

SERMON NOTES

Date: July 12, 2020

Series: God's Riches

Title: Unity in Christ: Our Shared Status

Text: Ephesians 2:19-22

Big Idea: We are united because God has changed our status as strangers and aliens to citizens and saints, members of God's family, built into a holy temple for the Spirit of God.

APPLICATION GUIDE

DISCUSS

What does Paul mean when he says that the Gentiles are no longer strangers and aliens?

What has God done to change their status?

APPLY THE TRUTH

Have you felt like an outsider that is not quite equal to others? What could others have done to improve that situation? What could you have done to help?

Knowing that God has made every believer a citizen and saint and a member of God's family, how can you avoid treating fellow believers as second-class Christians or playing favorites in the church (cf. James 2:1-9)?

Sometimes status makes us proud or condescending toward others. How should your status in Christ manifest itself in humility toward God and others (cf. Romans 12:9-13)?

Remember that as a believer in Jesus, you are a stone in the holy temple that God builds as his dwelling place. What steps can you take to make yourself "pure" for him (cf. 1 Peter 2:4-6)?

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Pray for reconciliation in the church of Jesus Christ. Pray that believers from all ethnicities and cultures view one another with equal status in Christ and that we would manifest that unity to a watching world.