Unity in Love



Ephesians

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Unity

Ephesians

175

Theme

Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love

Ephesians

23

Key Verse

"As a prisoner for the Lord, then I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (4:1-3).



Summary Statement

The way to unity for believing Jews and Gentiles is to see their equality and love one another as a witness to the world



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Kingdom Statement

Christ will be the ruler of both heaven and earth in a yet future age (1:9-10) that Revelation 20:1-6 reveals to be 1000 years.



27 c

Covenant

Christ abolished "in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations" (2:15), so Christ's death did away with the Mosaic Law (cf. Rom. 7:7).



Redemption

The clearest NT text that teaches the church age as a dispensation (3:2-6) shows that salvation makes Jews and Gentiles equal in one body, the Church (2:14, 19).

Ephesians

27c

Prophecy (Lord, Deity)

Christ can do more than any of us can imagine (3:20) in the most complete description of demons in all of Paul's writings (2:2; 6:11-16) through the person and work of the Holy Spirit (1:13-14; 2:18; 3:5, 16; 4:3-4, 30; 5:18; 6:17-18).

Ephesians

27c

Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love 175								
Love as Equals				Love as Testimony				
Chapters 1–3				Chapters 4–6				
Doctrine			ians	A	oplicatio	n		
Position Ephe			sians Application Practice					
Belief				Behaviour				
Privileges				Responsibilities				
Salutation	Position	Reconcil- iation	Unique- ness	Unity	Holiness	Submission	Reliance	Love
1:1-2	1:3-23	2	3	4:1-16	4:17–5:20	5:21–6:9	6:10-20	6:21- 24
Rome								
Fall AD 60 (first Roman imprisonment)								

- **1** Calling of the church
- **2** Heavenly position for individuals
- **3 Understanding of the mystery**
- **4 Reasons for spiritual gifts**
- **5 Christ's example for marriage**
- 6 Help in spiritual warfare

EPHESIANS



Barry Huddleston, The Acrostic Bible

Ephesians

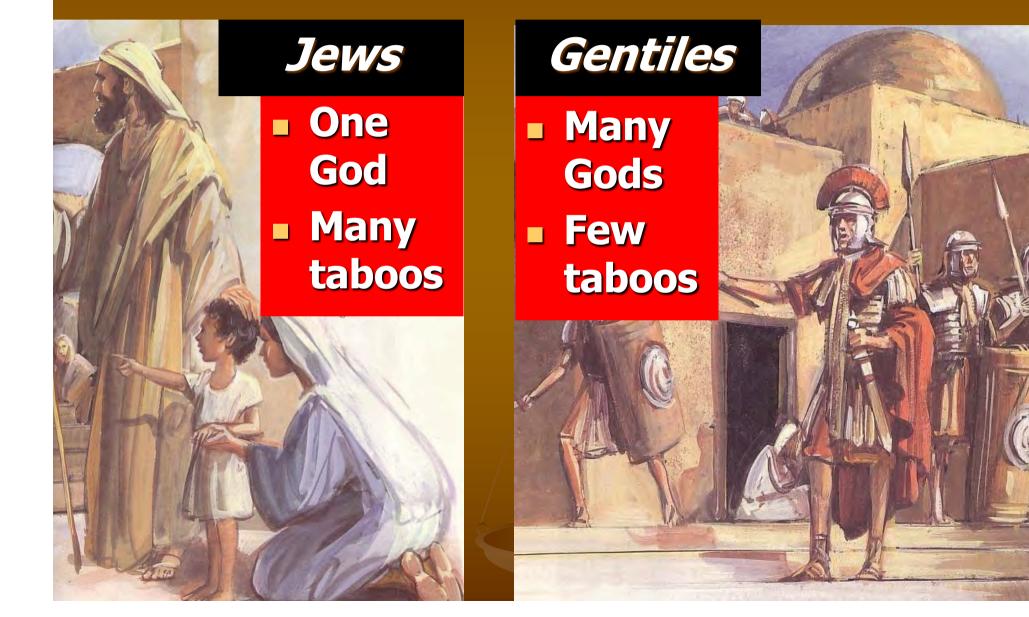
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How can our church be united despite our many different kinds of people?



Sometimes Christians mistreat others of a different ethnic group



How to be united...



Eph 1–3

How to be united...

Love the Church Love God

Eph 4–6

How to be united...

Love the Nations

Love the Church

Love God

Ephesians

Love God, love the church as equals, and love the nations



Main Idea of Ephesians

Think about it.



Do you really act like you are equal with other members of the body of Christ?

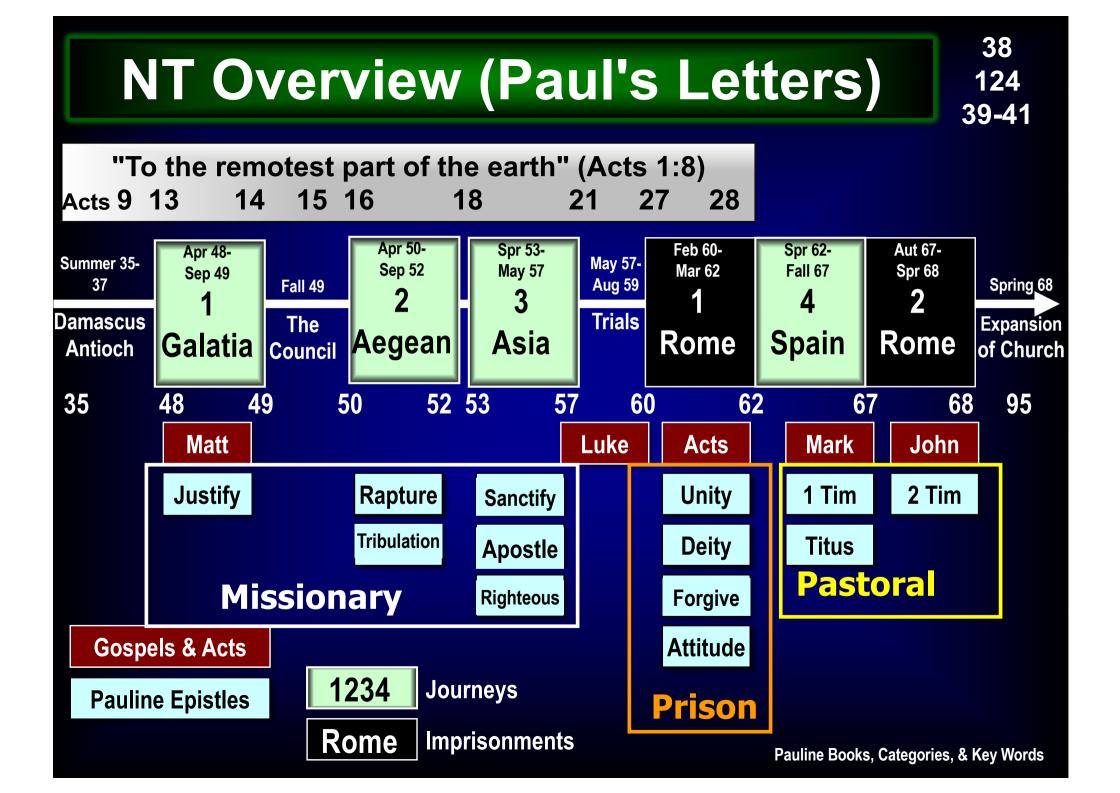
- Maids?
- Former Muslims (Malays)?
- Believers in Prison?
- Poor churches of India, Myanmar, Bangladesh, etc.?
 How do you show your unity with believers different from you?

Applying Ephesians

Introducing the "Prison Epistles"



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Which letters are Prison Epistles?

Ephesians
Colossians
Philemon
Philippians



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Why call them "Prison Epistles"?

They refer to Paul's bonds (cf. Acts 28:16):

- Eph. 3:1; 4:1; 6:20
- Col. 4:3, 18
- Philem. 1, 9, 10
- Phil. 1:13-14

Who carried these letters?

1. Tychicus

- He carried the Ephesian and Colossian epistles (Eph. 6:21; Col. 4:7)
- He was accompanied by Onesimus (Col. 4:9)

2. Onesimus

- A slave to Philemon from Colossae
- He probably carried the Epistle to Philemon when he returned to his master, though it is not specifically mentioned (Philem. 12)
- 3. Epaphroditus
 - A man from Philippi, he carried the Philippian letter back to his people (Phil. 2:25, 28)

What was Paul's attitude?

- In Philemon, Paul was hopeful (ἐλπίζω = hope) that he would be released (Philemon 22)
- In Philippians, Paul was confident (οἶδα know) that he would be released (Phil. 1:25; 2:24)

Order & Setting

- Written on 2-3 separate occasions
- Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon are written around the same time (likely AD 60-61)
- Philippians is written later (probably AD 62)

Occasion for Prison Epistles

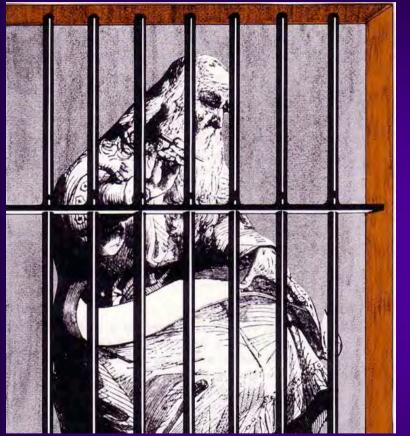
- Paul was imprisoned in Rome and Epaphras was with him
- He first wrote a general circular letter for Gentile churches in Asia Minor (Ephesians)
- Onesimus, a runaway slave, later joined them
- Paul received news of a crisis in the Colossian church (heresy)
- He sent Tychicus with a letter to address the Colossian problems
- He also sent Onesimus with Tychicus with a letter to Philemon

Some months later (AD 62)...

- Paul was still in prison
- The Philippian church sent Epaphroditus to minister to Paul
- Paul found out from him problems in Philippian church: external opposition (3:17f.) and internal disunity (4:2)
- Epaphroditus became very sick (Phil. 2:26)
- Paul sent him back with a letter to address problems of the Philippians

The Prison Epistles





Ephesians Colossians Philemon Philippians

Critique this picture...

□ Paul typically had a scribe write (Rom 16:22)
 □ Paul was under house arrest (Acts 28:30-31)
 □ Paul was chained to a guard (Acts 28:16)
 □ Paul was ≤60 years old (not 80 like this man!)

GO TO JAIL

for Pakistan's ex-PM Nawaz Sharif, found guilty of terrorism • Page 2

for church deacon who rented flat to illegals • Page 4 2 MONTHS for tycoon who evaded tax • Page 3 Sometimes Christians are Treated Unfairly

- 1. Paul was—and ended up under house arrest in Rome
 - Note that a deacon appears with a terrorist & tax cheat



ite which he alanced a

Mandatory penalty means deacon can't be spared jail even though he rented flat to illegal immigrants unwittingly fenders were arrested. Seow, who has three children, was convicted in November of harbouring them and sentenced to seven months' jail. In appealing against both

Prison Epistle Christology

201a



	Christ as	Focus	Explanation
Ephesians	Head	Unity of Christ	Christ breaks down barriers between believers
Philippians	Example	Attitude of Christ	Christ models how to handle difficulty
Colossians	God	Deity of Christ	Christ is superior to human philosophies
Philemon	Reconciler	Forgiveness of Christ	Christ reconciles believers to God and one another

Applying the Prison Epistles

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1			
Epistle	1st Century Problem	21st Century Problem	Solution (Theme)
Ephesians	Jew-Gentile Conflicts ("Weism")	Chinese Only Baptist Only Adults Only	Realize Christian Unity (4:3)
Philippians	Persecution Prison Death	Ministry Inconvenience - time, sleep - recreation	Imitate Christ's Attitude (2:5)
Colossians	Denying Christ's Deity	New Age Cults	Proclaim His Deity (2:9)
Philemon	Master/Slave ("Meism")	Forgive Boss / Employee / Others	Reconcile the Relationship (vv. 17-18)

How Do You Respond to Trials? 201					
You say	Strategy	Temperament	Epistle		
"I'm right!"	Push through	Choleric	Ephesians		
"Why me?"	Depression	Melancholy	Philippians		
"I'll just get through"	Compromise	Sanguine	Colossians		
"It'll pass"	Ignore it	Phlegmatic	Philemon		

