

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE LOST

EPHESIANS 2:11-19

Lostness is not measured by how lost a person feels, but by whether he is in Christ.



THE GOSPEL MOVEMENT

FAR - BY HIS BLOOD - NEAR

Christ does not merely point the lost toward home. By His blood He reconciles sinners to God, gives access to the Father, and brings them into His household.

1 THEN: WITHOUT CHRIST

- Alienated from God's covenant people and promises.
- Without saving hope, even when life appears stable.
- Living in God's world without acknowledging Him as God.

2:11-12

2 BUT NOW: MADE NEAR

- The far are made near by the blood of Christ.
- Christ Himself is our peace and reconciles both unto God.
- Through Christ, by one Spirit, we have access to the Father.

2:13-18

3 NO LONGER: HOUSEHOLD

- No more strangers and foreigners.
- Fellowcitizens with the saints.
- Members of God's household, joined to those Christ receives.

2:19

THE QUESTION IS NOT, 'DO I FEEL LOST?' BUT, 'AM I IN CHRIST?'

REMEMBER AND RESPOND

1. What part of Paul's description in verses 11-12 most clearly shows that lostness is relational, not merely behavioral?

2. Why does Paul tell believers to remember what they once were?

3. What does the phrase 'by the blood of Christ' rule out as the basis of our nearness to God?

4. How should belonging to God's household change the way we receive other believers?

THE WORD TO REMEMBER

"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ."

EPHESIANS 2:13

A SIMPLE GOSPEL SUMMARY

Without Christ, we are far off. Through Christ's death and resurrection, God brings believers near. Entrust yourself to Christ; He alone gives access to the Father.