



Ephesians Chapter 2 The Grafting In

In our last study into the book of Ephesians chapter 1 we spoke about the English word “Lord” in the New Testament, and the fact that the English word “Lord” has been used to translate several different Greek and Hebrew words. We spoke about why the “Trinity” doctrine is a false doctrine, and we spoke about the usage of the word “Lord” throughout the Bible and why it is that so many modern day Christians are fooled by these kinds of translations that were translated by translators that were well steeped in the Trinitarian doctrine.

We spoke about “Faith” and exactly what faith is and why faith, love, and obedience are all synonymous with each another according to the scriptures. We spoke about the distinct differences between the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob and his Son Yahshua Jesus, and the very clear and distinct differences between them both. We spoke about the biblical definition of the love of God found in 1st John 5:3.. and we spoke about those modern day denominational charters of men who wrongly preach that Yahshua Jesus taught one gospel.. and that Paul taught a different gospel.

So if you have not been with us in our study of the first chapter of the book of Ephesians, you might want to go back and view that first chapter before moving forward into chapter two because I promise you.. there is a lot of information in chapter 1 of the book of Ephesians that you'll want to have under your belt so that you can better understand chapter 2.. and so we encourage you to take the time to view the first two parts of chapter 1 before moving forward into chapter 2.

In chapter two of the book of Ephesians the Apostle Paul begins to change gears from describing who the Father and the Son truly are.. and he moves on to explain the purpose of the Son and why he came, and what he accomplished through his death burial and resurrection.

We'll also see Paul explaining how we are saved by “Grace” and not by works... and yet.. Paul does not exclude or negate, or erase works from the equation. In fact Paul tells us in verse 10 of chapter 2 of the book of Ephesians that we are his workmanship, created in the Messiah Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Those “Good Works” that God prepared before hand.. are indeed the laws, commandments, precepts, and appointments of our Father that he gave us back in the beginning of the book. The

very same laws that our own Messiah says in Matthew 5:17 through 20 will not pass away until heaven and earth pass away.. and we know full well that heaven and earth do not pass away until Revelation chapter 21 verse 1. And if you would like more information on whether or not Gods laws are all nailed to some tree somewhere... and why according to the scriptures... Gods laws do indeed still stand.. you can visit us at HolyImpactMinistries.com... we've got plenty of biblical studies there that will help you understand the truth, and they're all free for the taking... we do not sell the word of God at HolyImpactMinistries.com as some do.

And these are just some of the things that we'll see in the 2nd chapter of the book of Ephesians... so with all of that being said... lets go ahead and lets read Ephesians chapter 2 verses 1 through 7:

Eph 2:1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins

Eph 2:2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

Eph 2:3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

Eph 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,

Eph 2:5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

Eph 2:6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

Eph 2:7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

This scripture is pretty clear about what it says... but there's even more here if we will just take a moment to idle here and really think about what Paul is trying to convey to us.

Paul is painting a picture if you will. And in this picture he's showing us what we were before we came to the truth of Gods word. Notice in verse 1 he tells us that we were dead before God because we walked in sin and followed after the course of this world, and the god of this world. How profound is that to know and understand?

And not only that... but the god of this world who Paul calls the prince of the power of the air.. is still to this day at work in the sons of disobedience whom we once lived among... carrying out the desires of the body and the mind. And that we were by nature... children of wrath... just like the rest of mankind. Notice this my friends... just like the rest of mankind. The rest of mankind is who Paul is calling the sons of disobedience. But we are not of the rest of mankind, and Paul is making a clear distinction between us and them, just as our Messiah did in Matthew 13:10-15:

Mat 13:10 Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in

parables?"

Mat 13:11 And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

Mat 13:12 For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Mat 13:13 This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

Mat 13:14 Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: ""You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive."

Mat 13:15 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

Our Messiah made it very clear that there is an “us”... and there is a “them”.. just as Paul is making it very clear in here in the 2nd chapter of Ephesians. Once again Paul is making a clear distinction between “us”.. and “them”. And who is “us”? We are the ones who it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of Heaven.. but to “them”.... it has not been given. Why? Because seeing they do not see and hearing they do not hear nor do they understand.

It's important to realize that the Pharisees of 2nd temple Judaism did not understand the gospel either. They could not see nor hear the truth of the Gospel message and my friends there are plenty of modern day Pharisees alive and well today. They indeed hear... but they do not understand... and they do indeed see... but they never perceive... and why? Because their hearts have grown dull and with their ears they can barely hear, and with their eyes they can barely see. They have sold out to the wisdom and the teachings of men... just like the Pharisees of our Messiah's time.