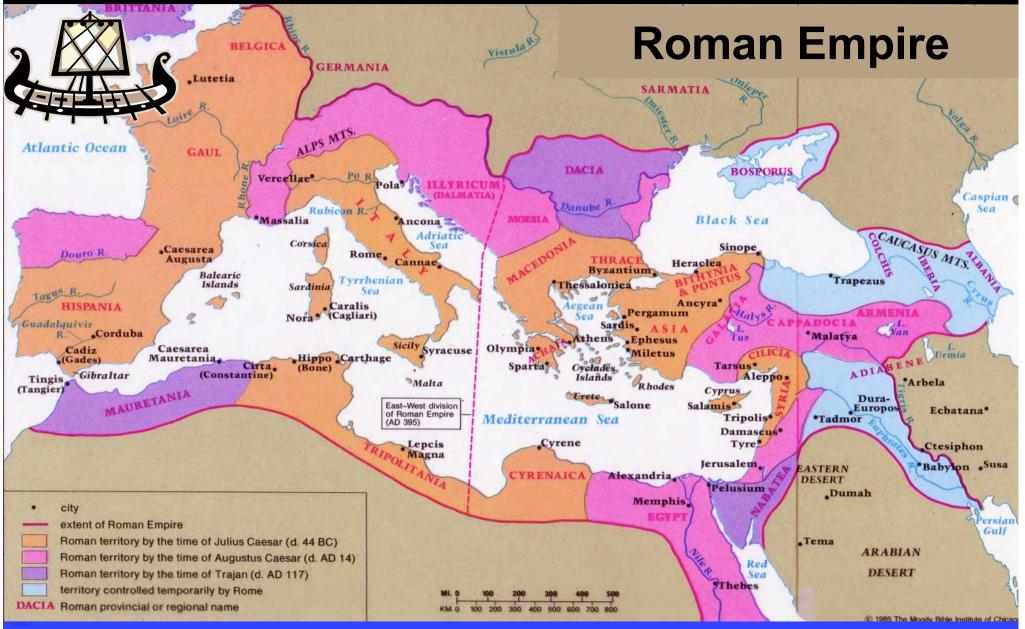


CITY OF EPHESUS BACKGROUND OUTLINE SCRIPTURE IN SONG CHAPTERS 1–3 CHAPTERS 4–6 CONCLUSION

Location Places of Interest



Roman Territories (50 BC-AD 100)



Beitzel, 1st edition, 166



Place & Date



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Paul's 1st & 2nd Missionary Journeys 138-39





180d

Ephesus Notables

- Recognized as the "first" city of Asia.
- Commerce, one of the leaders of international trade⁴
- Arts and Sciences, a haven for philosophers, poets, artists and orators.
- Religion = worship of Diana

Recipients

- The church of Ephesus is noted in 1:1.
- Others say it is to a circuit of unspecified churches. Some important manuscripts omit the phrase "at Ephesus." This epistle as a whole lacks the usual Pauline personal greetings and so appears to be a circular letter.
- Perhaps it's a combination of both views.



CITY OF EPHESUS BACKGROUND Authorship Date OUTLINE **Key People** SCRIPTURE IN SONG Audience **Features** CHAPTERS 1–3 Purpose CHAPTERS 4–6 CONCLUSION

Authorship Date Key People Audience

PaulPrison Epistle (A.D. 60)Tychicus from Ephesus

Authorship

External Evidence:

- The early church unanimously agreed with Pauline authorship.
- Dispute from Erasmus (16th cent.) and radical German schools (19th cent.) make it the most disputed Pauline epistle today.

Internal Evidence:

- Paul identified as the author in 1:1 and 3:1.
- The style and content is consistent with Pauline authorship.



Characteristics

- A. <u>Purpose</u>: Variously defined
- B. Demonology & Spirit emphasized
- C. Prayers
- D. Ephesians has the longest sentence of any NT writing and 8 lengthy sentences total (<u>1:3-14</u>, 15-23; 2:1-7; 3:1-13, 14-19; 4:1-7, 11-16; 6:17-18)

E. Of all NT writings, Ephesians gives the fullest explanation of the unity between Jews and Gentiles

Characteristics

189-190

These twin epistles can be compared and contrasted in many ways:

Ephesians	Colossians		
Similarities:			
Written in prison, carried by Tychicus	Written in prison, carried by Tychicus		
Stresses wisdom, knowledge, fullness, & mystery	Stresses wisdom, knowledge, fullness, & mystery		
First half—position Second half—practice	First half—position Second half—practice		
Similar passages:	Similar passages:		
"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins" (1:7) "to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ" (1:10)	 "in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (1:14) "and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross" (1:20) 		

Characteristics

189-190

Ephesians	Colossians	
Similar passages	Similar passages	
1:15-17	1:3-4	
1:18	1:27	
1:19-20	2:12	
1:21-23	1:16-19	
5:22-24 (wives)	3:18 (wives)	
5:25-33 (husbands)	3:19 (husbands)	
6:1-3 (children)	3:20 (children)	
6:4 (fathers)	3:21 (fathers)	
6:5-8 (slaves)	3:22-25 (slaves)	
6:9 (masters)	4:1 (masters)	

Ephesians v. Colossians 18		189-190
Ephesians	Colossians	
Differences		
Emphasizes the Church as the Body of Christ	Emphasizes Christ as the Head of the body	
General, universal	Specific, local	
Peaceful, calm	Polemic, concern	
Reflective, quiet	Spiritual conflict	

Metaphors for the Church

Body
Temple
Mystery
New Man
Bride
Soldier

Problems in Ephesus

Not anticipating heaven
Unsure of forgiveness

- •Succumbing to sin
- Ethnic conflicts
- Same as society
- Attitudes to roles

Purpose in Writing

letter of encouragement
things we have received
God's purpose and plan
one Body in Christ
living in harmony

Purpose

The basic need for the young Christians there was to grow spiritually by:

 an increasing awareness of their relationship to Him and their new standing in Christ as equal heirs with Jewish Christians (1–3)

 the day-to-day experience of walking in that light by showing their unity in love (4–6)

Ephesians

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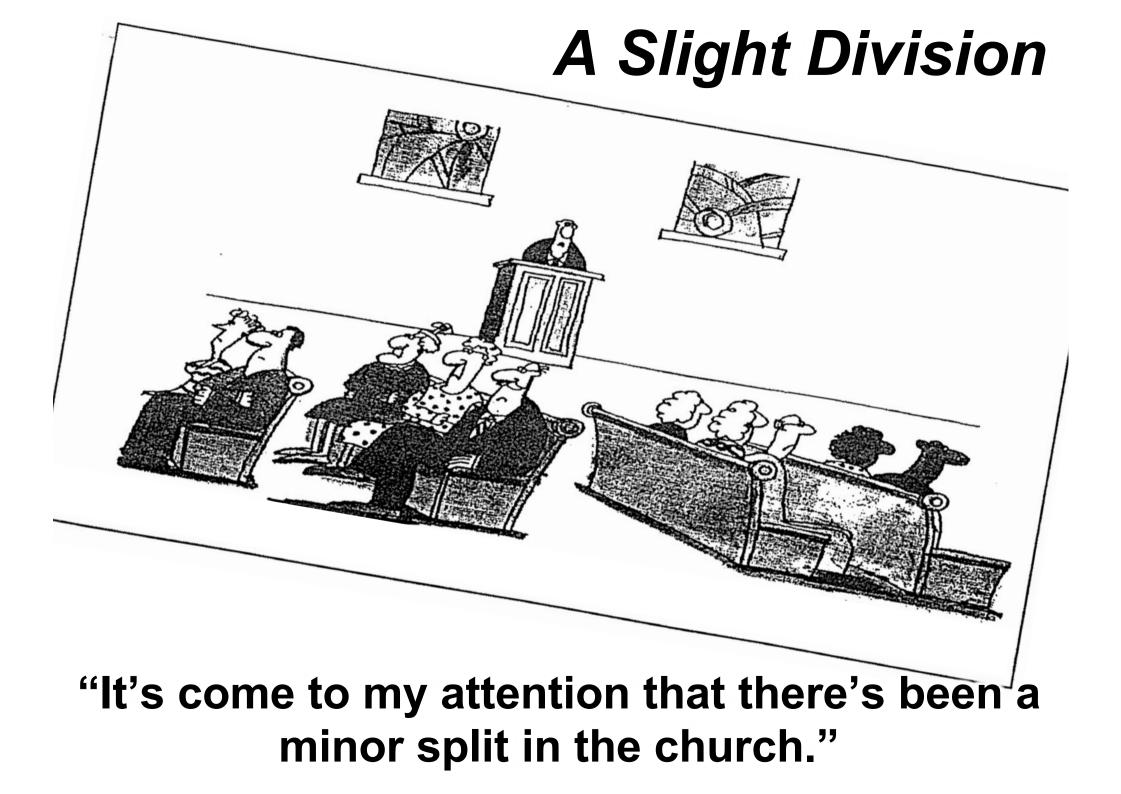
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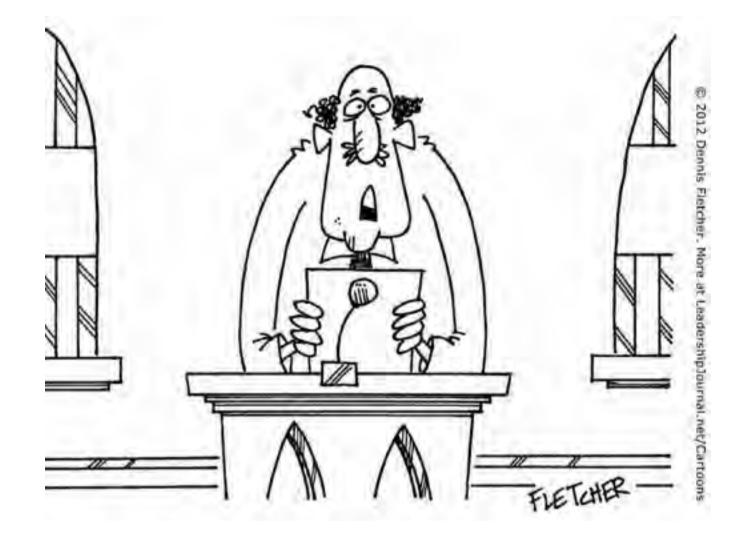
The Second Law of Thermodynamics

The Second Law of Thermodynamics









"...and the church unity workshop has been postponed until the deacons can agree on the date, time, and color of the participant's name tags."



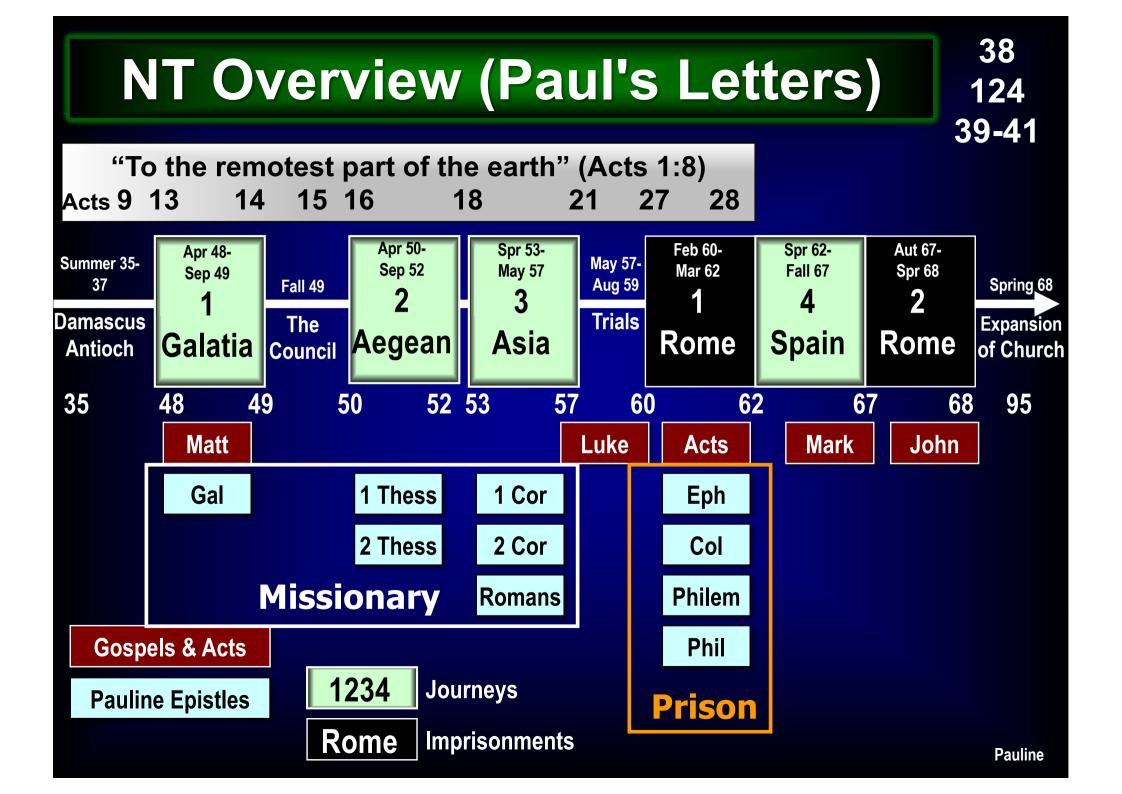
"I sense a new unity in my church... away from apathy and moving steadily toward opposition."

