

Ephesians 2:12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and **without God in the world.**

This verse describes the terrible state of the Ephesians. Separated and shut out, absolutely no connection with Christ. But not only the Ephesians every man and woman in Kenya who is not converted to Christ.

A more miserable state cannot be conceived. It's bad enough to be without money, bad enough without health or without a roof over your head, so bad to be lonely and without friends. **But the worst of all these is to be "without Christ."**

We must ask the Question, what does it mean to be '**without Christ**'.

These are not man's words, they were penned by the Holy Spirit. The words used by the Apostle Paul when He was reminding the Ephesian Church their former condition. Their condition before they heard the Gospel. They had been so lost, so ignorant and dark. They were buried by idolatry and worship of the false goddess Diana. But the apostle passes over all this, and uses the expression. "At that time ye were without Christ". **But what does this mean.**

A person without Christ is one who has no real knowledge of Him. **They don't know who Christ is-** I remember asking a man when I lived in Zimbabwe do you know Jesus Christ – yes, he said he works up the road at number 24. **He didn't know The Christ, the Living God.** He didn't know what Christ has done for us. He didn't know the teachings of Christ. He didn't know why Christ was crucified. He was totally ignorant of Him. It's not only the heathen or other religions that are without Christ. There are multitudes who go to Church every Sunday who are not reconciled with Christ. That do not know Him. They do not have eternal life. *John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

What danger those who do not know God are in. It is one of the marks of the wicked that God will take vengeance on, the last day – **THEY THAT DO NOT KNOW GOD.** Those who obey not and reject the Gospel. Punishment awaits

them, shall be eternally cut of from the radiance of Christs face. Forever shut away from Christ. **An unknown Christ is no saviour.**

But this is not the full, or all the meaning, A man without Christ has no heart faith in Him as saviour. There are multitudes who know the bible story, they can tell you Christ was born of the Virgen Mary. Suffered under Pontius Pilate. Was crucified and buried. Maybe they heard it at school or attended a Sunday school when young. **But they make no practical use at all with the knowledge they have of Christ.** They don't really believe it **Their trust is in something else.** They hope to go to heaven because they are morally upright people. They don't steal they don't get drunk. They conduct their affairs with discretion. They even go to church fairly regularly. **But they have no confidence in Christs blood.** They know nothing of Christs intercession. Christ who ever lives and is seated at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us. The father sees his Pierced Hands and pierced feet. The wound on His side where the spear pierced Him. This is Christs intercession He died for us; He suffered in our place. **Those who know nothing of these know not Christ, they are without Christ.**

It's clear there are church goers, who don't believe and have no confidence in Christ. Oh, I'm more than a church goer I have been Baptised. But Baptism may not be proof that we belong to Christ. **Remember Simon of Magus,** He believed and was baptised by Philip Acts 8:13. Yet Simon was clearly told he had no part or lot in the matter. no inheritance or share in such a thing as this, you have no part in eternal life nor are you fit to be a minister of it. Just knowing about Christ is not proof we know Him. The devils know a lot about Christ, but they have no part in Him. **The Question is do we believe in Christ Jesus.** *Think of the warning He that believeth not the Son shall not see life but the wrath of God abideth on Him.* He that believeth not shall be dammed. (John 3:36; Mark 16:16.) To be without Faith in Christ is to be without Christ.

There is another very clear evidence – When the Holy Spirits work cannot be seen that one is without Christ. The question must be asked **what are their hearts affections set upon?** Who do we want to be like and follow and pattern their lives upon? If nothing of Christs fruit, nothing of the fruit of the Spirit can be seen

sadly we must conclude they know not the Holy Spirit and know not Christ. They are “without Christ.”

There are some that say this is too extreme. To say they are without Christ if there is no fruit. That standard is too high! But what does the bible say, *“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*—“He that saith he abideth in Christ, ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.”—“If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.”

It’s not about having done your duty. It’s not about being kind to everybody. It’s not about being faithful to your pastor or church. It’s not about the fact that we **are not nearly as bad** as some people. Some people think this is what will get them to heaven. **But rather it’s a realization we are Lost.** A shame about your sin, a simple childlike faith in the blood of Christ to wash you and cleanse you. **If these truths have no place in our life,** if you have no faith in these truths then sadly you are “without Christ”.

There are people who are so ungodly they live in constant neglect of Gods ways. In the day and age this book was written, Neglect of keeping the Lords Day was common. They think nothing of doing the things that God has clearly forbidden. They constantly live in ways that are opposed to Gods commandments. **In today’s age in our country** people say they are Christians but are dishonest in their business. Or there is no kindness or respect shown for a neighbour, they just let their chickens out into your shamba to eat all your garden. They don’t care show no concern, or respect for their fellow man. **When you look at their lives you see no Love,** no patience, no joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, **These are the fruits of the Spirit. The evidence of the Spirit.** Does this kind of wron ungodly behavior end in SALVATION? No never. They are without the Holy Spirit and “without Christ.”

