

The Wall That God Broke Down

Mid-Acts-ers Still Build All Around

We will begin with a favorite passage of 'mid-Acts-ers' (Eph 2:11-17), one in which they **create** a division. They **BUILD A WALL** oddly, in the very place where Christ **removed** it where He **BROKE DOWN** the wall:

Eph 2:11- Wherefore remember, that ye being **in time past** Gentiles in the **flesh**, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the **flesh** made by hands;
12 That **at that time** (What time? Time past.) ye were **without Christ**, being **aliens** from the commonwealth of Israel, and **strangers** from the covenants of promise, having **no hope**, and **without God** in the world:
13 **But now** in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes **were far off** are made **nigh** by the blood of Christ.

'Mid-Acts-ers' **build a wall** around a section they call **BUT NOW** even though **God broke down the wall**. This is one of their **basic flaws**:

Eph 2:14 For he is our **peace**, who hath **made both one**, (circumcision and uncircumcision) and hath **broken down the middle wall of partition** between us;

It is true that God chose Israel **in time past** to be His peculiar people:

Deut 7:6 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be **a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth**.

God lifted them up. Though they're fallen now, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in (Rom 11:11,25-27), He will raise them again (Isa 60:1-3):

Deut 26:18-19 And the LORD hath **avouched** (appointed, certified, declared) thee this day to be **his peculiar people**, as he hath promised thee, and that thou shouldest keep all his commandments;

19 And **to make thee high above all nations** which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the LORD thy God, as he hath spoken. (also Exo 19:5-6; Deut 4:20; 7:6; 14:21; Psa 135:4; Isa 41:8; 43:1; Jer 10:16; Mal 3:17)

God established His covenant with Abraham and his family who became known as the nation Israel. God commanded that they **mark** their flesh:

Gen 17:10-11 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep,
between me and you and thy seed after thee;
Every man child among you shall be circumcised.
11 And ye shall **circumcise** the flesh of your foreskin;
and it shall be a **token of the covenant** betwixt me and you.

God **built a wall** around Israel and made them separate from all others.

In this passage, Israel's separation had to do with

- their inheritance in the promised land and
- their diet, which made a difference between clean and unclean animals:

Lev 20:24-26 But I have said unto you,
Ye shall **inherit** their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it,
a land that floweth with milk and honey:
I am the LORD your God, which have **separated you from other people**.
25 Ye shall therefore **put difference between clean beasts and unclean**, and between unclean fowls and clean: and ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl, or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground, which **I have separated from you as unclean**.
26 And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have **severed you from other people**, that ye should be mine.

King Solomon prayed and recounted the **division** God made around Israel:

1 Kings 8:53 For thou didst separate them from among all the people of the earth, to be thine inheritance, as thou spakest by the hand of Moses thy servant, when thou broughtest our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord GOD.

The wall of separation was so high, that when Jesus talked to the woman of Samaria, it surprised her (John 4:9) and His disciples (John 4:27), that He even spoke to her. (also see Luke 15:1-7)

After His death and resurrection, Jesus commanded His apostles to go into **ALL the world starting in Jerusalem** as it was for Israel 1st:

Luke 24:44-49 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. (also see Acts 26:22-23)

45 Then opened he their understanding,

that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus **it is written**, (This is **THE gospel** of Jesus' death and resurrection, written many times in the Old Testament prophecy)

and thus it behoved Christ to suffer,

and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached **in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.** (see Acts 20:21)

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. Acts 2:4

Mark 16:15-20 And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;

but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

19 **So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.**

20 And **they went forth, and preached every where**, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Jesus 'spelled out' directions for them in order in detail:

Acts 1:8-9 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem,** (The city of Jerusalem was the hub, the starting point) **and in all Judaea,** (The rural country, out-skirts) **and in Samaria,** (on out, to the half-breeds) **and unto the uttermost part of the earth.** (Everywhere everyone)

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

As Israel resisted the message of Jesus being Christ, crucified and risen, as Stephen was stoned to death in Acts 7, fear among believers was a real threat. But the apostles and the church did not refrain from speaking, teaching, and preaching in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:20, 5:40-42:

Acts 8:1-5 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and **they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.**

2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.

3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.

