

Ephesians 2:18-22 & 3:1

18. For **through Him** we both have **access** by one **Spirit** to the Father.

Definition: "ACCESS" - "permission, liberty or ability to enter, approach, **communicate with**" - through Jesus, we can **enter God's throne room, approach Him** and **communicate** with Him in **prayer**.

- **Romans 5:1-2** "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have _____ by FAITH in this _____ wherein we stand."
- **John 10:1, 7 & 9** "Most assuredly I say to you, he who does not **enter** the sheepfold by the DOOR, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." (Verse 7) "Then _____ said to them, 'Most assuredly I say to you, **I AM THE DOOR** of the sheep.' (Verse 9) "I am the _____. If anyone enters by _____, he will be _____, and will go in and out and find pasture."
- **John 14:6** "Jesus said to him, 'I am the _____, the _____ and the _____. **No one** comes to (**has access to**) the _____ except through _____.'"
- **Hebrews 4:16** "Let us therefore come _____ to the **throne of grace**, that we may obtain mercy and find _____ to help in time of need."
- **Romans 8:9** "But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed **the _____ of God** dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the _____ **of Christ**, he is not His."

Note: Notice how the Holy Spirit is called both the "Spirit of God" and the "Spirit of Christ" -- this is just one of many scriptures that proves that the Bible teaches **ONE GOD**, yet He exists in **THREE PERSONS**, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (the Trinity). Also, Ephesians 2:18 in itself mentions the three persons of the Godhead: **THROUGH** Him (Christ the SON) we have access **TO** the **FATHER**, **BY** the **SPIRIT**.

19. Now, therefore, you are **no longer** strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and **members** of the **household of God**,

- **I Peter 2:9-10** "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own _____, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of _____ into His marvelous _____; who once were not a people, but now are the _____ of _____."

Romans 9:24-26, 30 "Even us whom He called, not of the _____ only, but also of the Gentiles (non-Jews). As He says also in Hosea, 'I will call them _____, who were not My people, and [call] her _____ who was not beloved.' And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not My people,' they will be called the _____ of the living _____.'"

20. Having been built on the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the **chief cornerstone**,

- **I Corinthians 3:10-11** "For **no other** _____ can anyone lay that which is _____."
- **I Peter 2:6-8** "... Behold, I lay in Zion a chief _____, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." Therefore, to you who _____

He is precious; but to those who are _____, 'The **stone which the builders rejected** has become the chief _____, a **stone of stumbling** and a **rock of _____**.' They stumble, being **disobedient** to the word..."

- **Read Romans 9:31-33** "But Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. Why? Because they did not seek it by _____, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they _____ at that stumbling _____."

Definition: "STONE OF STUMBLING" ___ Putting your **trust in Jesus** to save you and **believing that what He did** on the cross PAID FOR YOUR SINS is so simple that many people "**stumble over it**" or cannot accept it. They want to be able to DO SOMETHING to EARN their own salvation, and they refuse to accept GOD'S WAY of salvation. Some people reject Jesus altogether, but many want to INCLUDE Jesus in **their own system** of work, good deeds and religious ideas. By doing this they are **DISOBEDIENT to God's word**, because God's word says salvation is by **FAITH IN JESUS plus NOTHING ELSE !!**

21-22. In whom the whole **building**, being joined together, grows into a holy **temple** in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a **habitation of God in the Spirit**.

Definition: "HABITATION" A dwelling place, residence

- **I Corinthians 3:9 & 16** "For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's _____." (Verse 16) "Do you not know that you are the _____ of God and that the _____ of God dwells in you?"
- **I Corinthians 6:19** "Or do you not know that your _____ is the **temple** of _____, and you are not your own?"
- **II Corinthians 6:16** "And what agreement has the _____ of God with idols? For you are the _____ of the _____ God. As God has said, 'I will _____ in them and walk among them, I will be their God, and they shall be My _____.'"
- **I Peter 2:5** "You, also, as living stones, are being _____ up [*to be*] a spiritual _____, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through _____."

3:1. For this reason, I, Paul, the **prisoner of Jesus Christ** for you Gentiles ----

- **Acts 21:11-13** "..... he took Paul's belt, bound (tied up) his own hands and feet, and said, "Thus say the _____, 'So shall the Jews at Jerusalem _____ not only to be bound [*in prison*], but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the _____'."
- **Acts 9:15-16** "But the _____ said to him, 'Go, for he (Paul) is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My _____ before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him (Paul) how _____ things he must _____ for My _____.'"