These statements have been hard. But we must realise they are in the Scripture and should not be neglected. They ought to be made known. They ought to be clearly explained. **While we do show forth the loving Kindness of the Gospel,** we can’t neglect and be found deceitfully handling Gods word. We dare not be

silent about them if they are in God's word. The person who does not know, **has no desire to know** is the man or woman "without Christ."

Let's look at what is the condition of a man or a woman without Christ. It's not a light thing. No one can say, oh well I'm without Christ it's not so serious. There is not much harm that will come to me.

To be without Christ is to be without God. Christ is my mediator, **He is the only way to God.** I was an enemy of God and Christ made peace by His blood. Don't be misled in to saying I don't need Christ God is merciful. Forget not that God without Christ is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12 :29

Yes, God is merciful He is rich in Mercy. But His mercy is connected with the mediation of His son Jesus Christ. Mercy only flows through the appointed channel of Jesus Christ, or it doesn't flow at all. It is written "**Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him..**"—"I am the way, the truth, and the life: No man cometh unto the Father but by Me." (John 5:23; 14:6.) "Without Christ" we are without God.

Without Christ we are without peace. There is only one way we can have peace, and that is the blood of Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.*

Without Christ we have the opposite of Peace we are enemies we are at war.

Colossians 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Without Christ we have no PEACE

Without Christ we are without HOPE. Many people claim to be hopeful. But their hope has no real roots. **Few people know how to give a reason for the hope that is in them.** How few can describe it or explain it. For so many it's a vague feeling which cannot stand up even in the day of bad news or sickness and will never stand on the day of death. **There is only one Hope which is built upon Christ the Solid Rock that will stand true** - A hope in Christ the Redeemer.

There is no other foundation man can lay. **Scripture says -** *For other foundation*

can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1Cor 3:11. He that builds upon this foundation will never be put to shame. **All other hopes apart from Jesus Christ are worthless.** They will fail when we need them most. **Other hopes look quite good when all is well, but just let the wind begin to blow, just let the crashing waves arise.** Whatever our hope is in besides the Lord Jesus will fail and sink beneath the waves on the day of testing. **Without Christ there is no hope in this world.**

To be without Christ is to be without heaven. It's not only without Christ you will be granted no entrance to heaven. **A man without Christ could never be happy there,** a man without Christ would **never feel at home in heaven.**

He would feel He had no right to be there He would have no boldness and confidence or ease of heart. In the very presence of the Holy angels under the eyes of the pure and holy God Without Christ he would feel ashamed. **Every description of heaven we read in the bible contains the presence of Christ.** When we one day all meet in heaven There is the marriage supper of the Lamb. Christ the Lamb of God is Jesus is who makes heaven, heaven. **The man or woman without Christ finds no enjoyment in Church for just one or 2 days a week.** How will the one without Christ love heaven forever if they can't love Church on earth. No to be without Christ is to be without heaven.

We can say to be without Christ is to be without life without everything. ... *since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. Acts 17:25.* Without Christ we are without strength, without safety without foundation, without a friend in heaven and without righteousness. **There is no one as bad off as the one without Christ.**

What the Ark was to Noah - what the Passover lamb was to Israel in Egypt, what the manna was, the brazen serpent, the pillar of Cloud, the pillar of fire the scape goat in the wilderness. **Is what the Lord Jesus is to man's soul.** There are no one so hopeless and lost as those who are without Christ.

What **the root** does for the **branches**, what **air** does to our **lungs**. What **food and water** do for our **bodies**. What the **Sun** does for all of creation **All this and**

much more does Christ do for us. None is so helpless and pitiful as those without Christ.

If there was no Eternity, no Judgement then all this message would be a waste of time. But every person knows deep down there is a day of recorking. They know there is a judgement day coming. **So, this topic is no light matter** no small insignificant thing. **It demands the attention of every person to examine themselves and find out their own condition. Are you without Christ?** Is the question. A day will soon come when eating and drinking and enjoying yourself and spending money will come to an end. There will come a day when people will only speak of you as dead and gone. **Where will we be then, if we have lived and died without Christ?** Remember it is better a million times over to be **without money or health or friends than to be without Christ.**

If we have lived without Him up until now. I ask you change your mind now, change your direction now. Seek the Lord while He may be found Call upon Him while He is near. He is seated at the right hand of God Able to save even the worst sinner. Do not be ashamed to Come unto Him. Believe the Gospel and Repent of your sins. **It will be the happiest day you have ever had.**

If you are already Christs own. Be thankful for all He has done, Thankful for your eternal Home in heaven, thankful you have a friend who never dies but lives forever. Just a few more years and the sun will set on all family gatherings. **What a Comfort, how thankful we are that we have Christ who we can never lose.**

Oh, Believer awake to the plight and eternal misery and suffering of those without Christ. We are often reminded of those without food. Or clothing yes let us pity them and help them. But let us never forget, **it is far worse to be without Christ.**

Let us feel for them. Let us pray for them. Let us strive to present the Gospel to them. Let us leave no stone unturned in our efforts to bring them to Christ.

We have neighbours without Christ. Let's labour in every way for their souls salvation. The night comes when no man can work.

But Happy are we who know we are in Christ, Happy and full of peace and safety.
But never forget the terrible plight of those on the brink of destruction who are
without Christ.

Amen.