You see there is always a reason why people hear... and yet do not understand... and why they see.. and yet do not perceive. They do not hear or see because they choose not to see or to hear. You see they have an agenda. They have already chosen what they want. And the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob and his Son Yahshua Jesus are not in the picture that they have painted for themselves. They do not hear nor see because they choose not to hear or see. They would rather follow after the teachings, and the wisdom of men rather than the teachings and the wisdom of God.

Far to many Christians today have been wrongly taught that we're all going to Heaven, and that there are many ways to get to Heaven, and the reason they believe this black oil that drips from the lips of “them”... is because they too have been indoctrinated, and re-programmed, to simply believe anything and everything that they've been told from some kindly old man... just because he happens to be standing behind any one of over 5000 different denominational pulpits.

So let us be awake and let us be sober minded when it comes to “us”... and “them”. And let us

remember that while we were following after the wisdom and the doctrines and the commandments of men... we were dead. Many of us who believed in the once saved always saved doctrine of demons actually served a false god who taught that “Do as thou wilt is the whole of the law”. And we believed it... for a time.

We believed in a Jesus that celebrated his own birthday.. and who was reserrected on a pagan holiday called “Easter”.. and who changed his Fathers 7th day Sabbath... that his Father said would be for all generations forever... and would be a sign between him and his people.

We believed in another Spirit that had us believing that our denomination was what saved us.. and that discernment came from men instead of God. And to this very day some of us call our Pastors “Father”... even though we were commanded by our Messiah in Matthew 23:9.. not to call any man on earth “Father”.

We believed in another Gospel that said there was no such thing as the wrath of God. God is love and love only.. and this false Gospel taught us not to fear God.. because God would never punish us no matter what we did. What did Paul say again in Galatians 1:6-9?

Gal 1:6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—

Gal 1:7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

Gal 1:8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

Gal 1:9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

Paul warned the church at Corinth about those who teach another Jesus, another spirit, and another Gospel in 2nd Corinthians 11:4

2Co 11:4 For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

And he told us who these men were just a few verses down in 2nd Corinthians 11:13-15:

2Co 11:13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

It's important to understand that Paul is speaking to a largely "Gentile" audience, and this will become more evident as we move forward.. but I want us to take note of what Paul says causes us to sin. Paul says that it is the course of this world that causes us to sin when we follow the prince of the power of the air who he also calls and I quote "The god of this world" in 2nd Corinthians 4:4. Lets go back and take a look at 2nd Corinthians 4:3-4:

2Co 4:3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

*2Co 4:4 In their case **the god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

This my friends... is why they can not see, nor can they hear.

Paul also talks about the prince of the power of the air, and these spiritual forces in Ephesians chapter 6:12-13:

Eph 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

The very idea that Paul would speak of these authorities of darkness, and these spiritual rulers, and spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places is often times passed over by today's modern day Christianity. Rarely are these things taught in today's modern day Christian churches.

Today if someone strips themselves naked and begins running down the street looking for someone to bite on while quoting bible verses or claiming to be god... we simply write them off as having too many bath salts... or simply being high on drugs. So we medicate them even more, and we put them on one kind of antidepressant drug or another and we pat them on the back and send them back out into society. But back in the times of 2nd temple Judaism... they knew full well what was wrong with these kinds of people. And Yahshua Jesus and the Apostles were well acquainted with the ritual of exorcism, and we find these kinds of exorcisms taking place all throughout both the Old and New Testaments in places like 1st Samuel 16:23, or Mark 1:23-26, or Mark 9:14-29, or Luke 11:14-26. Yahshua himself even explicitly gave his Apostles the power to exorcise these unclean spirits from within people in Matthew 10:1:

*Mat 10:1 And he called to him his twelve disciples **and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out,** and to heal every disease and every affliction.*

And I point these things out so that we may know that these things are very real, and not only are they very real... but they are very powerful as well. These spiritual forces of evil as Paul calls them can be very persuasive when it comes to tempting the flesh. They can simply put a

suggestion in our minds or they can even attack and take over our bodies if we open the door for them to come in. Most people are unaware of the power of these different kinds of isotopic drugs and the door to the spirit world that they open. The American Indians were well antiquated with opium and marinaraa, and other kinds of mind altering drugs that helped them to see into the spirit world. And we could even get into the Cumaean Sibyl who was the priestess presiding over the Apollonian oracle at Cumae, a Greek colony located near Naples, Italy. But all of that is a whole study in itself and we won't get into that here today.. but I mention these things because it has always been well known even to the worlds governments... that certain kinds of drugs do indeed open the doors to different dimensions.. and can even open the door to the gates of hell, and it's important for today's Christians to be fully aware of these kinds of things, and to protect our children from them.

