

Ephesians 2

A Very Quick introduction to the theology of Paul

vv. 1-10: Dead in our sins* sin=death: utterly powerless

- *this is tied to the evil one (v. 2) the power of the air

- *enslaved by the desires of the flesh: not just carnal but without God what are we, but eating sleeping drinking meat machines

- *God has raised us up in Christ

- *this is all done by Grace

- Aquinas “a created substance bringing the unearned power and tendency to salvation

- *God has created us for good works

Vv 11-18: we are tied to the people of Israel

- Before you had faith you were aliens to the plan of salvation

- Non-citizens, outsiders, not part of the game

- Salvation is from the Jews

- Without that salvation we were doomed

- WE are not so much in a new Covenant but grafted onto the old one.

- The blood of Christ has brought us close to this ancient Covenant

v. 14: the two very different worlds have been united

- gentiles: a world of race, politics and philosophy

- Jews: the giving of the Law

- “abolishing the law”: not dismissive of morality but freedom from the Torah. Eg. Torah to Mishna to Talmud “teaching”

- . 19: grafted into the household of God

- Capstone (central block in an arch)

- “he is our peace (erēnis not pax)

vv. 19=-end it is Christ who holds these two worlds together in His Body

- *“it grows together” we are not finished yet: we are being built

- *it is a sacred place

- *He is our focus of unity