Discuss what is required for unity to take place in the local church and between churches. What is Unity?



How can our church be united despite our many different kinds of people?





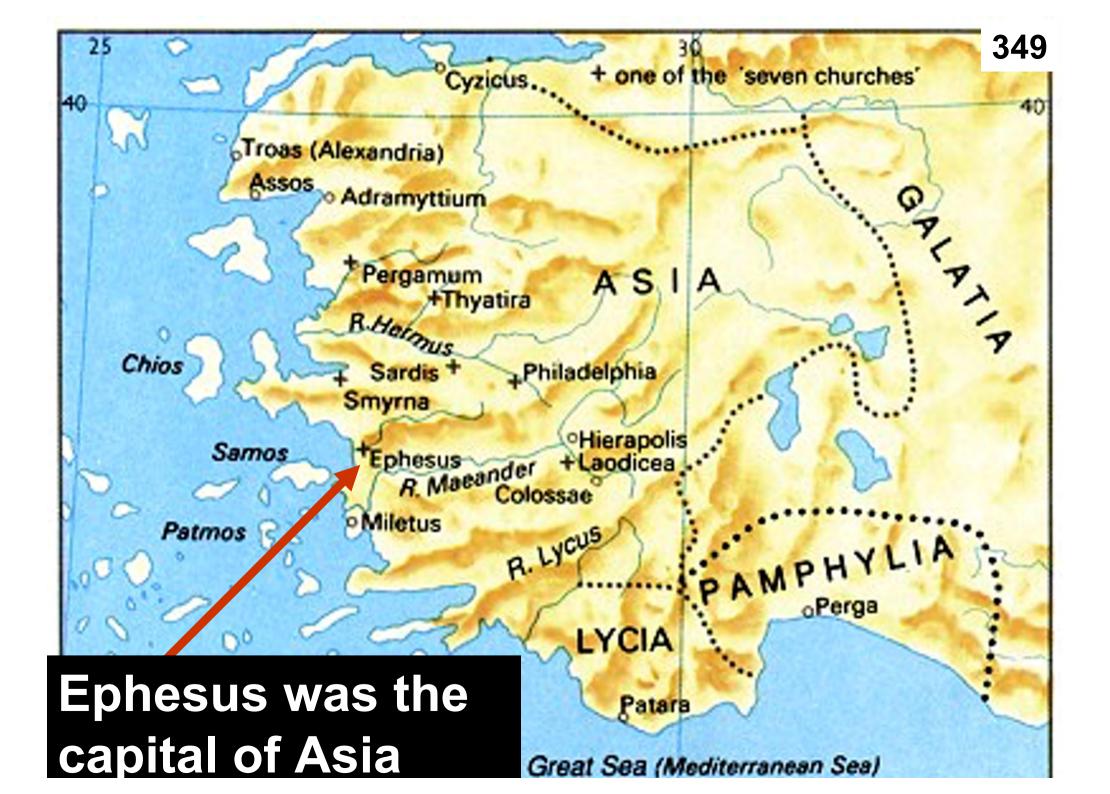


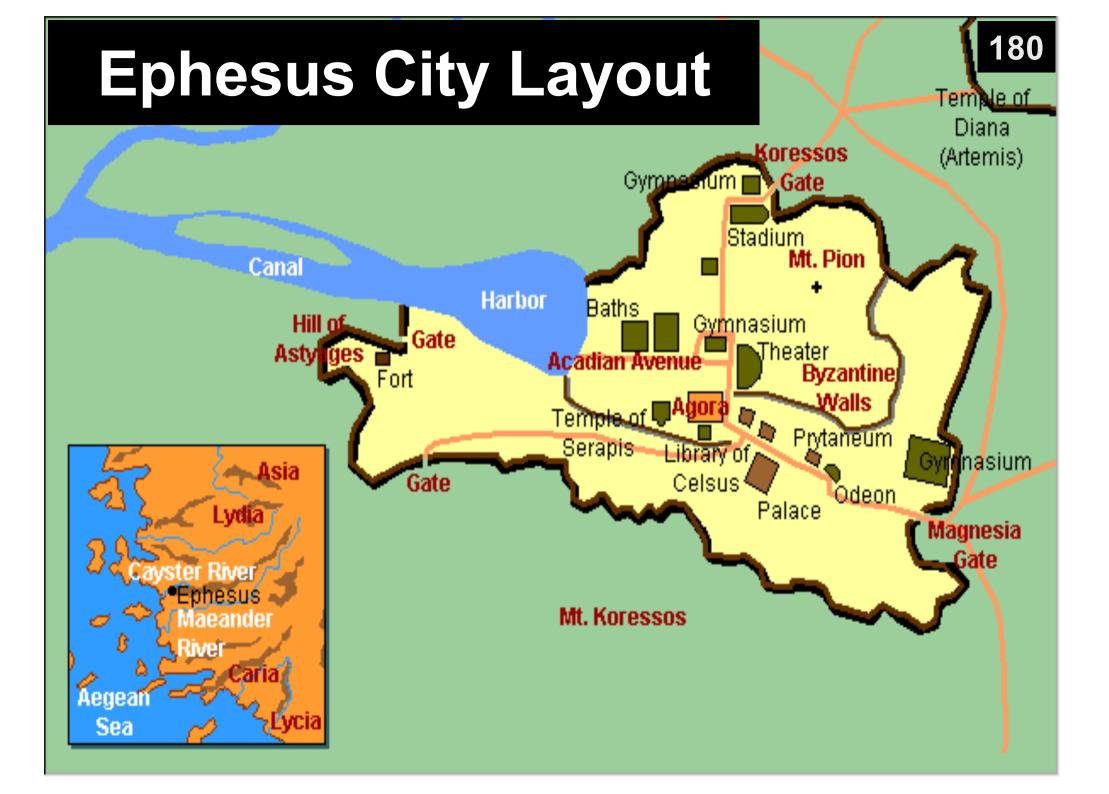


Unity

Ephesians

175



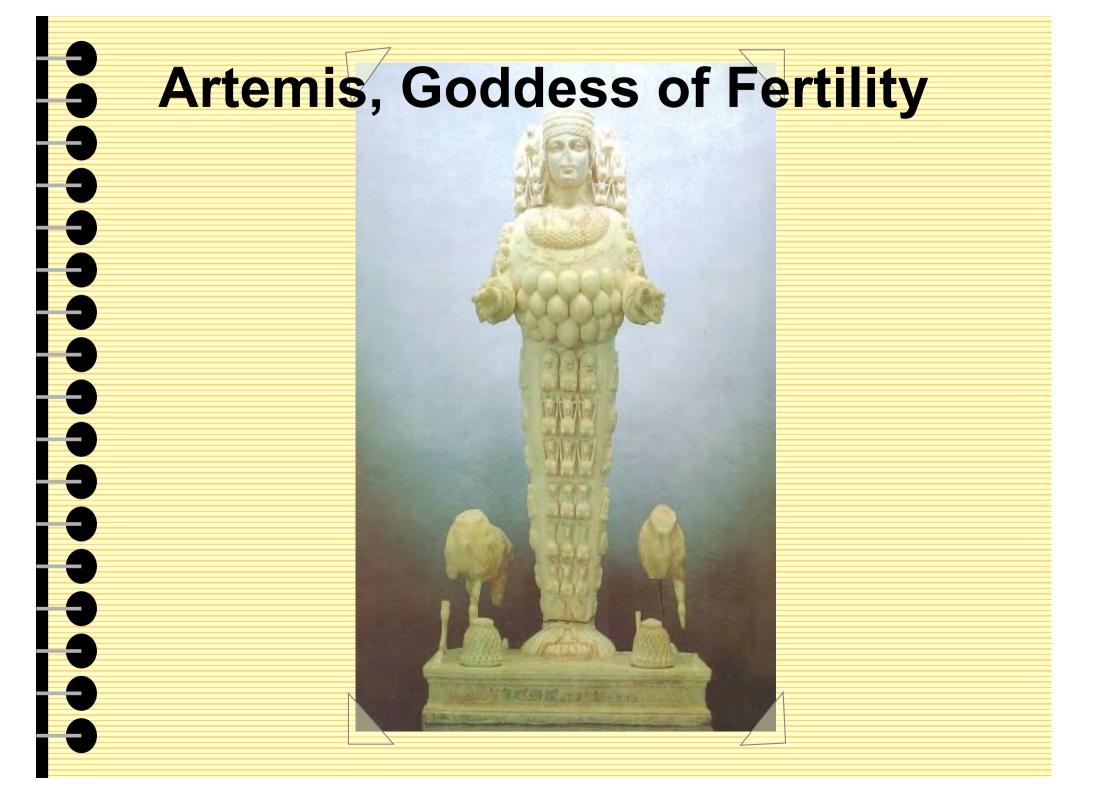


A Centre of Culture

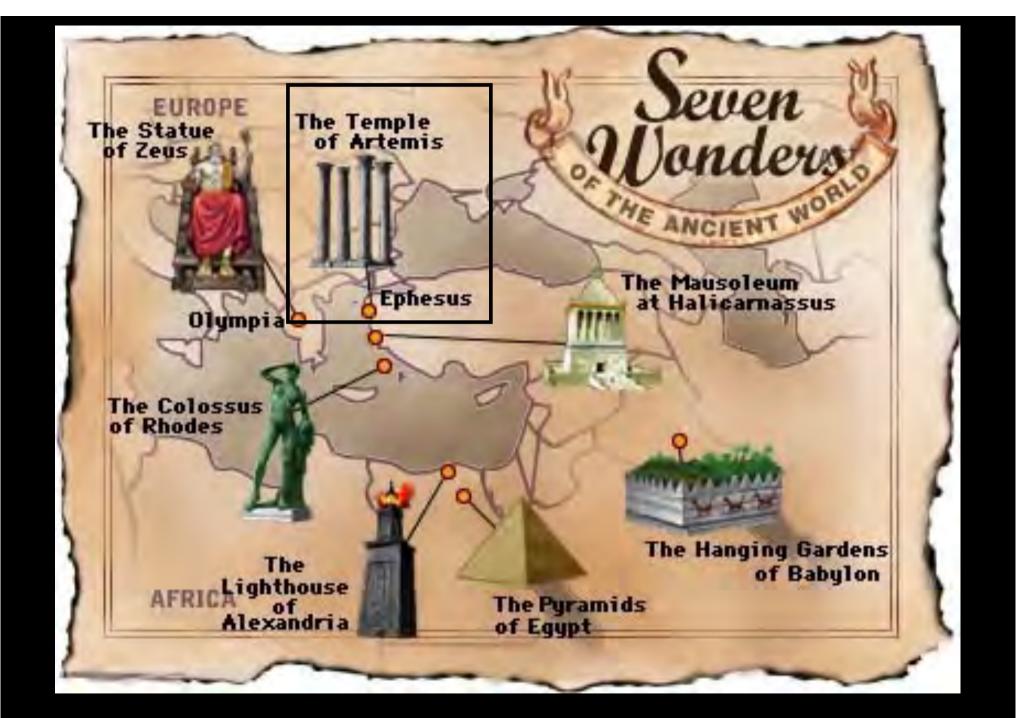
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Seven Wonders of the Ancient World