I find it interesting to see that even back in the time of the Apostle Paul.. people were experimenting with different kinds of mind altering drugs, and dancing with the Devil even back in his time.. and when we turn on our televisions today in our time... we can find the exact same kind of behavior going on today. And with that being said... I think it's also important to know and to understand that drugs are not always needed to open these kinds of doors to the underworld. Simply playing with a Ouija board can invite these spiritual forces of evil into our lives and even into our bodies. And I dare say that even today's modern day video games may have the same kind of effect if we allow them to.

But it is through the flesh that these kinds of things do their dirty work.. and it's important for Christians today to be well aware of the power that they have, and the tricks that can be played against us... and not only on us... but on our children as well. Suicide is at an all time high among teenagers today in our time, and so is bullying, and social media can make humiliating a teenager all that much more dangerous.

But Paul goes on in verse 4 and he tells us that because God loved us so much... even when we were still sinners.. he sent his only begotten Son.. and it is by the grace of God alone... that we are saved because of his love for us. And notice once again in verse 6.. that it is not only our Messiah that sits in the heavenly places.. but we too also sit with him in the heavenly places.

It's important to remember that we are the brothers and sisters of the Messiah, just as we're told in Hebrews 2:11. And the reason that we are brothers is so that God can through his love for us... show us his the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in the Messiah Yahshua Jesus who once again is not only our Messiah... but also our brother. Lets continue on with Ephesians 2:8-10:

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

Eph 2:9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God

prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Paul clearly tells us that we have been saved by grace through faith. And I want to stop right here for just a moment. To many of our lost denominational brothers and sisters will proudly proclaim that because we are “saved by grace through faith”... that we do not have to keep the laws, commandments, precepts, and appointments of the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob.

To many of our lost denominational brothers and sisters have been wrongly programmed to believe that all of Gods laws are nailed to some tree somewhere and that we're once saved always saved, and that we can live a “Do as thou wilt.. is the whole of the law” kind of lifestyle because we're “saved by grace through faith”.. and you hear it all the time. And the reason that they believe this demonic doctrine is because once again they have eyes that do not see, and ears that do not hear just as our Messiah tells us in Matthew 13:13-15:

Mat 13:13 This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

Mat 13:14 Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: ""You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive."

Mat 13:15 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

They do not understand that “faith” consists of love and love consists of obedience. Our Messiah tells us very clearly in John 14:15.. if you love me... then keep my commandments.. and we know that our Messiah did not come to preach his own word... he came to preach his fathers word just as we're told in John 12:49 and 50, and again in John 7:16.. and it is written in 1st John 5:3... that the love of God.. is that we keep his commandments and his commandments are not burdensome to us. Paul clearly tells us in Romans 3:31 that we do not overthrow the law by our faith... by no means he says... on the contrary.. we uphold the law.. and we know that even Paul himself upheld the law if we would simply read the words of James who was the half brother of Yahshua Jesus himself in Acts 21:24! And this again is a whole study in itself that we're more than happy to explain in detail for those who are unaware of these things. All you have to do is visit us at HolyImpactMinistries.com and view the free teachings that we've shared there for the world to see. It's all free and downloadable for the taking, all you have to invest is your time to study them.

So because Paul says that we are saved by grace through faith... this is not an escape rout from the commandments of God my friends. Because we are saved by grace through faith we have his laws and his commandments written on our hearts just as we're told in Hebrews 10:16-17:

Heb 10:15 And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

Heb 10:16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,"

Heb 10:17 then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

The very reason that Paul clearly tells us that the Israelite's could not keep the law properly is because it was not written on their hearts and in their minds. They did not keep the law by faith... because it was written on their hearts.. they kept the law as though it were based on their works... and those works became burdensome to them because the laws of God really didn't mean anything to them... just as Paul tells us in Romans 9:30-33:

Rom 9:30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith;

Rom 9:31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law.

