

Ephesians 2:12~ You were at that particular time without Christ, alienated from the state of Israel and strangers to the covenants of the promise, and you had no hope and were without God in the world.¹

Footnote: In the world Greek, *en toi ko'smoi*; J17, 22(Hebrew), *ba·`oh·lam'*

1· When they were in this uncircumcised state before God, they were without Christ, and they were alienated to the state of Israel. Israel's state was one of knowledge of the divine way, but they were then strangers to these glorious covenants and the promise of glory, that of becoming a nation of kings and priests. As such they were without hope, of ever getting out from their sinful nature, and they knew not, the true God Yehowah.

[Question] What state then, were Gentile anointed Christians in, before becoming such, and what were they strangers to completely?

2· While they are in darkness mentally, and alienated from the life, that belongs to God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the insensibility of their hearts. (Ephesians 4:18)

[Question] What state before God are the majority of the people of the world in?

3· Indeed, you who were once alienated and enemies, because your minds were on the works, that were wicked. (Colossians 1:21)

[Question] What was their status before God then, and why?

4· Who, as such, are Israelites, to whom belong the adoption as sons and the glory and the covenants, and the giving of the Law, and the sacred service, and the promises. (Romans 9:4)

[Question] What things were then the rightful possession of the natural Israelites?

5· Moreover, brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who are sleeping in death, that you may not sorrow, just as the rest also do, who have no hope. (1 Thessalonians 4:13)

[Question] How should anointed Christians in the light, view those who have faithfully fallen asleep in death?

- 6· I have let myself be searched for, by those who had not asked for me. I have let myself be found, by those who had not looked for me. I have said, Here I am, here I am! To a nation, that was not calling upon my name. (**Isaiah 65:1**)

[Question] How does the counsel above apply to the Gentile nations and Christianity?

- 7· And Yehowah went on to say to Moses and Aaron; This is the statute of the Passover; No foreigner may eat of it. (**Exodus 12:43**)

[Question] Who was shut out from the Passover observance, unless he did what respecting true religion?

- 8· And your own sisters, Sodom and her dependent towns, will return to their former **state**, and Samaria and her dependent towns will return to their former **state**, and you yourself and your own dependent towns, will return to your former **state**. (**Ezekiel 16:55**)

[Question] What state did Yehowah God promise his people, that they would return to for breaking his covenant?

- 9· But he began by saying to her; First let the children be satisfied, for it is not right to take the bread of the children, and throw it to the little dogs. (**Mark 7:27**)

[Question] How did Jesus Christ illustrate, how the Jews were the possessors of the promise?

- 10· For instance, all those who sinned **without** Law will also perish **without** Law, but all those who sinned under Law will be judged by Law. (**Romans 2:12**)

[Question] What will those who sinned without Law, be judged by, and those under Law?

- 11· Through whom also we have gained our approach by faith into this undeserved kindness, in which we now stand, and let us exult, based on **hope**, of the glory of **God**. (**Romans 5:2**)

[Question] What approach to God have anointed Christians gained towards God, and how should we feel about this blessing?

- 12· It is as he says also in Hosea: Those not my people I will call **my people**, and her who was not beloved, **beloved**.
(**Romans 9:25**)

[Question] What did Yehowah God promise to call her, who was not beloved?

- 13· For just as you were once disobedient to **God**, but have now been shown mercy, because of their disobedience.
(**Romans 11:30**)

[Question] What were Gentile Christians before becoming anointed ones, and why had they been shown mercy?

- 14· You know that when you were people of the nations, you were being led away to those voiceless idols, just as you happened to be led. (**1 Corinthians 12:2**)

[Question] Whom did anointed Gentile Christians serve before becoming Christians?

- 15· We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners from the nations. (**Galatians 2:15**)

[Question] Why did the Jews view themselves as superior to the sinners among the nations?

- 16· Nevertheless, when you did not know **God**, then it was that you slaved for those, who by nature, are not gods.
(**Galatians 4:8**)

[Question] Who did anointed Gentile Christians serve before becoming anointed ones?

- 17· For he is our peace, he who made the two parties one, and destroyed the wall in between, that fenced them off.
(**Ephesians 2:14**)

[Question] Who brings peace between Jews and Gentiles through the spirit, and what fence between them, does he destroy?

- 18· Certainly, therefore, you are no longer **strangers** and alien residents, but you are fellow citizens of the holy ones and are members of the household of **God**. (**Ephesians 2:19**)

[Question] What are anointed Gentiles Christians, now that they have come to know God through his spirit?

