Ephesians 3

So far....

• We exist as a church to the glory of God
• ALL spiritual blessings IN CHRIST
  • Jew AND Gentile blessed
• ALL saved from their sin
  • ONE NEW man/body/temple

Ephesian Church

• Jew + Gentile
• ONE Body, ONE temple
• FELLOW citizens
• Together – God’s family
• Together – a holy Temple
• Together – a dwelling of God

Ephesian Church

Is THAT in The Old Testament?

• Together – God’s family
• Together – a holy Temple
• Together – a dwelling of God

Promise concerning Gentiles

And I will bless those who bless you. And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.” Genesis 12:3

• Repeated – 18:18; 22:18; 26:4
• Repeated to Jacob – 28:14

Promise concerning Gentiles

the Messiah – over ALL NATIONS

Isa. 2:1-4 - all nations will stream to the mountain of the house of the LORD...

Isaiah 11:10 Then in that day The nations will resort to the root of Jesse, Who will stand as a signal for the peoples; And His resting place will be glorious.
Problem?
• Jews ‘accepted’ – **BUT**
• **THEY MUST BE** Circumcised / Keep the law

Acts 15:1 Some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved."
Acts 15:5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses."

The Revelation (vs. 6)
... the Gentiles are *fellow heirs* and *fellow members of the body*, and *fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus* through the gospel, **NOT THRU THE LAW OR ITS DEMANDS**

AS it is NOW revealed
For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles — 2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you; 3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, .... Eph. 3:1-4

AS it is NOW revealed
which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, *as it has now been revealed* to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;

REVELATION of God
• **THIS was REVEALED**
  • The commission – Mtt. 28:18-19
  • The Promise – John 16:13
  • The Result:
    • New Covenant – Word of God
    • 1Cor. 14:37; 1Thss. 2:13; 2Pet. 3:14-15

REVELATION of God
• **THIS was REVEALED**
  • Paul –
  • 1 Cor. 11: 23f
For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you,
that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;
and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”
In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Written
- Moses – Exod. 17:14; 34:27
- Isaiah – Isa. 8:1; 30:8
- Jeremiah – 30:2
- Jesus: “IT is written” – cp. Luke 4
- 2Tim. 3:16-17 – All SCRIPTURE -

Can Be Understood
- Must read / study – give diligence 2T. 2:15
- Purpose of WRITING –
- Stated – (Eph. 3:3-5)
- Commanded – Eph. 5:
  - 5 – you know with certainty...
  - 6 – let no one deceive you...
  - 17 – So then do NOT be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is

REVELATION of God
- THIS was REVEALED
- THIS was WRITTEN
  - as I wrote -
    - A permanent record –
      - cp. 2 Pet. 1:12

REVELATION of God
- THIS was REVEALED
- THIS was WRITTEN
- THIS can be READ & UNDERSTOOD

REVELATION of God
- THIS was REVEALED
- THIS was WRITTEN
- THIS can be READ & UNDERSTOOD
- OBEYED - lived
**Obeyed - lived**

- Live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God – Matt. 4:4 / Deut. 8:3
- He that doeth the will of my Father – Matt. 7:21
- Things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you – Phil. 4:9

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**Eternal Purpose of God**

so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

11 *This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,*

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**REVELATION of God**

- THIS was REVEALED
- THIS was WRITTEN
- THIS can be READ & UNDERSTOOD
- OBEYED - lived
- **THIS IS the Eternal Purpose**

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**REVELATION of God**

- THIS was REVEALED
- THIS was WRITTEN
- THIS can be READ & UNDERSTOOD
- OBEYED - lived
- **THIS IS the Eternal Purpose**
- THROUGH this God will be praised!