The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus

180c





The Temple of Diana (Artemis) Today



The Library of Celsus

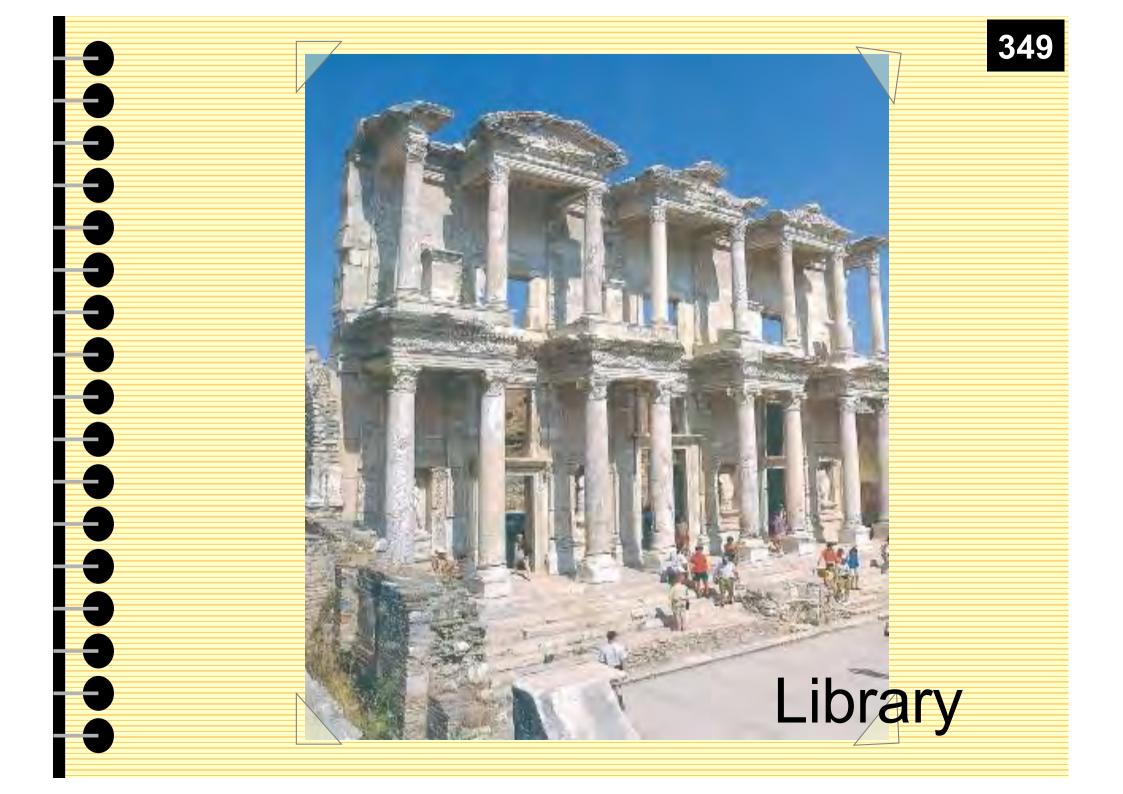
The Ephesian Theatre^{180a} of Acts 19:29

theh'-at-ron **Theater Seats 25,000**

180a

Acts 19:29



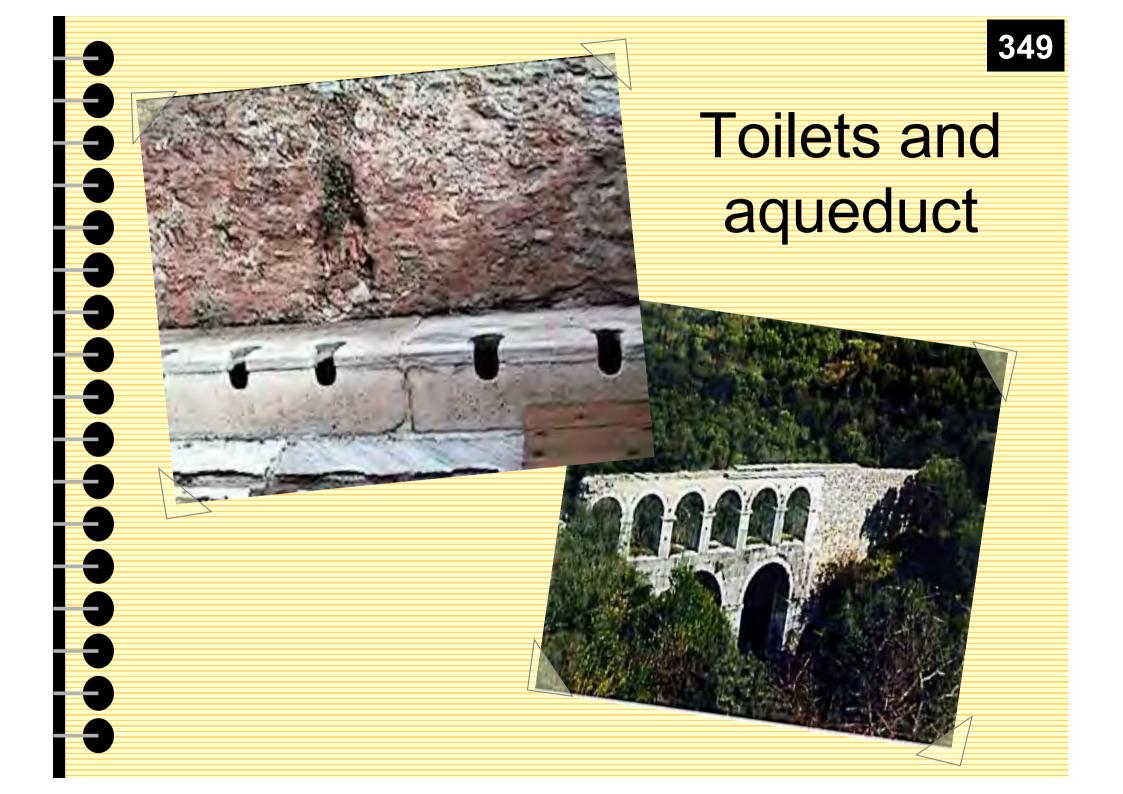


Directions for the Immoral & Illiterate

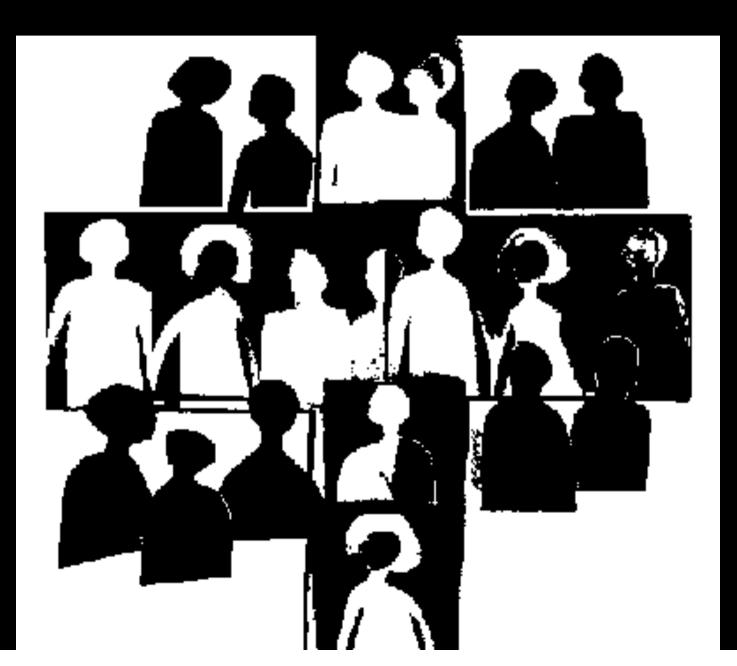
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Jew-Gentile Divisions



Theme

Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love

Ephesians

23

Sometimes Christians mistreat others of a different ethnic group

Jews One God Many taboos GentilesMany

180b

Gods
Few
taboos

Greek

Favors poetry, imagery & symbolism

Hebrew

Favors outlines, lists and bullet points 180b

Hebrew

Sees numbers as a quality or symbol

Sees numbers as a specific quantity

Greek

180b

Hebrew

Focuses on the community in relationship with God

Focuses on the individual's relationship with God

Greek

180b

Hebrew

The kingdom of God begins in this life. **Eternal life is** lived in harmony with God.

The kingdom of God is outside this world. Eternal life will occur after this life ends.

Greek

180b

Hebrew Sin is wrong behavior alone. **They** emphasize what one does in response to faith.

Greek Sin is wrong actions & thinking. They emphasize what a person knows about faith.

180b



Hebrew

Assumes that God exists

Tries to prove God's existence

Greek

180b

Hebrew

Relational and personal
 Expressed in terms of relationship with God rather than a dod rather than a dod rationalization

Intellectual and impersonal Expressed in creeds and doctrine with support through proof texts

Greek

180b

Hebrew

Experiential What is done and who did it in Scripture Believing comes through experience Truth is unfolding and relative

Scientific & rational How things are done in the Scripture Believing comes through thinking Truth is static and unchanging

Greek

How can our church be united despite our many different kinds of people?

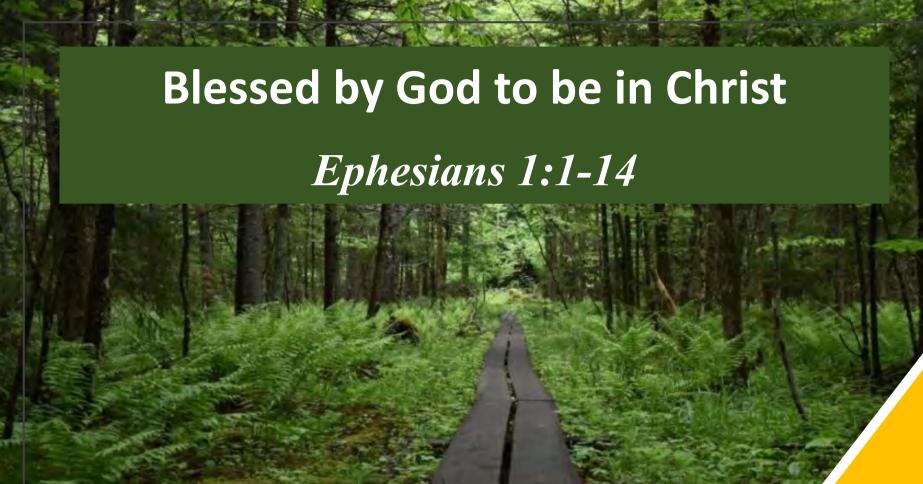


How to be united...



Eph 1–3

Ephesians 1



Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling at Crossroads International Church Singapore • CICFamily.com Uploaded by Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary Files in many languages for free download at BibleStudyDownloads.org

EXTREME MAKEOVER HOME EDITION



for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

Ephesians spiritual development

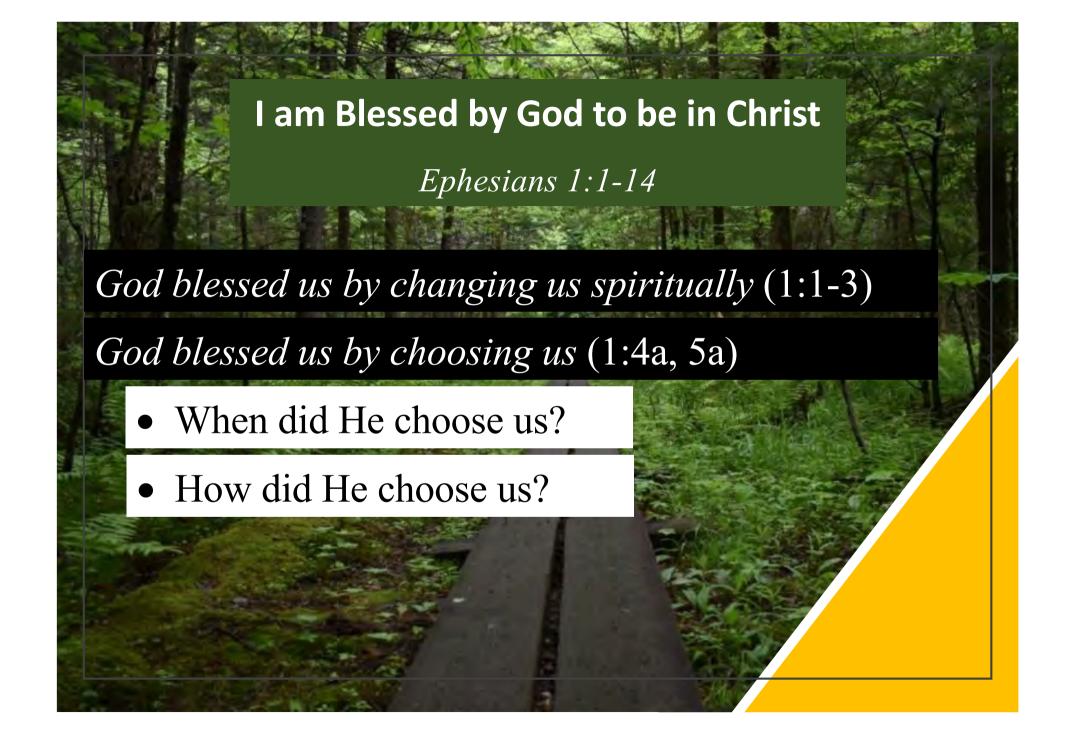


Who Am I? I am united with Christ (Eph 1)

Who Are We? We are a new people (Eph 2–3)

How do we glorify God as a new people? We live different lives (Eph 4–6)





Rome

EPHESSANS Ephesus

"This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus ["To the saints in Ephesus" NIV], who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus." (Eph. 1:1 NIV).

