

**Therefore Remember that
You Were Brought Near by
the Blood of Christ**

Ephesians 2:13-22

August 26, 2007

What Does Paul Want us to Remember?

1. Paul wants us to remember that before we were in Christ, we were utterly hopeless people. (Ephesians 2:11-12)
2. Paul wants us to remember that we have been brought near by the blood of Christ. (Ephesians 2:13-22)

Three Questions:

1. How did Christ bring us near?
2. To what did Christ bring us near?
3. For what did Christ bring us near?

How did Christ bring us near?

13 But now *in Christ Jesus* you who once were far off have been brought near *by the blood of Christ*.

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 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, 16 and might reconcile us both to God *in one body* through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For *through him* we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

To what did Christ bring us near?

1. By shedding his blood and uniting us with himself, Jesus Christ brought us Gentiles near to the Jews.
2. By shedding his blood and uniting us with himself, Jesus Christ brought Jews and Gentiles near to God.

For what did Christ bring us near?

Jesus Christ brought us near to each other and to God to make of us a holy temple and a dwelling place for God so that he might live in us and we might worship him with glad and sincere hearts forever and ever.