

Bible Study: Ephesians

Chapter 1

Salutation,

Vs. 1

- a. What is Paul's office? An Apostle
- b. By whose will is an apostle? God's
- c. To whom is he writing? The saints in Ephesus

Vs. 2 What is Paul's blessings for, grace and peace;  
who is it from? God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ

Chosen by the Father

Vs. 3 What are the two parts of the continued blessing

- a. Blessed be the God and Father or our Lord Jesus Christ
- b. blessed us in every spiritual blessing

Vs. 4 When did God choose us? Before the foundation of the world (creation)

Vs. 5/6 Predestination

- a. as adopted sons (children)
- b. according to the good pleasure of His will
- c. by Jesus Christ
- d. He made us accepted in the Beloved (Christ)

Redeemed by the Son

Vs. 7. In Him we have redemption

- a. through His blood
- b. which gives us forgiveness of sins
- c. by His grace

Vs. 8 How does His redemption come to us? He made to abound toward us in wisdom and understanding

Vs. 9 What are your ideas of the mystery of His will?

v. 10 What will happen in the fullness of times? He gathers together in one all things in Christ

Vs. 11/12 According to these verses how does predestination work? The purpose of Him who works all things according to His will; that we who trust Christ should be to the praise of His glory

Sealed by the Spirit

Vs. 13/14 How does the Spirit seal us in Christ?

a. heard the Word of truth; the Gospel

b. having believed

note: the Trinitarian definition of God

Paul's prayers

Vs 15/16 What kind of prayer is mentioned? Prayer of thanksgiving / intercession

Vs 17 What is next in his prayer? That God give the spirit of wisdom and revelation

Vs 18 What does it mean to have the eyes of our understanding opened? To know the hope of His calling you and the riches of the glory of your inheritance

Vs 19-21 What is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us? Raising Christ and giving Him the seat at His right hand in heaven

Vs 22/23 What position has the Father given to Christ? Christ is Head over all things and has given all things to the Church which is Christ's body which is the fullness of Himself

## Chapter 2

Our Old Condition Vs. 1-3 (I am using my New King James for this section, it may not be like your Bible)

“Any you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.”

Vs. 1 before He made us alive what were we? Dead in trespasses and sins

Vs. 2 what was our course; way of the world and who was helping us; the devil

Vs. 3. What was our conduct; the lusts of our flesh And our nature; children of wrath

Our New Condition vs. 4-10

Vs. 4 What is God? Rich in mercy and great in love

Vs. 5 What did He do when we were dead? Made us alive together with Christ

Vs. 6 Then where did He put us? Heavenly places in Christ

Vs. 7 What will He show us? The exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ

Vs. 8-9 (our Lutheran teaching of salvation)

1. by grace
2. through faith
3. not of yourselves
4. it is a gift of God
5. not of works
6. lest anyone
7. should boast

Vs. 10 What is the purpose of God's workmanship in us? Good works

Vs. 11-22 is a teaching on what God has done for both the Jews and the non-Jews through Christ

Write down Paul's pattern of process in verses: 11-13, 14-16, 17-18, 19-22

Vs. 11-13: Gentiles were not of the circumcision covenant of Israel therefore were aliens from the covenant having no hope and without God, are now brought near (into a right relationship with God) by the blood of Christ.

Vs. 14-16: Christ is our peace, making both Israel and Gentiles one by breaking down the wall that separated the two i.e. the law of the commandments given to Israel and no law for Gentiles, through Christ's shed blood reconciling both before God bringing peace.

Vs. 17-18: Christ came preaching peace to both giving us access to God our Father by the Holy Spirit.

Vs. 19-22: In Christ both Israel and Gentiles are one as members of the household of God being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ being the cornerstone upon which we are built.

## Chapter 3

### Vs. 1-7

- a. vs. 1 What is Paul's situation at the time? A prisoner for Christ Jesus
- b. vs. 2 God's grace is given to Paul to be given to who? To us
- c. vs. 3 How did Paul come to know the mystery? By revelation
- d. vs. 4 What does Paul's knowledge contain? The mystery of Christ
- e. vs. 5 When was this not known? Ages past But now is: revealed by the Holy Spirit
- f. vs. 6 Who should be fellow heirs and partakers of God's promise in Christ? Gentiles
- g. vs. 7 to do this what is Paul's job? A minister

Vs. 8 What is Paul's self description? Less than the least of the saints

### Vs. 9-13

- a. vs. 9 From when did God hide the mystery? The beginning of time
- b. vs. 10 By whom is the wisdom of God to be made known and to who? The Church, principalities and powers
- c. vs. 11 For what reason is it to be made known? The eternal purpose
- d. vs. 12 In Christ what do we have? Boldness and access with confidence
- e. vs. 13 Even though Paul is in tribulations, what are not to do? Lose heart

Vs. 14-21 Paul's prayer for realization and understanding of what it is to be a believer.