175

"For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers" (Eph. 1:15-16 NIV).

175

"This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus ['To the saints in Ephesus' NIV], who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus." (Eph. 1:1 NIV). Rome

EPHESSANS Ephesus

"May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace " (Eph. 1:2 NLT).

175

Ephesians 1:3-14 (NAU)

178

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, ⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love ⁵He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace ⁸which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight ⁹He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him ¹⁰with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him ¹¹also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, ¹²to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. ¹³In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation — having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

"Us/We/Our" & "You" in Ephesians 1:3-14 (NLT) 178

"All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ⁷He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins."



"Us/We/Our" & "You" in Ephesians 1:3-14 (NLT) 178

^{"13}And now you ^{"8}He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding. **Gentiles** have ⁹God has now revealed to us his also heard the mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to truth fulfill his own re. S the plan: A everything too pelie earth. Christ-everyth n neaven a in God gave us Gentiles equal ¹¹Furthermore, because we are united with he he makes ev

Acts 13:48

And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were <u>appointed</u> to eternal life <u>believed</u>.

"This doctrine, in a broad sense, may be defined as an act of choice whereby God selects an individual or group out of a larger company for a purpose or destiny that He appoints. In a more restricted sense, it is God's gracious and sovereign choice of individual sinners to be saved in and through Christ. We cannot fully comprehend the ways of God, but we may be sure that in His wisdom He knew that this was the way whereby the greatest possible blessing would eventually come to the largest number of persons."

Curtis Vaughn

I am Blessed by God to be in Christ

Ephesians 1:1-14

God blessed us by changing us spiritually (1:1-3)

God blessed us by choosing us (1:4a, 5a)

God blessed us by purifying us (1:4b)

James 1:2-4

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Romans 5:3-5

³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

I am Blessed by God to be in Christ *Ephesians* 1:1-14 God blessed us by changing us spiritually (1:1-3) God blessed us by choosing us (1:4a, 5a) God blessed us by purifying us (1:4b) God blessed us by adopting us (1:5-6)

Romans 8:15

¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

I am Blessed by God to be in Christ Ephesians 1:1-14 God blessed us by changing us spiritually (1:1-3) God blessed us by choosing us (1:4a, 5a) God blessed us by purifying us (1:4b) God blessed us by adopting us (1:5-6) God blessed us by redeeming us from sin (1:7-8) God blessed us by communicating His salvation plan to us (1:9-10)

I am Blessed by God to be in Christ

Ephesians 1:1-14

God blessed us by granting us a future inheritance (1:11-12)



Romans 8:16-17

¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

I am Blessed by God to be in Christ

Ephesians 1:1-14

God blessed us by granting us a future inheritance (1:11-12)

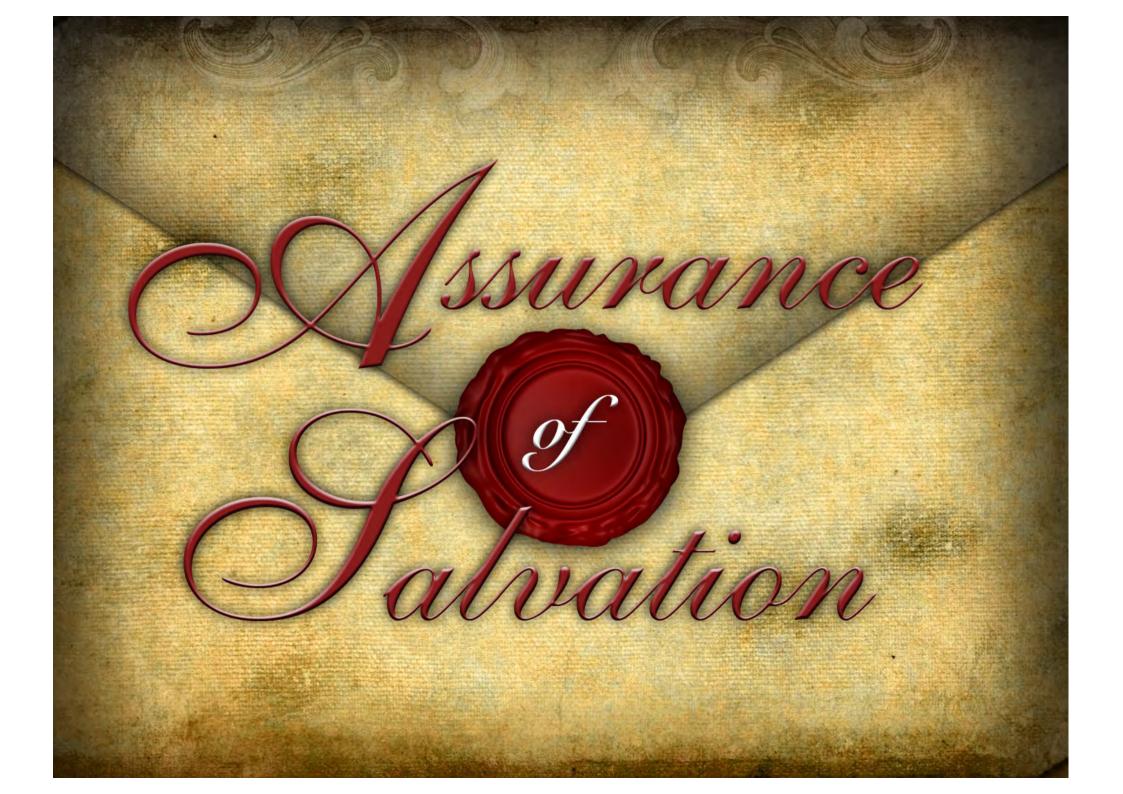
God blessed us by securing us (1:13-14)



"Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory" (Eph. 1:13-14 NIV).

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption" (Eph. 4:30 NIV).

A Seal Guarantees Security and Provides Assurance



"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is by believing in your heart that you are made ríght wíth God, and ít ís by confessing with your mouth that you are saved (lít., 'ít ís confessed unto salvation')" Romans 10:9-10 NLT

Create In Me

Create in me a clean heart, O God And renew a right spirit within me Create in me a clean heart, O God And renew a right spirit within me

John Carter ©1992 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. CCLI #2588988 Cast me not away from Your presence, O Lord And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me Restor Junto me the joy of Thy salvation And y new a right spirit within me

Should Christians pray this considering Romans 8?

Create In Me John Carter ©1992 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

I am Blessed by God to be in Christ

- 1. God blessed me by changing me spiritually
- 2. God blessed me by choosing me
- *3. God blessed me by purifying me*
- 4. God blessed me by adopting me
- 5. God blessed me by redeeming me from sin
- 6. God blessed me by communicating His salvation plan to me
- 7. God blessed me by granting me a future
- 8. God blessed me by securing me

Demonstrating God's Power *Ephesians 1:15-23*

Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling

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for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

I am a Demonstration of God's Power Ephesians 1:15-23

"Paul prays that his readers might appreciate the extraordinary value which God places on them. He views them as in his beloved Son and estimates them accordingly. And this is true of all who are 'in Christ'.... May we live consistently with this high calling and accept with gratitude and true humility the grace and glory that he has lavished on us." **Peter O'Brien**

Live with gratitude for truth and love (Eph 1:15-16)

1 John 3:10-11

¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. ¹¹ For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

Live with gratitude for truth and love (Eph 1:15-16)

1 John 4:7-8

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Live with gratitude for truth and love (Eph 1:15-16)

Live with intention to mature in Christ (Eph 1:17-23)

• Secure in God's plan of redemption (18a)

James 2:5

Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him?



Live with intention to mature in Christ (Eph 1:17-23)

• Secure in God's plan of redemption (18a)

• Marveling over future inheritance (18b)

Mark 10:29-31

²⁹ Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

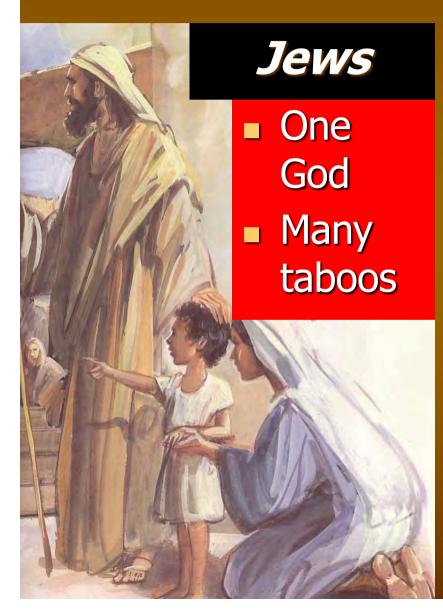
Matthew 10:42

And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.



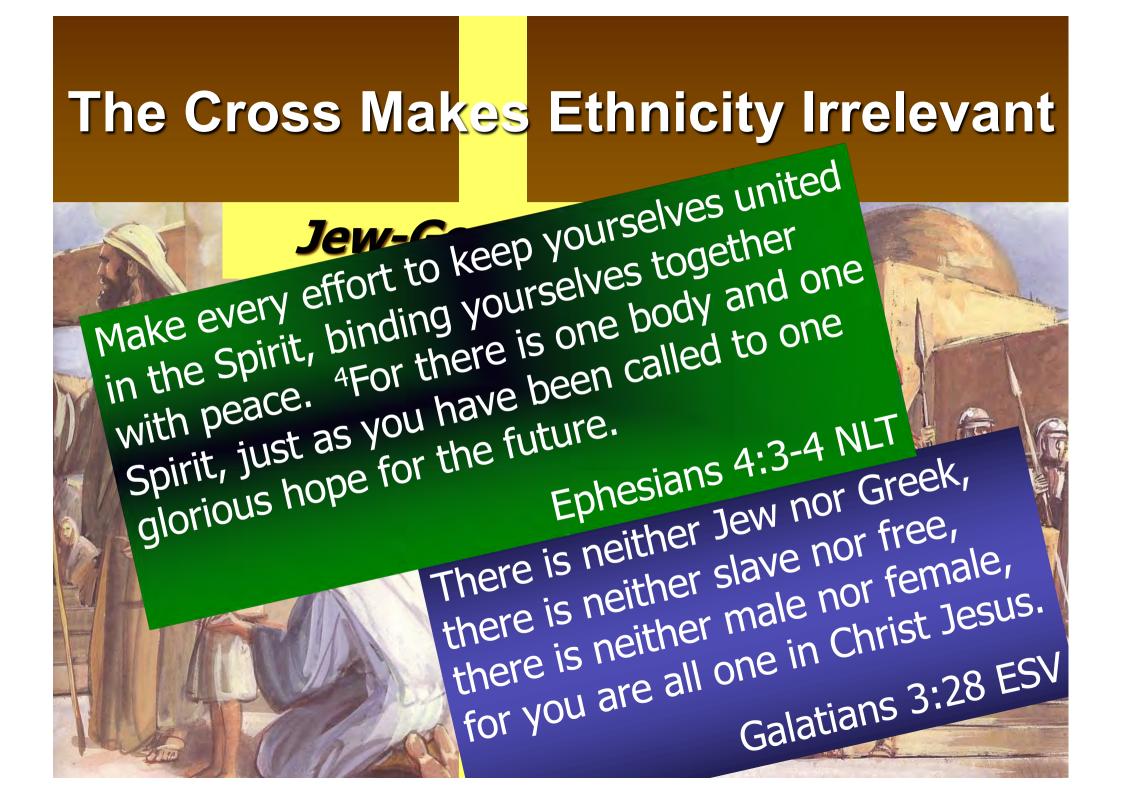
"It was not mere moral reformation effected by rational considerations; nor was it a self-wrought change, but one due to the almighty power of God." Charles Hodge

What About Ethnic Differences Now?



Gentiles

 Many Gods
 Few taboos



Ephesians Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love Love as Equals Love as Testimony								175
EPITE Love as Equals				Love as Testimony				
Chapters 1–3				Chapters 4–6				
Doctrine				Application				
Position				Practice				
Belief				Behaviour				
Privileges				Responsibilities				
Salutation	Position	Reconcil- iation	Unique- ness	Unity	Holiness	Submission	Reliance	Love
1:1-2	1:3-23	2	3	4:1-16	4:17-5:20	5:21-6:9	6:10-20	6:21-24
Rome								
Fall AD 60 (first Roman imprisonment)								

The Two-Headed Snake



The One-Headed Church

Christ as Head

Many parts, One body

We Are One in the Bond of Love

We are one in the bond of love (2x) Let us join our spirits with the Spirit of God

We are one in the bond of love



CITY OF EPHESUS BACKGROUND OUTLINE SCRIPTURE IN SONG CHAPTERS 1–3 CHAPTERS 4–6 CONCLUSION

Ephesians Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love Love as Equals Love as Testimony								175
EPITE Love as Equals				Love as Testimony				
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Rome								
Fall AD 60 (first Roman imprisonment)								

Outline

The first portion (Eph. 1–3) describes "Our Heritage in Christ" or the work of God in the Christian. This includes much on the Christian's heavenly standing and his position in Christ. Paul also explains the unity of Jews and Gentiles in the church who are equal positionally.

