

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

07/11/15 - No "Isms" Needed

RG AUDIO 071115

Ephesians 2:11-18

We have so many "isms" which separate us; racism, sexism, ageism, elitism, and intellectualism are just a few. All humans are great at creating these invisible barriers within our minds and constructing social norms, taboos and etiquettes to divide us from one another. We each have an "ism" we follow.

In our scripture today, Paul is writing to a church divided between those who maintained the Jewish rituals and those who did not. Paul looks beyond Judaism and Paganism and calls for unity. Paul does not point to another "ism" but to a person, Jesus Christ. It is a point we need to consider today. Jesus makes this issue personal; because we must wrestle with the implication of what He did. Are we going to embrace the new humanity Jesus created? Are we going to give our "isms" over to Him? Will we receive the good news that together we can stand before the Father in one Spirit? Or are we going to retreat back behind our invisible barrier holding tightly to our "isms"?

Author: Paul Sheneman