- a. vs. 14-16 For what purpose does Paul bow his knees to God? That He would grant you to be (spiritually) strengthened in the inner man
- b. vs. 17-19 To what end should Christ dwell in our hearts through faith? That we might be rooted and grounded in love to comprehend with all the saints to know the fullness of the love of Christ, to be filled with the fullness of God
- e. vs. 20-21 How much does God do? Exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think To what end? To His glory in the Church For how long? To all generations

## Chapter 4

### 1. vs. 1-3 Paul pressing for unity

- a. How are we to walk worth our call of faith?
  1. lowliness
  2. gentleness
  3. longsuffering
  4. bearing with one another
- b. What are we to keep? The unity of the Holy Spirit
- c. What are we to make? A bond of peace

### 2. vs. 4-6 An explanation of unity

It is oneness in:

1. body
2. Spirit
3. hope
4. Lord
5. faith
6. Baptism
7. one God and Father

### 3. vs. 7-11 God's gifts as a means of unity

- a. vs. 7 How are they given? By grace
- b. vs. 8 What is the first step? He led captivity captive – put Satan in chains
- c. vs. 9 What is the second step? Christ descended to earth and through His death and resurrection defeated Satan then ascended again to heaven. As part of His death He descended into hell and proclaimed His victory over the devil and those there.
- d. vs. 10 What does He do? Fills all things
- e. vs. 11 What specific gifts did He give? Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers



- i. vs. 28 why work; to give to him who had need
- j. vs. 29 why speak decently; to impart grace to the hearers
- k. vs. 30 who are we not to grieve; the Holy Spirit
- l. vs. 31 what are we to put away 1. bitterness 2. wrath 3. Anger 4. clamor 5. evil speaking
- m. vs. 32 be: 1. Be kind 2. tenderhearted 3. Forgiving  
Even as; god in Christ forgave you

## Chapter 5

1. vs. 1-12 continuation of 'put on the new man'
  - a. be imitators of God
  - b. walk in the same love that Christ has for us
  - c. vs. 3-7 a list of sins to watch out for
  - d. fruits of the Spirit
2. vs. 13-17 walk as children of light
  - a. walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise
  - b. redeeming the time – the days are evil – understand the what the will of the Lord is
3. vs. 22-33 pre-marriage lesson for bride and groom in connection to Christ and His Church
  - a. wives, submit to your own husbands; this does not mean being a doormat, rather work with your husband relationally as God has established the marriage to be with the husband as the head of the house.
  - b. husbands, love your wives just as much as Christ loves the Church – that means you are to step in front of the bus for her and love your wife just as much as you love yourself, you have no authority to be domineering over your wife, you are to treat her as the one you love more than anyone or anything in your life, she is your partner in life.  
  
note: husbands and wives above all things remember you are married to each other
  - c. Christ and His Church, He loves the Church so much He gave Himself for it that He might make it as the holy place it is supposed to be, sanctify it be so doing He made it so He can present it to Himself like Himself – holy, glorious, without spot or wrinkle, without blemish.
  - d. vs. 26-27 Baptismal lesson, Baptism is the act through which Christ cleanses and sanctifies us, the Church (which is people) so that He sees us as pure, holy and without blemish

## Chapter 6

### 1. Obey Your Parents vs. 1-4

- a. Paul moves from marriage to;
- b. How should children obey their parents?
- c. What makes the fourth Commandment so special?
- d. What is the warning to fathers?

### 2. Service on the job vs. 5-9

- a. What is Paul's advice to bondservants?
- b. How should employees/bondservants think of their employers/masters?
- c. What is the advice to employers/masters?
- d. What do we learn about the treatment we receive from our Master in heaven?

### 3. Put on the Armor of God vs. 10-18

- a. In the end who is our enemy?
- b. What are the wiles of the devil?
- c. The parts of the armor;
  1. What encircles the Christian in battle?
  2. What piece of armor covers the vital organs, especially the heart, with the righteousness of Christ?
  3. Which part enables us to stand and fight with the gift of Christ and makes us able to move forward in the battle?
  4. Which part makes us able to quench all the fiery darts for the wicked one?
  5. What protects your head from attack and distraction of the blows of doubt and fear of salvation?
  6. There is a great cover of defense but what part of the armor is the tool of offense?
  7. We have an outside piece of armor which we use to bring the aid and help of God?

### 4. conclusion vs. 21-24

- a. Paul is desirous that the Ephesians learn about what is going on in his life so who is he sending to inform them?
- b. besides basic info what is also to do for the people?
- c. What does Paul desire for the people?
- d. What is his desire for all who love our Lord Christ?