- Blessings in Christ as equal to predestined Jews (1:3-23)
- Experience of salvation and reconciliation with Jews in the body of Christ (Eph. 2)
- Growing knowledge and strength (Eph. 3)

OUTLINE

Chapters 1–3

God's work of:

- Redemption
- Revelation
- Resurrection
- Reconciliation
- Proclamation
- Sanctification

Outline

The second part (chapters 4–6) describes "Our Life in Christ" which talks about the walk of the Christians that shows their Jew-Gentile unity through love in their daily experience as a testimony to the world.

- Paul talks about Christian Conduct to practice the Jew-Gentile unity, holiness, submission and headship responsibilities in all of life (4:1–6:9)
- Paul talks about the Christian Armor to defeat Satan (6:10-20)

OUTLINE

Chapters 4–6 The Christian's Walk of:

- Unity
- Repentance
- Holiness
- Submission
- Power

KEY VERSE

"As a prisoner for the Lord, then I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. **Be completely humble and gentle;** be patient, bearing with one another in love making every effort to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

Eph. 4:1–3 NIV



CITY OF EPHESUS BACKGROUND OUTLINE SCRIPTURE IN SONG CHAPTERS 1–3 CHAPTERS 4–6 CONCLUSION

Eph. 3:20-21



Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,

according to His power that is at work within us

to Him be glory and in the church and in Christ Jesus

throughout all generations for ever and ever. Amen.



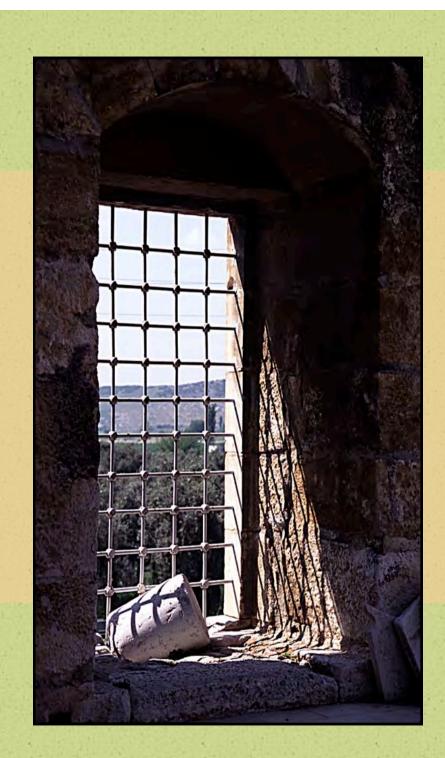
Ephesians 3:20-21



CITY OF EPHESUS BACKGROUND OUTLINE SCRIPTURE IN SONG CHAPTERS 1–3 CHAPTERS 4–6 CONCLUSION

Overview Emphasis Application

Ephesians 2



Ephesians 1–3

Understanding our inheritance in Christ Jesus

Overview of Ephesians 1–3

God's redemptive work
God's gift of salvation
Reconciliation of Jews and Gentiles
Unity in the Body of Christ
Prayer for empowerment



Ephesians 2:1-10

Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling

at Crossroads International Church Singapore • CICFamily.com Uploaded by Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary Files in many languages for free download at BibleStudyDownloads.org

"I sometimes wonder if good and thoughtful people have ever been more depressed about the human predicament than they are today. Of course every age is bound to have a blurred vision of its own problems, because it is too close to them to get them into focus. And every generation breeds new prophets of doom. Nevertheless, the media enable us to grasp the worldwide extent of contemporary evil, and it is this which makes the modern scene look so dark."

"It is partly the escalating economic problem (population growth, the spoliation of natural resources, inflation, unemployment, hunger), partly the spread of social conflict (racism, tribalism, the class struggle, disintegrating family life) and partly the absence of accepted moral guidelines (leading to violence, dishonesty and sexual promiscuity). Man seems incapable of managing his own affairs or of creating a just, free, humane and tranquil society. For man himself is askew." John Stott



for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

We are Dead People Made Alive

Ephesians 2:1-10

Psalm 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

We were dead (Ephesians 2:1-3)

• We violate God's holy commands (vs. 1-2a)

"Before God we are both rebels and failures."

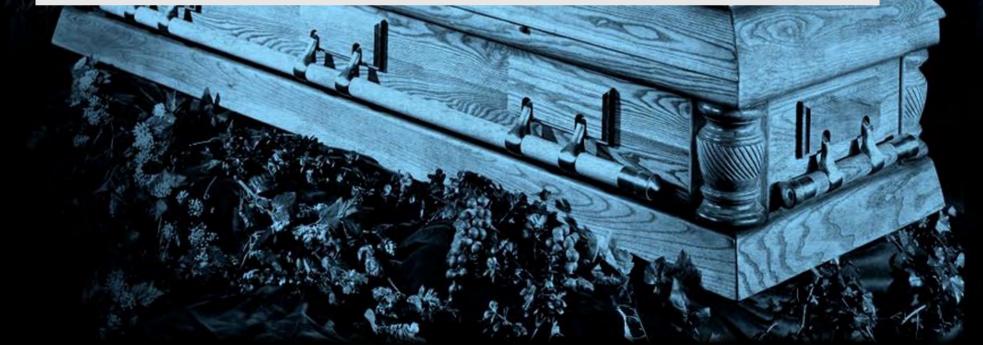
John Stott

Why did God save us? Because we were so helpless

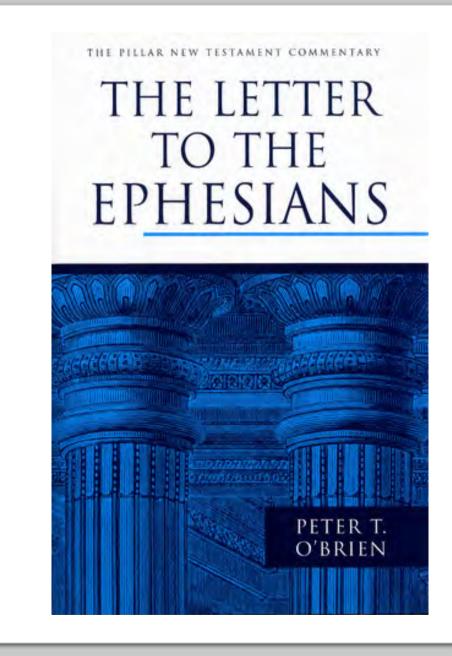
"Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ²You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ³All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else" (Eph. 2:1-3 NLT).

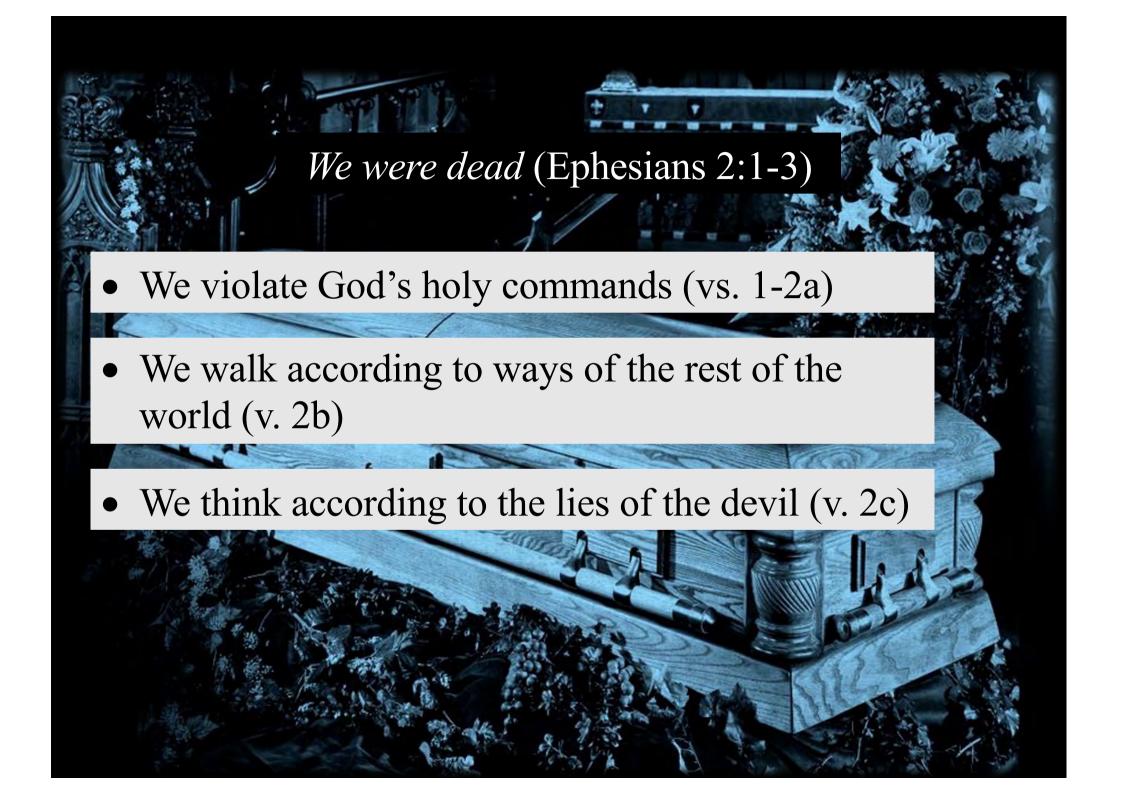
We were dead (Ephesians 2:1-3)

- We violate God's holy commands (vs. 1-2a)
- We walk according to ways of the rest of the world (v. 2b)



"Their behavior has been determined by the powerful influences of society's attitudes, habits, and preferences which were alien to God and his standards."





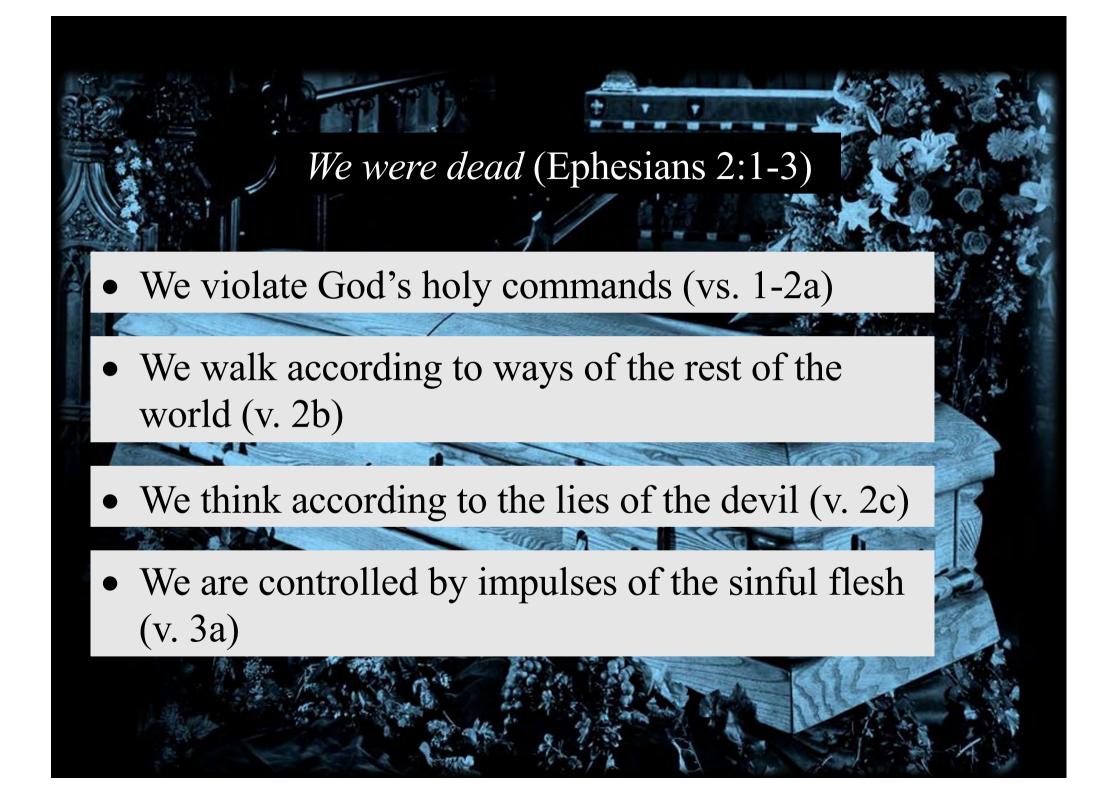
2 Corinthians 4:4

In their case <u>the god of this world</u> has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

