

Ephesians

12

The Revealing of the Church 2 : 19 - 22

19 So you are no longer outsiders and strangers. You are citizens together with God's people. You are also members of God's family. 20 You are a building that is built on the apostles and prophets. They are the foundation. Christ Jesus himself is the most important stone in the building [chief cornerstone]. 21 The whole building is held together by him. It rises to become a holy temple because it belongs to the Lord. 22 And because you belong to him, you too are being built together. You are being made into a house where God lives through his Spirit.

Ephesians 2

19 So you are no longer outsiders and strangers.

a. You are a nation...[v19] You are citizens together with God's people...

That is why I love the phrase "in Christ" to describe those who are a part of the nation.

- It describes what is the defining event that brings a person into the nation.
- It is present a present question rather than a past event.
- It is biblical

b. You are a family

Coming into Christ is not just a change in our **legal standing with God [citizenship]** but it is also a fundamental change in our **relationship to God**.

And with this comes a remarkable change in our relationship with others.

c. You are a building [temple]

[v20 - 22] that is built on the apostles and prophets. They are the foundation. Christ Jesus himself is the most important stone in the building [chief cornerstone]. 21 The whole building is held together by him. It rises to become a holy temple because it belongs to the Lord. 22 And because you belong to him, you too are being built together. You are being made into a house where God lives through his Spirit.

This metaphor of the church being a *temple* focuses on **the purpose** of the church.

The temple was to be a place that brings glory to God.

The temple was to be a place where the manifest presence of God was to be seen and experienced.