

Major Themes in Ephesians 1:3-14

UNION WITH CHRIST (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13)

RICHES/INHERITANCE (3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 14)

GLORY (3, 6, 12, 14)

ELECTION (4)

LOVE (4, 6)

DIVINE WILL/PLAN (4, 5, 9, 10, 11)

ADOPTION (5)

PREDESTINATION (5, 11)

GRACE (6, 7)

REDEMPTION (7, 14)

RECONCILIATION (7, 10)

WISDOM (8)

UNDERSTANDING (8)

MYSTERY (9)

SALVATION (13)

FAITH/BELIEF (13)

HOLY SPIRIT (13, 14)

Ephesians 2:11–22 CSB

¹¹ So, then, remember that at one time you were Gentiles in the flesh—called “the uncircumcised” by those called “the circumcised,” which is done in the flesh by human hands. ¹² At that time you were without Christ, excluded from the citizenship of Israel, and foreigners to the covenants of promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus, you who were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace, who made both groups one and tore down the dividing wall of hostility. In his flesh, ¹⁵ he made of no effect the law consisting of

commands and expressed in regulations, so that he might create in himself one new man from the two, resulting in peace. ¹⁶ He did this so that he might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by which he put the hostility to death. ¹⁷ He came and proclaimed the good news of peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So, then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God's household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building, being put together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you are also being built together for God's dwelling in the Spirit.

- › Something that we touched on, but I'm not sure we said with force and clarity, is who this "new humanity" actually is. Who is this "new man" that Paul speaks of in verse 15?

The law and orthodoxy

The law as guardian

Galatians 3:21–26 CSB

²¹ Is the law therefore contrary to God's promises? Absolutely not! For if the law had been granted with the ability to give life, then righteousness would certainly be on the basis of the law. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin's power, so that the promise might be given on the basis of faith in Jesus Christ to those who believe. ²³ Before this faith came, we were confined under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith was revealed. ²⁴ The law, then, was our guardian until Christ, so that we could be justified by faith. ²⁵ But since that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for through faith you are all sons of God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 7:7–13 CSB

⁷ What should we say then? Is the law sin? Absolutely not! But, I would not have known sin if it were not for the law. For example, I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, **Do not covet.** ⁸ And sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind. For apart from the law sin is dead. ⁹ Once I was alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life again ¹⁰ and I died. The commandment that was meant for life resulted in death for me. ¹¹ For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me. ¹² So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good. ¹³ Therefore, did what is good become death to me? Absolutely not! But, sin, in order to be recognized as sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that through the commandment, sin might become sinful beyond measure.

Orthodoxy and the law

1 Corinthians 9:19–23 CSB

¹⁹ Although I am free from all and not anyone's slave, I have made myself a slave to everyone, in order to win more people. ²⁰ To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win Jews; to those under the law, like one under the law—though I myself am not under the law—to win those under the law. ²¹ To those who are without the law, like one without the law—though I am not without God's law but under the law of Christ—to win those without the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, in order to win the weak. I have become all things to all people, so that I may by every possible means save some. ²³ Now I do all this because of the gospel, so that I may share in the blessings.

Galatians 6:2 CSB

² Carry one another's burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

1 John 2:3–6 CSB

³ This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commands. ⁴ The one who says, "I have come to know him," and yet doesn't keep his commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps his word, truly in him the love of God is made complete. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶ The one who says he remains in him should walk just as he walked.

v16

Ephesians 2:16 CSB

¹⁶ He did this so that he might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by which he put the hostility to death.

Romans 5:10 CSB

¹⁰ For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, then how much more, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

Colossians 1:18–20 CSB

¹⁸ He is also the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile everything to himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

v17

Ephesians 2:17 CSB

¹⁷ He came and proclaimed the good news of peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.

Romans 5:1 CSB

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:15 CSB

¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ, to which you were also called in one body, rule your hearts. And be thankful.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 CSB

²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely. And may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.