John 12:31

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

Colossians 1:13 He has delivered us from <u>the domain of</u> <u>darkness</u> and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

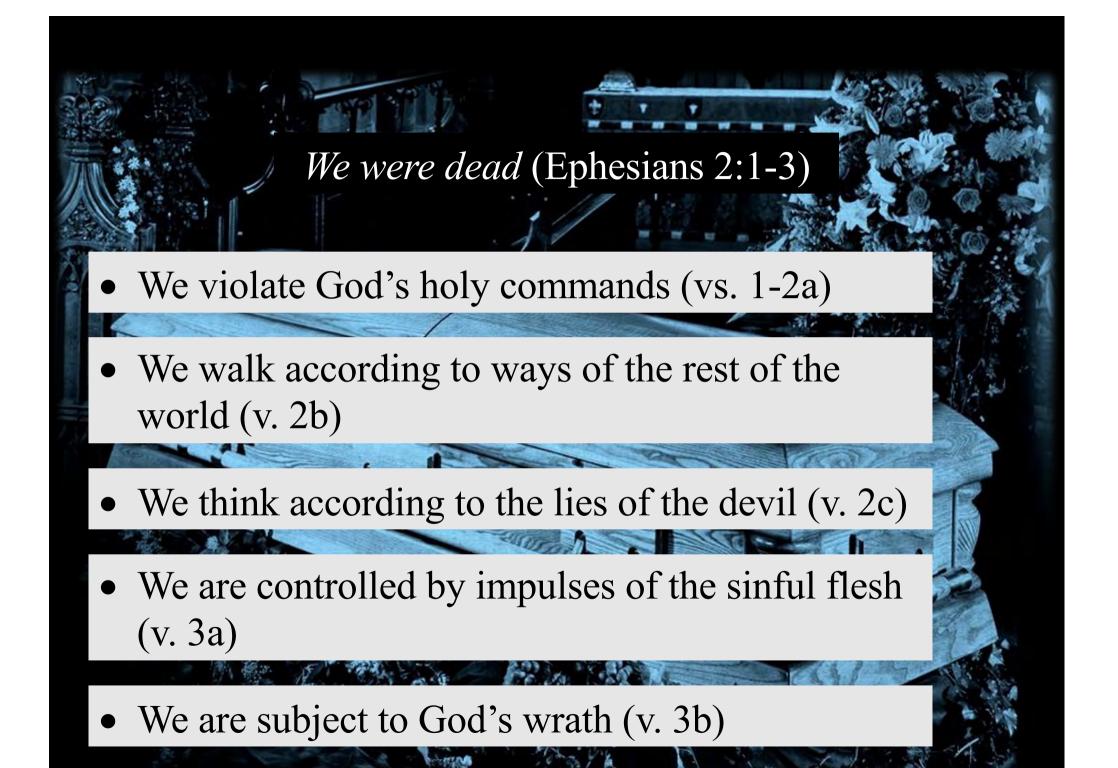


James 1:13-14

¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed <u>by his own desire</u>.

James 4:1-2

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war <u>within you</u>?



God made us alive (Ephesians 2:4-10)

- He acts according to His nature of mercy (v. 4)
- He unites us with His Son (vs. 5-7, 10)



How did God save us?

By his grace he gave us spiritual life

"But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) ⁶For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2:4-6 NLT)



Why did God save us?

To show his grace through eternity!

"So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2:7 NLT)

Carl Carl Carl Carl Carl Carl Carl Carl	
BEFORE	AFTER
Under God's wrath	Receive His rich mercy
Dead	Alive in Christ
Subject to the devil	Raised and seated with Christ
Follow this world	Live in heavenly places in Christ
Succumb to sinful impulses of the flesh	Created workmanship in Christ Jesus
Walk in trespasses and sins	Walk in good works

1-50-2

102

God made us alive (Ephesians 2:4-10)

• He acts according to His nature of mercy (v. 4)

• He unites us with His Son (vs. 5-7, 10)

• He humbles us (vs. 8-9)

Philippians 1:29

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake,



How did God save us?

Through his grace—not our works

"God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. ⁹Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it" (Eph. 2:8-9 NLT)

Why else did God save us? To show his goodness through our good works!

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago" (Eph. 2:10 NLT)

We are a New Body of People in Christ Ephesians 2:11-22

Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling

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for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

Who am I?

I am a blessed demonstration of God's power

Who are we? We are dead people made alive

We are a New Body of People in Christ Ephesians 2:11-22

We were separated from God (Eph 2:11-12)

• We were far from God Himself



Still Gentiles

"Therefore, remember that formerly you who are **Gentiles** by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)— ¹²remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world" (Ephesians 2:11-12 NLT).

God

Talk-Reveal-Protect-Prosper Abraham = Isaac = Jacob (Israel)



Jew

Gentile

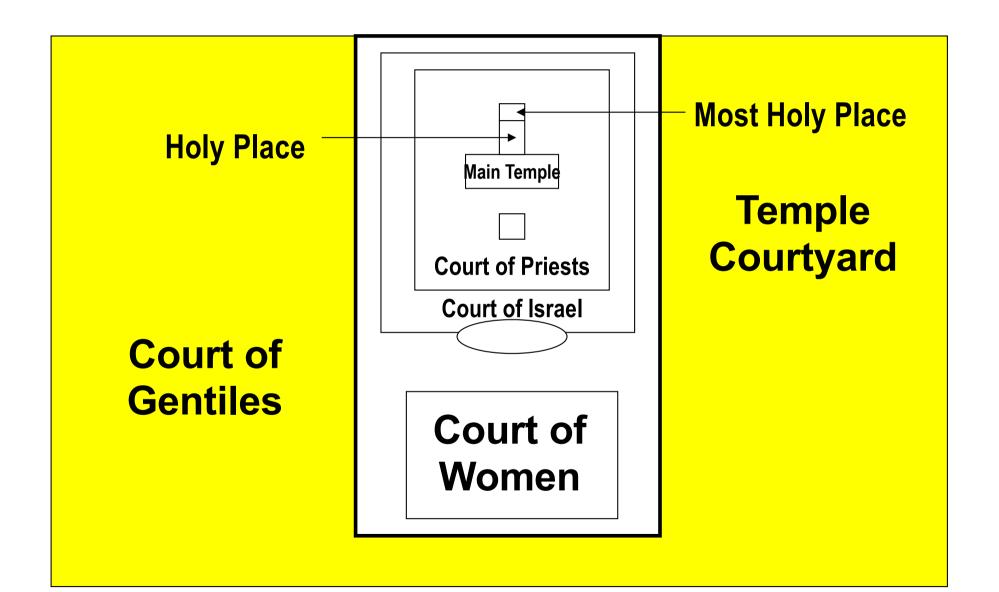
We were separated from God (Eph 2:11-12)

- We were far from God Himself
- We were far from God's elect people
- We were far from God's covenants

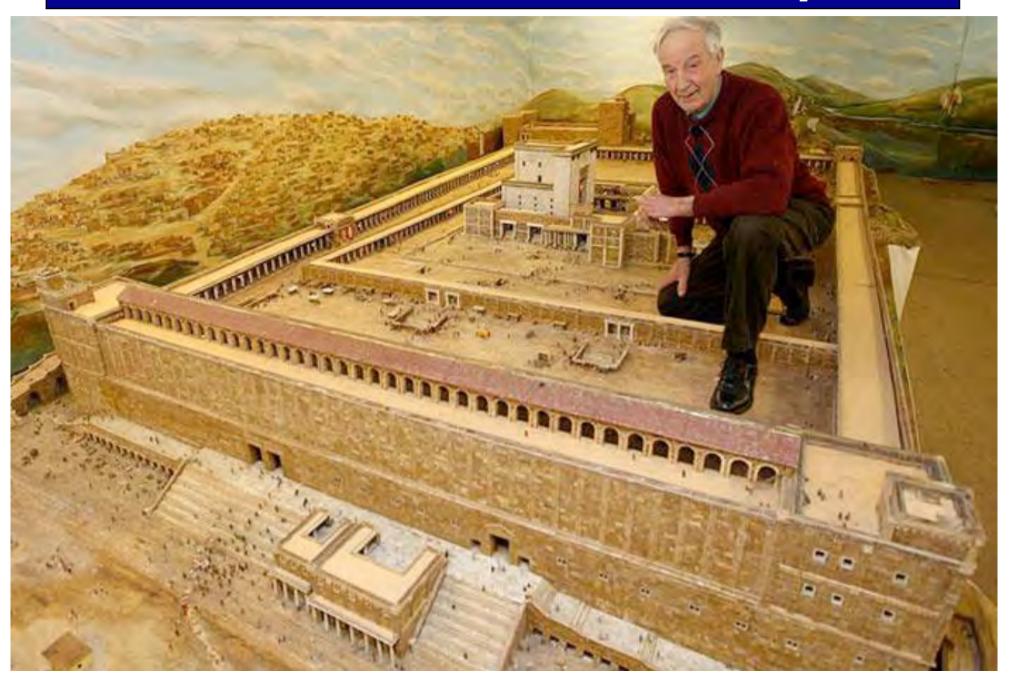




Divisions in Herod's Temple



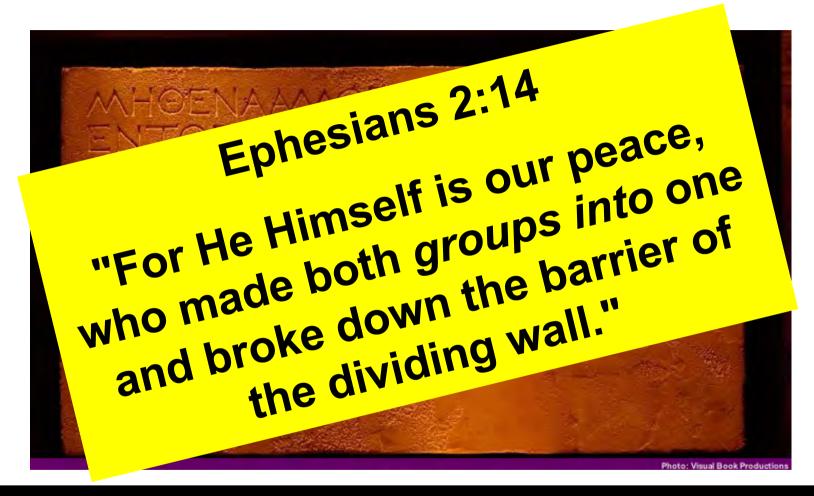
Divisions in Herod's Temple



Gentiles Brought Near

"Therefore, remember that formerly you who are **Gentiles** by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)— ¹²remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:11-13 NLT).

Warning of Dividing Wall for Gentiles



"Let no foreigner enter within the partition and enclosure surrounding the temple. Whoever is arrested will be responsible for his death which will follow."

