

# Tear Down This Wall

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Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-18

## Introduction:

- The truth never changes. Hebrews 13:8, *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”*
- April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1521 – The Diet of Worms
  - *“Unless I can be instructed and convinced with evidence from the Holy Scriptures or with open, clear and distinct grounds and reasoning—and **my conscience is captive to the Word of God**—then I cannot and will not recant, because it is neither safe nor wise to act against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. So help me God.”*
  - What are the areas in our life where we must take a stand?
- WALLS
  - The Berlin Wall – 1961
  - President Reagan – 1987, *“Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.”*
  - Ephesians 2:11, *So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the un-circumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision” --a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands-- 12 remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.”*
- UNCIRCUMCISION
  - Toxic Pride
  - What areas can toxic pride can build walls of suspicion, separation, disdain, and hostility? Where do personally see walls of hostility?
  - Ephesians 2:13, *“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.14 For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15 He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16 and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. 17 So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.”*
- PEACE
  - Galatians 3:28, *“There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”*
  - Acts 10:36, *“the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.”*
  - How do we bring the peace of God in Christ to our family, our community, and our world? What we do this week to bring peace?