4 **Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.**

5 Then **Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.**

The apostles sent Peter and John to Samaria, where they preached the gospel (Acts 8:25). Then Philip preached Jesus Christ crucified (from Isaiah 53) to an Ethiopian man (Acts 8:27-35). Saul was saved in Acts 9:

Acts 9:20-22 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; **Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?**

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, **proving that this is very Christ.**

Here is the big kicker to the 'mid-Acts-ers' **God showed PETER 1st -- not Paul --** that there was no difference (Acts 10:9-20). The Jews got mad about Peter talking and eating with Gentiles, so Peter told them his vision:

Acts 11:1-12 And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea **heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.**

2 And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him,

(Acts 11): 3 Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.

4 But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying,

5 I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

6 Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

7 And I heard a voice saying unto me, **Arise, Peter; slay and eat.**

8 But I said, **Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.**

9 But the voice answered me again from heaven,

What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

10 And this was done three times: and all were drawn up again into heaven.

11 And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Caesarea unto me.

12 And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

14 or so years later (Gal 2:1-10), when Paul and Barnabas met with the apostles and elders at Jerusalem, Peter recounted his Acts 10 experience:

Acts 15:6-11 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.

7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that **the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.**

8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;

9 And put **no difference between us and them,**
purifying their hearts by faith.

10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But **we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.**

'Mid-Acts-ers' can ignore it and avoid it and deny it but God broke down the wall in Acts 10:9-20 beginning with PETER -- not Paul.

So when did the wall fall? It fell in Acts 10:9-20, with Peter's vision!

We can 'go to Paul' to plainly read the effects of it, but Peter got it 1st:

Eph 2:14-22 For he is our peace, who hath made **both one**, (Jew and Gentile) and **hath** (past tense ... **HATH already** ... **not just now** doing it) **broken down the middle wall of partition between us;**

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain (2 - Jew and Gentile) **one new man**, so making peace;

16 And that he might reconcile **both** (Jew and Gentile) unto God in **one body** by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off (Gentiles), and to them that were nigh (Jews).

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

19 **Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;**

20 **And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; (also O.T. prophecy)**

21 In whom all the building (the **ENTIRE** household of God - vs. 19) fitly framed **together** (not separated into different programs or groups) groweth unto **an holy temple in the Lord:**

22 In whom ye also are **builded together** for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

'Mid-Acts-ers' really *miss the boat on this one!* **Saints are to be**

separated from UNBELIEVERS -- NOT from other saints:

2 Cor 6:14-18 **Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:** for what fellowship hath **righteousness with unrighteousness?** and what communion hath **light with darkness?**

15 And what concord hath **Christ with Belial?**

or what part hath he that **believeth with an infidel?**

16 And what agreement hath **the temple of God** (saints) with idols (unbelievers)? for **ye are the temple of the living God;** as **God hath said, (in the Old Testament scriptures)** I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

(2 Cor 6):17 Wherefore

**come out from among them (unbelievers),
and be ye separate, (NOT from other BELIEVERS)**

saith the Lord, **and touch not the unclean thing;**
and I will receive you,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters,
saith the Lord Almighty.

We're supposed to divide from the disobedient not from other saints:

Eph 5:6-7 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon **the children of disobedience.**

7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them.

In the context of Israel's history (1 Cor 10:1-16) all the way back starting with Moses, who 'pastored' the 1st church, in the wilderness (Acts 7:37-38), PAUL shows that we are partakers WITH them saints:

1 Cor 10:17 For we being many are one bread, and one body:
for **we are all partakers of that one bread.**

We will partake of Israel's inheritance and promises. We are all one body:

