

## THE PANIC OF SEPARATION!

**...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. Ephesians 2:12 (ESV)**

I remember this well. I was 5 or 6, at the National T grocery store. I was with my mom, I got separated from her somehow. At first, I wasn't worried, but then, as I looked down each of the aisles, I could not find her anywhere. I was separated from the person who loved me the most! And of course, you always think the worst: Mom left me on purpose, she doesn't love me anymore, what did I do wrong?

After 4-5 minutes, she finally found me, I was in tears, shaking uncontrollably. "Mom, why did you leave me?" Of course, I blamed it on her, there was no way it could be my fault (we are so selfish, aren't we?).

She gave me the biggest hug of my life, we had a "talk". My confidence is back, she loves me again, all is well with the world.

Has that ever happened to you? It has! It happened when you were born, you were born blind, dead and an enemy of God. And then for most of you, this was rectified in baptism. We were once separated from Christ; this verse says we were "alienated" .... we were "strangers, having no hope".

But in His time, this separation ended. How often we drift away from Him, and we don't even know it. And then, total panic sets in, we are all alone, we search down the aisles of our life in a panic. Where did He go?

And then we realize, He was there the entire time. He gives us that hug that we so desperately needed; we are brought back into the fold. The next time this happens (and it will), remember that He is always there, we are never separated from Him, all because He loves us.

***Prayer:*** Dear God, thank you for bringing me back into the fold, let me remember that You are always there. Amen.

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