTO ONE

Pastor Scott Nelson | Ephesians 2:13-18 | January 24-25, 2009

*Enmity: Positive, active, and typically mutual hatred or ill will.*  
[Webster's Dictionary]

Last week we saw how the apostle Paul wanted Gentiles in the congregation at Ephesus to look back and remember what life was like in their pre-Christian, pagan days—when, as he says in Ephesians 2:12, they were separated from Christ, excluded from the company of God's chosen people, strangers to the covenants of promise (the promises God made to Abraham, David, and Jeremiah that looked forward to the Messiah, His wonderful blessings, and glorious kingdom), devoid of all hope, and without God in the world. What a bleak, dark picture! Yet in Ephesians 2:13 Paul informs them that through the blood of Christ—Jesus' sacrifice for our sins upon the cross—they were no longer "far off" and alienated, but near!

Today we are going to see how Jesus Christ made all of this possible—how pagans who were despised by Jews and Jews who were despised by pagans could be brought together in an amazing unity known as the body of Christ—the Church.



QUESTIONS *for study, reflection, discussion, and growth*

Read Ephesians 2:11-18, Romans 6:14 and 7:4-6, 2 Corinthians 3:7-11, and Colossians 2:13-14.

1. What would you say is the root of our deepest conflicts with other people?

With God?

How do you account for all the enmity we see in the world today?

How does the solution for peace in God's Word differ from the solutions for peace that the world offers?

2. Read Galatians 3:23-26. According to this passage, what junction did the Law serve?

What is the meaning of verse 28?

- I. Enmity is Ended in Christ (Ephesians 2:14).
  - A. He Himself is our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. He alone brings \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. He broke the \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ the Jew and Gentile.
- II. Enmity is Ended at the Cross (Ephesians 2:15).
  - A. The problem of the Law
    - 1. It separated \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2. It was a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(2 Corinthians 3:7-11, Galatians 2:16).
  - B. The purpose of the Law
    - 1. For Israel
      - a. The Law revealed God's \_\_\_\_\_.
      - b. The Law protected God's \_\_\_\_\_.
      - c. The Law proclaimed God's \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2. For the World
      - a. The Law was written on the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Christ, the end of the Law (Romans 10:4, Ephesians 2:15).
    - 1. The cross rendered the Law \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2. The cross dealt with \_\_\_\_\_, the great \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 3. Jesus did not abolish the Law in an absolute sense, i.e., revealing God's will.
- III. Enmity is Ended in the Church (Ephesians 2:15b-18).
  - A. Jew and Gentile joined.
  - B. Peace to the "far" and "near."
  - C. Access through the Son in one Spirit to the Father.
  - D. The Church—God's witness to the world.