

## Ephesians Class Notes for 02-12-12

### Ephesians Ch. 2:11-22

#### Vs. 11-13

Before Jesus came to Earth in human form the Jewish people considered anyone who was not a Jew to be a second class person. There were a number of reasons for this. One reason was God's promise to Abraham in Gen. chapter 15, where He told him his descendants would be like the sands of the seas. All Jews consider Abraham to be the father of the Jewish race. However, God fulfilled His promise to Abraham through his grandson, Jacob. In Gen. 32:27-28, God changed Jacob's name to Israel, a name that would indicate His chosen people. Thus, the phrase, The Children of Israel. A second reason the Jews felt they were above other people was God gave His chosen people special laws and decrees to follow. These laws and decrees were for their own good. Deut. 4:1-2, 5:1-3, Deut. 9: 9-10, 10: 12-15. One of these decrees was that they were not to mix with the Gentile nations. Exodus 34:15-16.

#### Vs. 14-18

When Jesus came to earth in human form, he had many objectives. Among them was to redeem the lost sheep of Israel. Gal. 4:4 and Mt. 10:2-7----Ro. 1:16-17. Another objective that Jesus has was to bring the Jews and Gentiles together in one body, the Church and under one head Jesus. Eph. 3:7-12 and I Tim. 3: 14-15. The objective for living a life without sin and becoming a sacrifice for the sins of all mankind ranks at the top. MK. 14:32-36.

#### Vs. 19-22

Because Jesus became human, and because he lived a life without sin, and because he was willing to suffer the cross to pay for our sins. We have the promise of eternal life and we are God's temple on earth. I Cor. 3:16-17.