

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE
PROGRAM 22 (#912202)
WEEK 5 (912345)
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**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare**

**TITLE: Program 22 – We Have Found Peace With God Through The
New Covenant**

TUESDAY

OPEN

Peace, peace with God: there is nothing like it. It brings a tranquility to your spirit, to your soul. It gives you that assurance that that God’s on your side, that He’s not your enemy, that you’re not under His judgment, but rather you’re under His blessing. Peace with God; how does it happen? We’ll talk about that today as we look at God’s precepts for life.

PART ONE

I’ll never forget what happened on July 16th, 1963. I got on my knees and I received Jesus Christ as my Savior. I surrendered everything to Him. And oh, the peace that came into my heart. It was incredible. All of a sudden the turmoil was gone. The guilty conscience was gone because I certainly was

guilty. I had gone from one man to another man to another man after divorcing my husband after shaking my fist in the face of God and saying “To hell with You God. I’ll see you around town. I’m going to find someone to love me.” At last there was peace. At last there was a sense of the fact that God was pleased with me and that I would not be under condemnation anymore. It was absolutely incredible. And on that day I remember sitting on the edge of my bed picking up the phone and calling my mother and saying “Mother, I want you to know every thing is okay in my life.” It was peace. It was peace to a woman who had a religion but not a relationship, a woman who was separated from God, a woman who was a Gentile without God, without hope, strangers to the covenants of promise. My goodness, I did not even know what a covenant was. But O Beloved, when I started to study the Word of God, when I discovered that word “covenant” and learned that it meant a solemn binding agreement, a binding agreement that was made by passing through pieces of flesh, and God began to open my understanding to covenants of promise that I knew nothing about. This is what we want to look at today because it’s understanding these covenants of promise, Beloved, that will bring you peace through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. In Ephesians chapter 2, verse 12, he says, **“remember...you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, ...strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off...,”** and you want to mark that word “formerly.” Remember it’s a key repeated word. **“...You who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself...,”** Jesus, Himself, the Christ, Himself, **“...is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall.” (Ephesians 2:12-14)** What two groups? Well those two groups were Jews and Gentiles. But right now what Paul is doing is he’s focusing on the Gentiles. And he’s showing them what God has done to unite them with the Jews and how God did it. Well

what we want to look at is we want to look at the fact that we were strangers to the covenants of promise. So once again with pen and paper in front of you I want you to draw a straight line and on that straight line I want you to put a huge cross even as you have done before. And then on that cross draw a stick figure of Jesus hanging on the cross. And up at the top of that cross as we did in our last program I want you to write “the Abrahamic covenant,” “the Abrahamic covenant.” Now this is one of the covenants of promise and we saw that in our last program. The Abrahamic covenant promised the seed and the seed as we saw in Genesis chapter 15 and in Galatians chapter 3 which interprets Genesis chapter 15 tells us that the seed is Jesus Christ. So that is the promise because He promised to Abraham through Abraham all the nations of the earth would be blessed. Now when He talks about the nations of the earth He’s talking about the Gentiles. But the Gentiles up until this time were strangers from these covenants of promise. So what I was doing was I was showing you these three primary covenants of promise. So the first covenant of promise is the Abrahamic covenant that promises the seed. The second covenant that I want you to see and I want you to put it to the left of the cross and purposefully so was “the Davidic covenant.” So write the Davidic, D-a-v-i-d-i-c, “the Davidic covenant.” Now what is the Davidic covenant? The Davidic covenant is a covenant that God made with King David. You know who he is. Hollywood’s shown you about his sin. Well this is the Davidic covenant. And in that Davidic covenant and I want you to go to 2 Samuel chapter 7. But in that Davidic covenant what we have is a promise to David. And the promise to David in 2 Samuel chapter 7 is that God would give David a house. David wanted to build a house to the Lord. And the Lord said [“No, you can’t build Me a house because you’re a man of war, but I will build you a house.”] (Paraphrased, 2 Samuel 7:5, 11) And this is what he says in verse 12 he’s speaking to David and at the end of verse 11 he has said, “...**The Lord also declares to you that the Lord will make a house for you. When your days are complete and you lie down**