*Rom 9:32 Why? **Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works.** They have stumbled over the stumbling stone,*

Rom 9:33 as it is written, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

If you're keeping the law because you think that it's just something that you do in order to earn your way into the gates of Heaven you'll never keep the law. Because over a period of time it will become burdensome to you, and you'll always question if it's worth it or not. The evil one will always be able to convince you that the sins of the world are much more pleasurable and fun, and profitable. But if you understand what your Messiah went through... if you truly understand the pain and the agony that he endured.. if you truly get the fact that he laid down his very life in one of the most cruel and grueling ways a man could ever lay down his life... if you understand how he was stripped of his clothes, and how he was humiliated, and mocked, and whipped, and beaten... if you understand the spiritual warfare that we are all in between good and evil... then.. and only then... will you understand that Gods laws are much more important than just things we do to earn our way into Heaven.

Gods laws are the love of God... that he gave us to protect us from sin... Gods laws protect us and our children and our childrens children from the evil one who wants nothing more than to sift us to death and to drag whats left of us and our children into the pit along with him. Gods laws are a protective hedge against the black plague of sin. And because our Messiah who is our brother... laid his life down to show us these things... his fathers laws are now seared into our hearts and into our minds. Gods laws are branded not in tablets of stone that can be broken to pieces... but they are now branded into our hearts and minds... and in our hearts and our minds Gods laws live... and we obey them because... this is the love of God according to his God breathed scriptures, and the very red letter words of his Son Yahshua Hamashiach Jesus the Messiah.

This my friends... is what being saved by grace through faith is all about... and this is what being saved by grace through faith truly means. It does not give us license to do as we choose, and to dance with the Devil in the pail moon light and then decide to be all pious when we walk in the daylight. This my friends... is nothing short of evil... and this deception is only taught by those who are blinded by the wisdom of men, and who still wear the chains and the bondage of sin around their necks and feet. Their fruits produce nothing more than thorns and thickets because even though they cross over land and sea to make one prostitute... one follower... when they do... their followers wind up being two fold children of hell more so than themselves because they too forsake the truth of Gods word, because they too now follow after the wisdom of men rather than the God breathed scriptures that they hold in their very hands.

Be weary when they tell you that being saved by grace through faith means that you are once saved always saved my friends... that is a doctrine of demons who's foundations have been laid by the father of all lies... and the father of all lies is who they unknowingly serve.

And so because we are indeed saved by grace through faith and we keep the laws of God because we love him and not to earn anything.. we can not boast just as Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:9. No one can boast about his works because there is no point system... we do not keep his laws to earn anything... we keep his laws because we love him just as we're told in 1st John 5:3, and just as our Messiah tells us in John 14:15, and just as Paul tells us in Romans 3:31 and in Romans 9:32.. and on and on it goes in scripture after scripture after scripture.

But we must first have the eyes to see... and the ears to hear... and once again that discernment can only come from the Ruach Hakodesh of God and no where else. No man, no Pastor, no Priest, no Bishop, and certainly no Pope can give it to you. It comes directly from the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob and his Son who came to deliver the New Covenant that was in his blood... that was promised by his Father clear back in Jeremiah 31:33. Read it and weep... and let the truth fill you're bones.. and let it make right your flesh... so that you may know the truth, and so that it may ground you right down to your boots. So that you may know that you know that you know it... and then... contend for that faith. Build your house on the Rock, and step out on true faith... not the plastic imitation faith that the world will try to sell us. For we are his workmanship, created in the Messiah Yahshua Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Lets continue on in Ephesians 2:11-16:

*Eph 2:11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—
Eph 2:12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.
Eph 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the*

blood of Christ.

Eph 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

Eph 2:15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,

Eph 2:16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

In verses 11 and 12 Paul speaks to the Gentiles and tells them that they were uncircumcised and separated from God, and that they were alienated from the commonwealth of Israel... and I want us to get this my friends. We as Gentiles were once alienated from the commonwealth of Israel... But what does he say now? Paul says “But now”.. in the Messiah... you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah... because he has made us both one... get that my friends... we are now one... not two....not a replacement of the commonwealth of Israel... but one with the commonwealth of Israel. And he has abolished the law of commandments expressed in ordinances... how did he do that? How did he abolish the law of commandments expressed in ordinances? He abolished the law of commandments expressed in ordinances by writing them in our hearts and in our minds. Gods law of commandments are no longer expressed in written ordinances... they are part and parcel of who we are.. and what we are... because of the love that we have for him, we have become his word.. made flesh. And in this way he has created in himself one new man in place of the Jew and the Gentile making peace between us so that he might reconcile us both to God the Father in one body through his work at the cross thereby killing any hostility between us. And in this way... the Jew is no longer our enemy as Paul tells us in Romans 11:28... because for both Jew and Gentile who truly believe and have faith in the Messiah... we are all brothers in the Messiah.

