

JOEL LESSON 19

The Uses of “Two” in the Bible to Describe the One Church

We see that in **Ephesians 2:15** with **Jew and Gentile** — “by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man **in place of the two**, so making peace.”

We see that in **Revelation** hold, **the dwelling place** them, and they will be his their God.”

We see that in **1 Peter 2:9** with the combination of **royalty and the priesthood** — “But you are a chosen race, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation, a people for his own possession.”

We see that in **Zechariah 6:13** with **the royal crown placed on the head of the high priest** — “It is he who shall build the temple of the LORD and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be **between them both**.”

We see that in **Galatians 4:24** regarding the relationship between **spiritual Jerusalem and physical Jerusalem** — “Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are **two covenants**. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar.”

We see that in **Hebrews 8:8** with **the reunification of the divided kingdom** in the church — “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with **the house of Israel and with the house of Judah**.”

We see that figuratively with the number 144,000 (12 times 12 times 1000) used in **Revelation 7:4** to depict God’s faithful people, first **under the old covenant** (depicted by the number 12) and **then under the new covenant** (also depicted by the number 12)

21:3 with **God and man** — “**Be- of God is with man**. He will dwell with people, and God himself will be with them as

— “And I heard the number of the sealed, **144,000**, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel.”

We see that in **Ephesians 2:20** with the **foundation of the church** — “built on the foundation of **the apostles and prophets**.”

We see that in **Zechariah 4:11-14** with **prophetic descriptions of the church** — “**two olive trees**,” “**two golden pipes**,” and “the **two anointed ones**.”

We see that in **Revelation 11:3-4** with **similar descriptions of the church** — “And I will grant authority to my **two witness- es**, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the **two olive trees** and the **two lampstands** that stand before the Lord of the earth.”

We see that in **Hebrews 9:28** with the church on earth positioned between the **two appearances of Christ** — “so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a **second time**, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

We see that in **Revelation 21:1** with the victory of the church described as **a new heaven and a new earth** — “Then I saw a **new heav- en and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.”

We see that in **Reve- lation 21:9** with the church described as **the bride of the Lamb** — “Come, I will show you **the Bride, the wife of the Lamb**.”