

VI. The People of God (The Epistles)

A. Four Important Questions

1. Who are the people of God?
2. How does the new covenant people of God relate to the Old Testament Law?
3. Has God been faithful to fulfill his promises for Israel?
4. How do we live as new covenant people?

B. A New Humanity: The People of God and 1-2 Thessalonians

1. Gentiles are called the beloved of God (Deut 4:37; 7:8; 10:15; 23:5; 1 Thess 1:4; 2 Thess 2:13-14)
2. Gentiles are the called-out ones of God (Isa 41:9; 42:6; 48:12; 1 Thess 2:12; 4:7; 5:24; 2 Thess 1:11; 2:14)
3. Gentiles are the saints or sanctified ones of God (Lev 20:24, 26; 1 Thess 4:3-5; 5:23; 2 Thess 2:13)
4. Gentiles are the people of the Spirit (Ezek 11:19; 36:25-27; 37:14; 1 Thess 1:5-6; 4:8)
5. Non-Christian Jews are outside of the people of God, while Christian Gentiles are now part of the people of God (1 Thess 2:14-16)