with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom....,” and here’s the word you want, “...forever.” (2 Samuel 7:12-13) If I were marking my Bible I would put a little clock over the word “forever,” because what He has just said is David, your throne, your house is going to continue forever. Forever is forever. And it says in verse 16, “**Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me...**,” God is speaking “...forever; your throne [will] be established forever.” (7:16) This is the Davidic covenant. And so what He’s saying is the seed that is to come, the Messiah that is to come is going to come from the house of David. And your house, your throne David is going to be established forever. Now we don’t get the word “covenant” here. But when we compare scripture with scripture and we look at Chronicles then we understand. So I want you to go to 2 Chronicles chapter 21 and it’s verse 7. 2 Chronicles chapter 21, verse 7 and listen to what it says. It says “**Yet the Lord was not willing to destroy the house of David....**” (21:7a) And this is because Jehoram is a terrible king and he’s one of the descendants of David. It says “**Yet the Lord was not willing to destroy the house of David because of the covenant which He had made with David, and since He has promised to give a lamp to him and [to] his sons forever.**” (2 Chronicles 21:7) So what we have now in these covenants of promise is we have the Davidic covenant. But you say, but wait a minute. Tie that in with Jesus. So let’s go to Romans chapter 1. We could go to Acts where he says he’s at the throne of David. But in Romans chapter 1 this is what he’s doing, he’s talking about “...the gospel of God,” (Romans 1:1b) verse 2 “**which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son ...**,” (Romans 1:2-3a) concerning God’s Son. So look at the cross that you drew. Look at that stick figure. That’s the Son of God hanging on that cross. Okay, where does He come from? “**Concerning His Son who was born of a descendant of**

David according to the flesh,” (Romans 1:3) “...Born...a descendant of David according to the flesh.” If you would go to Matthew, if you would go to the genealogy of Jesus Christ you will see that right away in Matthew he’s going to establish that Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne. He’s going to show you that He is the One that is going to bring in the kingdom of God that is going to last forever. And so in Matthew chapter 1, verse 5 it says **“Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse was the father of David the king....” (Matthew 1:5-6a)** And it takes you right to Jesus. So this is the second covenant of promise we want to look at. At the top of that cross you’ve written the Abrahamic covenant. On the left hand side as you look at the cross you’ve written the Davidic covenant. On the cross you have drawn a stick figure to represent Jesus Christ hanging on the cross. Now on the right hand arm of that cross as you look at it I want you to write “the New Covenant” because this new covenant is the covenant that God is going to use to bring Jew and Gentile together. This is the covenant that God is going to use to bring peace to our hearts. When was this new covenant spoken about? We’re going to look at that in just a minute.

PART TWO

Welcome back my friend. Have you got your paper in front of you? You’ve got your pen and you’ve drawn a cross on that paper. We’re looking at the covenants of promise. Well this new covenant, now listen carefully, was spoken about when the old covenant was in effect. So at the bottom of the cross what I want you to write is “the Old Covenant.” Now what was the Old covenant? The Old covenant was the Law, the ordinances, what was given to Moses and to the children of Israel on Mount Sinai, that covenant which they broke, that covenant which they did not keep. What God said is “This is My covenant. These are the laws. These are the ordinances.” And in

Exodus chapter 34 they said “Everything that the Lord has commanded we will do.” This is the Jews. But what the Jews forgot was they were dead in their trespasses and sins that they were born in sin. David even wrote it, **“...In sin did my mother conceive me.” (Psalm 51:5b KJV)** But they thought that in their own strength in their own might by their own determination we will keep the Law. Well what they did is they stumbled, they broke that law. I mean they broke it over and over and over again. They had other gods. They worshiped the gods that were in the land that they had taken possession of. They carried wood on the Sabbath. They didn’t trust in God, they trusted in the nations. They turned to the arm of flesh. Over and over and over again they broke the law. And so God in Jeremiah (15) is telling them, “I’m taking you into captivity. You have disobeyed Me. I told you in Deuteronomy (Paraphrased, 28:13) [I would bless and I would make you the head and not the tail if you would just obey Me. But remember I warned you in Deuteronomy that if you did not obey Me you would become the tail and not the head and I would carry you into captivity. I would scatter you throughout all the earth.]” Well God is about to do that. But remember God is a God of mercy. God loves Israel. Israel is His possession. So in the midst of getting ready to carry them into captivity He makes a new covenant with them. Go to Jeremiah chapter 31, verse 31 and this is a passage that you never want to forget. In Jeremiah chapter 31, verse 31 he says **“Behold days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant [that] I made with their fathers...the day I took them by the hand to [lead] them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke....” (Jeremiah 31:31-32a)** He says I’m not going to make a covenant like that. He says **“But this is the covenant [that] I will make with [them] after those days... ‘I will put My law...,’ not without but “...within....” (Jeremiah 31:33a)** Remember when the Law was given, you saw the movie “The Ten Commandments.” You saw Moses up on top of the mountain. You