Eph 3:6 **That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:**

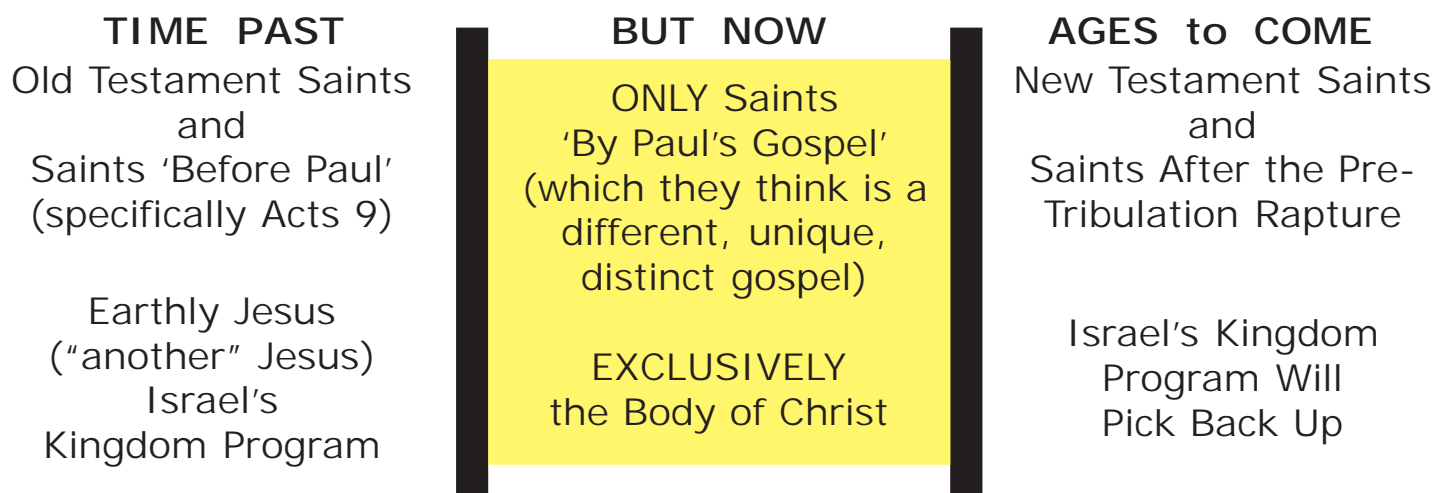
Col 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath **made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints** in light:

Mid-Acts-ers have a message entitled, "When Did the Wall Fall?"

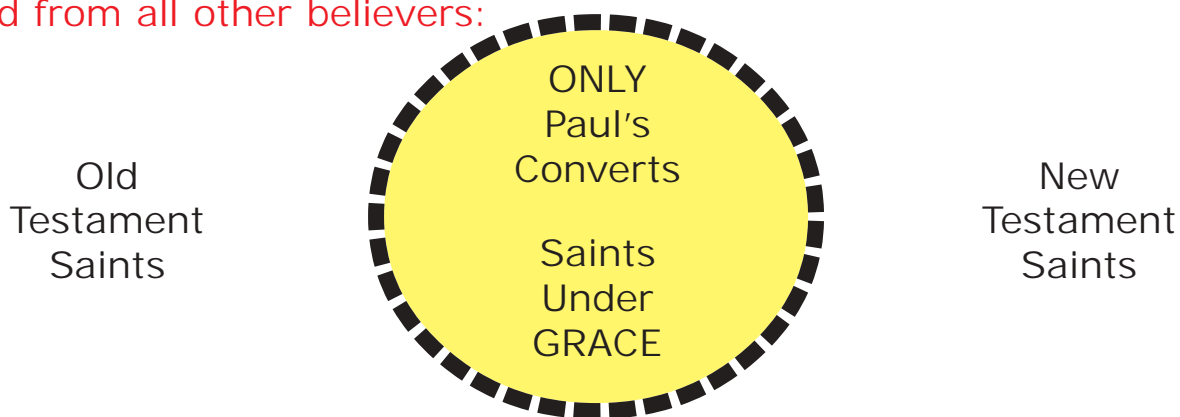
They have a paradigm and they figure, "Since Paul told us in Eph 2:14,
that God broke down the wall then the wall is down

ONLY among believers who are saved through Paul's ministry."

They BUILD walls between Paul's converts and all other saints.



No matter who draws 'the chart' they will always have Paul's group severed from all other believers:



They say saints who were saved **before Paul** (in Acts 9) are **SEPARATED**

- into a **completely different church** and
- in an **entirely different program**

APART FROM saints that are saved by Paul's ministry (or writings).

They also **INVENT** a '**mystery**' **rapture** and think that God is going to snatch away the saints of 'this age' to get us out-of-here to remove 'us saints' off Planet Earth before the 70th week of Daniel begins so 'we saints' won't have to suffer great tribulation like 'them saints.'

Hey, 'mid-Acts-ers' **STOP WRONGLY DIVIDING**
the 'present' SAINTS
from the 'past' saints and the 'future' saints!

Matt 13:49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and **sever the wicked from among the just,**
50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

'Mid-Acts-ers' claim to rightly divide (2 Tim 2:15), but even that verse is in the context of the resurrection in the end time. There is only one end-time.

God's word shows **RIGHT** division:

Matt 25:31-32 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:
32 And before him shall be gathered all nations:
and **he shall separate them one from another,**
as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

'Mid-Acts-ers' need to wake up and look at these verses

and let the scriptures change their minds, so they can truly rightly divide and quit building walls of separation between the saints!

Eph 4:3 Endeavouring to **keep the unity** of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

This is David Dowell, saying, "Think about it!"