The Difference Christ Makes

Robert Harkrider · Ephesians 2:11–22

INTRODUCTION

- The scripture says it is by grace through faith that we're saved.
- We did not deserve the gift of God, but our part is to respond in faith to God's gift.
- I want your eyes to be opened to understand the hope of his calling.

1 Members of a Different Family

Ephesians 2:12–13; Ephesians 2:16; Ephesians 2:19

- First of all, to these people, he would say, you're now members of a different family.
- Only through the blood of Jesus Christ can you be made one in Him.
- You are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints. Members of the household of God.
- The household the word means simply the family of God. You're now part of his family.
- In Christ Jesus, therefore, we become members of the same family. We're brethren. We're brothers and sisters in Christ.

2 Through Him, a Different Law

Galatians 3:23–25; Colossians 2:14–17; Hebrews 8:6–13

- He's also, through him, given us a different law.
- That law of Moses was that middle wall of partition. It stood between the Jew and the Gentile.
- But he says that law was our schoolmaster. It was that means by which we were brought to Jesus Christ.
- Had man been able to be saved by keeping the Ten Commandments, be no need for the cross of Christ.
- The law of Moses had a specific purpose, and that purpose has been fulfilled in the death of Jesus Christ.
- But it is not the law for the church or for those who would serve Christ today.

3 A Different Foundation: Built on Jesus Christ

Ephesians 2:20; 1 Corinthians 3:11; Matthew 16:13–18

- But Jesus Christ also makes a difference in that there's a different foundation. We're built on Jesus Christ.
- The apostles and prophets simply preached the foundation. Christ alone can save.
- Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
- On the very confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. That's the foundation of the church of the Lord.
- Jesus Christ wants us to be as one, as one body.

4 A Different Temple: The Church of the Lord

Ephesians 2:21–22; 1 Corinthians 3:16–17; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20

- But also Christ makes a difference in that he has provided a different temple. It's the church of the Lord.
- We don't all do the same things. There are different talents among us. There are different abilities. And yet we are fitted together.
- Are you a member of the Lord's church? Then you ought to be supplying something to it.
- Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
- For you were bought with the price. Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Why not this day? Make up your mind. Choose to obey him. Choose to lay hold on the great privilege of being a child of God.**

MY NOTES