saw ch, ch, ch, ch, the finger of God coming down and writing the commandments on the tables of stone. That was the covenant that they broke. As a matter of fact when Moses came down off the mountain and he saw them eating and drinking and worshiping this golden calf Moses just picked up those Ten Commandments and he threw them to the ground and it was a symbol of their breaking the commandments. And then he took those stones and he grinded them up into real fine powder. He put it in water and they passed the cup and said you drink this. You have broken My commandment. He says [Well this covenant that I’m going to make with you is the Law. It’s not going to be out here on tables of stone. But I’m going to write My law on your heart. That’s where I’m going to write it. It’s going to be internal not external.] (Paraphrased, Jeremiah 31:33) And He says, “**...I will put My law within them...on their heart I will write it; ...I will be their God, and they [will] be My people.**” (31:33b) And He says “**...I...**” in verse 34, “**...will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.**” (Jeremiah 31:34b) Now how is He going to do this? This is a covenant of promise. This is a covenant that the Gentiles did not know about. This is a covenant that they were in a sense ignorant of and separated from because they did not know about this new covenant, a new covenant that promises the law on your heart, a new covenant that promises as Ezekiel 36 says “**I will put My Spirit within you....**” “**I will put My Spirit within you....**” (Ezekiel 36:27a) Isn’t that what we saw in Ephesians chapter 1, verse 13 and 14 that the Spirit of God comes to live inside of me? And He says “**I will put My Spirit within you and [I] will cause you...**” (*making roaring sound*) the power, I will “**...cause you to walk in My** [commandments, I will cause you to keep My statutes].” (Ezekiel 36:27a) So this is the new covenant. And this is what they were separated from. These are the covenants of promise. The Abrahamic covenant promised Jesus. The Davidic covenant said that Jesus, the Messiah was going to come from the throne of David. And the new covenant promised forgiveness of

sins. So when you come to Hebrews chapter 10 God says that [He was not pleased with the blood of bulls and goats because the blood of bulls and goats under the law could not take away sin.] (Paraphrased, Hebrews 10:4) So Jesus said, “[A body Thou has prepared for me; Lo in the volume of the book it is written...I come to do Your will,]” (Paraphrased, Hebrews 10:5c, 7, 9a) And then it says, “**...He takes away the first...**” the old covenant, “**...in order to establish the second...**” (10:9b) which is the new covenant. And this is what He says in verse 14. “**For by one offering...**” listen, “**...He has perfected for all time...**” (10:14a) it’s a time phrase. I would write it down. “**...Those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying...**” and He quotes Jeremiah. “**This is the covenant...I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws [on] their heart, and on their mind I will write them.**” [And] He then says, “**And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.**” (Hebrews 10:14b-17) When you go to 2 Corinthians chapter 5 it says “[God] **made Him...**” Jesus, “**...who knew no sin to be sin...**” for you and me, “**...that [you and I] might [be made] the righteousness of God in Him.**” (2 Corinthians 5:21) He says now, “**...God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself...**” (2 Corinthians 5:19a) and because He reconciled the world to Himself then there’s no longer enmity but there is peace. On July 16th, 1963, I had peace because I was no longer an enemy of God. I had been reconciled to God. I didn’t understand those covenants of promise, but God, by His Spirit, drew me to Him and then He showed me the covenants of promise, the covenants that He used in order to affect my salvation, your salvation and the salvation of Jew and Gentile. And what did He do with Jew and Gentile? That’s what we’ll look at next. It’s awesome.