Think about it this way my friends. Who is our Messiah? Is he not the word made flesh? What is the “word” my friends? The “word” is the law... the commandments, the precepts, and the appointments of God. The “word” is what God says... and what God stands for and what God is all about. Yahshua Jesus his Son was the word made flesh. The moment God had begotten his Son... he became the word made flesh. Why? Because the word of God was written in his heart and in his mind.

And if we are with him... if we are in the Messiah.. then we are in the word, and the word is in us.

Get this my friends... both Jew and Gentile have been reconciled to God in one body through the cross, and because we have been reconciled to God in one body through the cross... there is no more hostility... and this my friends is why today more than ever... in these very end times... we find both Jew and Gentile returning to praise the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob together under one roof... one covenant... one house.... one body... one gospel.... and through one Messiah who is the only Mediator between God and man... the “Man”... Yahshua

Hamashiach Jesus the Messiah.

Let us continue on in Ephesians 2:17-22

Eph 2:17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

Eph 2:18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Eph 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

Eph 2:20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,

Eph 2:21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

Eph 2:22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Once again my friends Paul really binds things together here in these last few verses as he always does. Our Messiah came to preach peace to those who were both far and near... so that no matter what happens on this earth... we might have peace in our hearts and in our beings and in our souls... knowing the promise that we've been given, and the hope that we hold fast to.

Notice in verse 19 Paul tells us that we are no longer strangers and aliens.. but we are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God that was built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets who were all Jews by the way... and part of the "House of Israel".. the same house that we have been grafted into. It's important to remember that God has never called any other people his people.. and he has never called any other nation, or nationality his people. The only people that God has ever called his people anywhere in the 66 books of our modern day Bibles is... the "House of Israel". And the only people that he ever made a covenant with has always been those of the "House of Israel".

It never ceases to amaze me how many of today's denominational charters of men wrongly yet so proudly proclaim... that they are the new church, and Gods new favorite people, who have replaced those old nasty Jews. These modern day denominational churches are all to caught up in their dispensations of time and their replacement theories, and nailing all of Gods laws, commandments, precepts and appointments to some tree somewhere. And because they cross over land and sea to make one proselyte one follower... they make that person a two fold child of hell more so than themselves who follow after the philosophies, doctrines and theologies of men rather than what is written in the very Bibles they hold in their very hands.

I'm often reminded of the words of our Messiah when he told the Pastors, Priest, Bishops and Popish leaders of his time that this people honor him with their lips.. but their hearts are far from him... in vain do they worship him... teaching as doctrines... the commandments of men.

And yet there are still those of us who have come out of these denominational charters of men and their spoon fed man made wisdom only to find that the truth is a far cry from what we find in today's denominational churches. I find it so ironic that here in America where there used to be a church on every corner... one man could come out of a church on one corner believing a totally different gospel than the man who comes out of the church just down the street on the next corner. And yet neither of them having the truth of the Gospel that was delivered to the saints by the Apostles that we find with in the pages of our Bibles.

Our adversary has done and excellent job in confusing Gods people and dividing them into thousands of different denominational dogmas that do nothing but lead them right back into the darkness of the pit that he is destined for.

Paul tells us so clearly in verses 19 and 20 that we are members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. What household of God was built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets?.. The House of Israel... and only the House of Israel... and yet so many of today's denominational charters of men mock the House of Israel and teach and preach that it's all been done away with. How could they be so blind... so deaf of hearing.. so heartless.. to not know that it was out of the House of Israel that their Messiah came? Our Messiah was a Jew who came from the house of David and the tribe of Judah... but you would never know that sitting in their churches pews on the wrong day of the week listening to them preach out of the back half of the book while conveniently programming us not to read the first half of the book because it's all nailed to the cross.

How sad... how wrong... and how wicked. We are indeed members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets my friends... if... and “if” is a very big word my friends... “if” we understand the biblical definition of “faith” and what “faith” is, and what it means to be saved by grace through faith. We must understand that faith without works is dead, and the love of God is that we keep his commandments and his commandments are not burdensome to us because his commandments are part of who we are... they are written on our hearts and in our minds.

Paul... here in the book of Ephesians simply repeats what he always preaches. Being saved by grace through faith does not abolish the laws, commandments, precepts, and appointments of the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob. Being saved by grace through faith establishes the laws, commandments, precepts and appointments of the one true God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob through us because we love him through the obedience of faith that we have been given. And I'll leave you with this last verse that so eloquently puts things into the proper perspective... Romans 3:31:

Rom 3:31 Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.