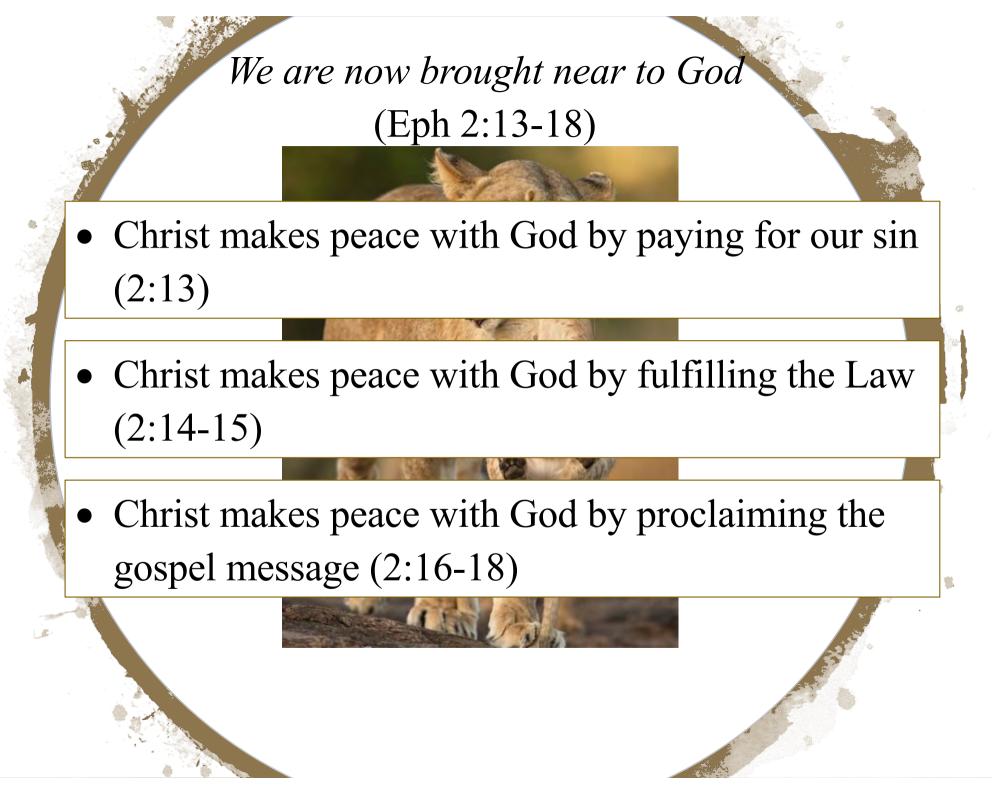
He Is Our Peace

He is our peace, who has broken down every wall. He is our peace, He is our peace. (repeat)

He Is Our Peace

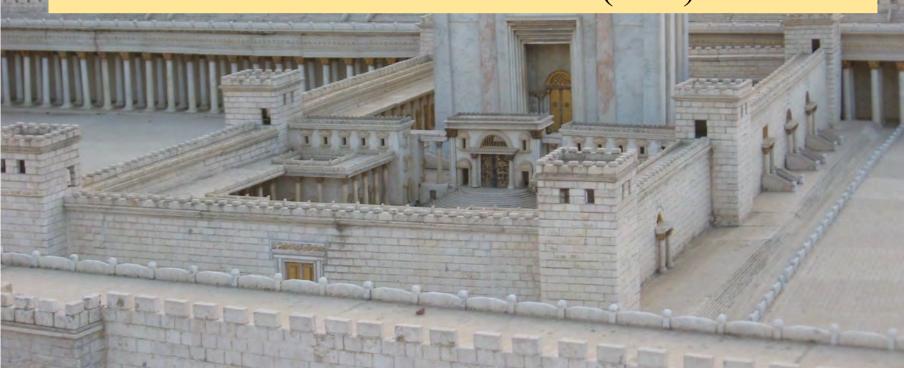
Cast all your cares on Him, For He cares for you. He is our peace, He is our peace. (repeat)

He Is Our Peace



We are built up in Christ (Eph 2:19-22)

• We are elevated to a new status (2:19)





So then,

you are no

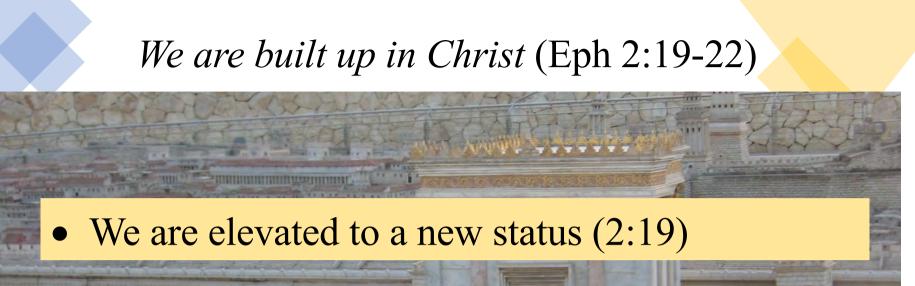
longer

strangers

and aliens

but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

EPHESIANS 2:19

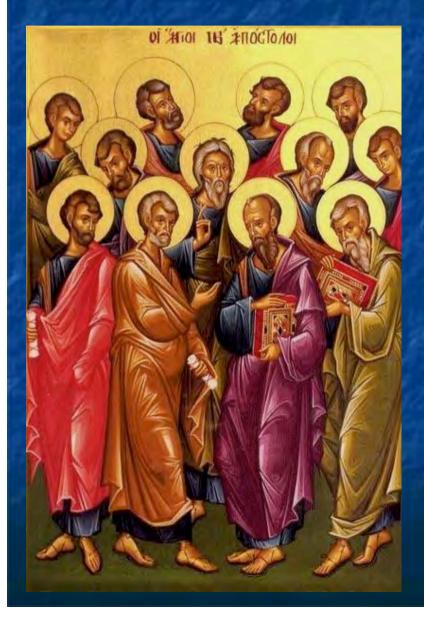


• We become a dwelling place of God (2:20-22)



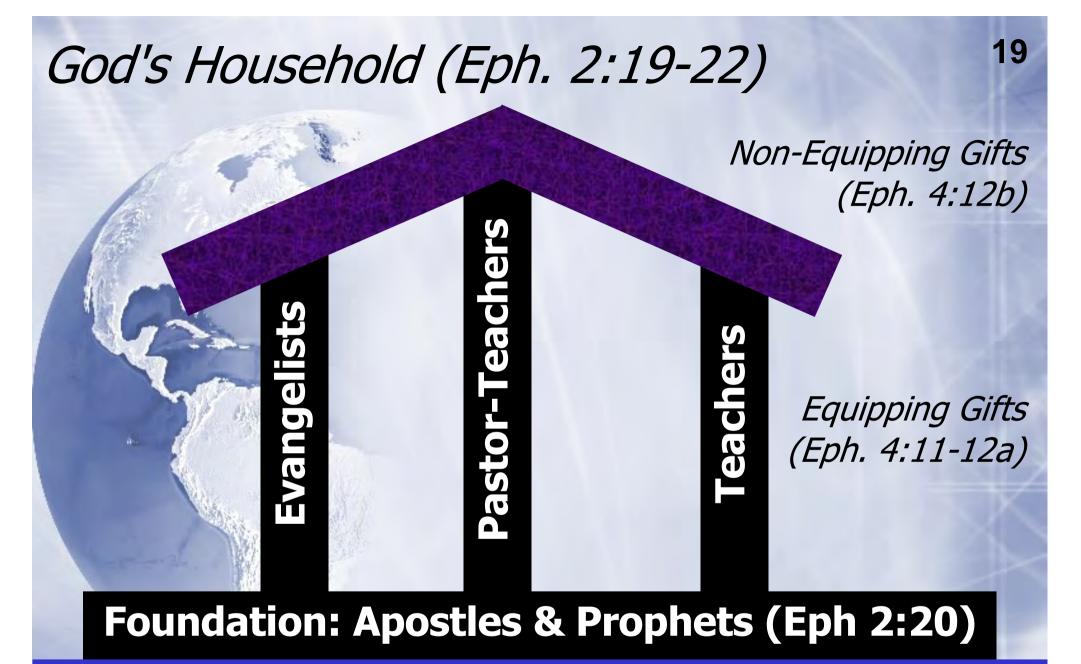


Are there apostles today?



God's household (the church) is:

"built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone" (Ephesians 2:20)



Foundation: The Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11)

Adapted from Charles R. Swindoll. "Spiritual Gifts Study Guide" (IFL, 1983), 7

Contemporary Application

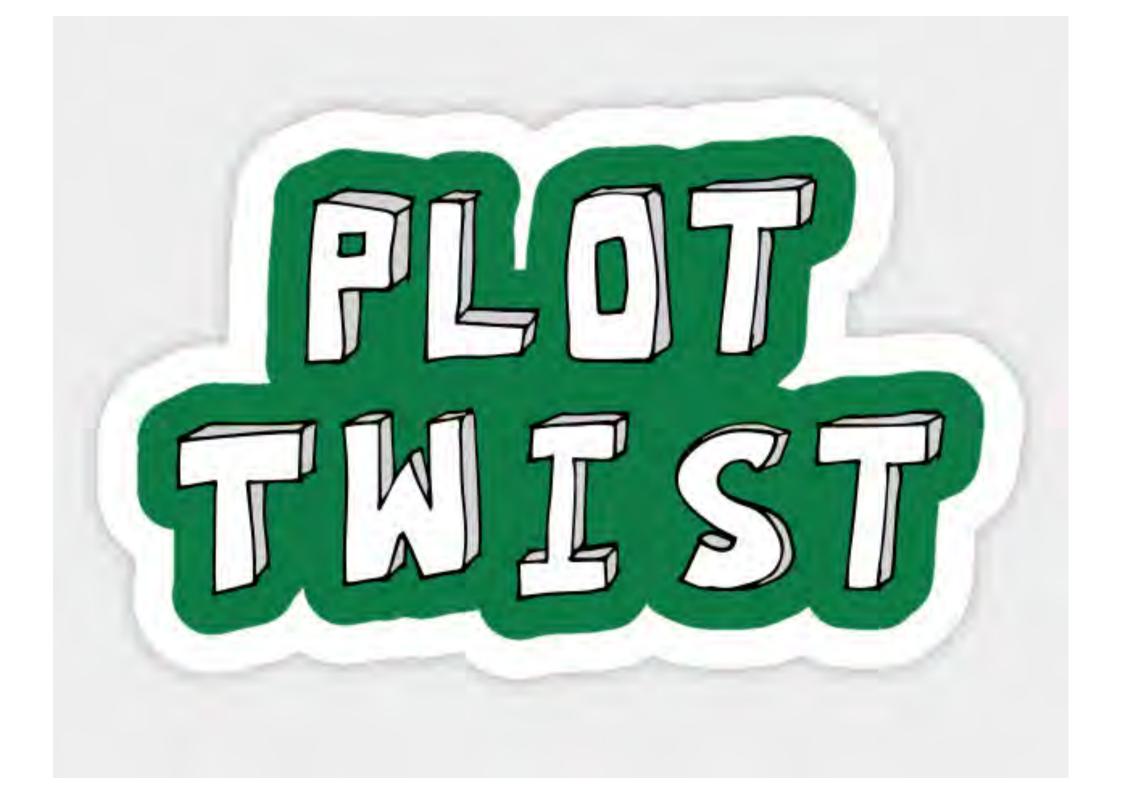
- Rest secure in your salvation
- Praise God no matter what happens
- Guard against legalism
- Pursue peace within the Church
- Unity of ethnic & cultural groups
- Intercessory prayer
- Agape love

Ephesians 3

We are God's Radical Plan for His Glory *Ephesians 3:1-13*

Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling

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for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

Who am I?

I am a blessed demonstration of God's power

Who are we?

We are dead people made alive and a new body of people in Christ

We are God's Radical Plan for His Glory Ephesians 3:1-13

We must understand the mystery of the gospel plan (Ephesians 3:1-6)

• It was progressively revealed (vs. 1-5)

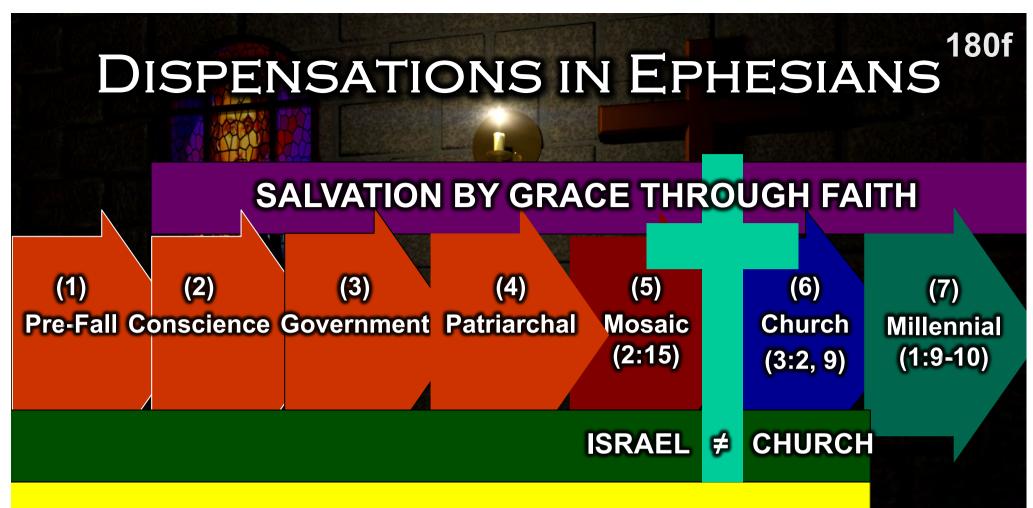
DISPENSATIONS (EPH. 3:2)

"...you know God gave me the special responsibility of extending his grace to you **Gentiles**" (NLT)

"...you have heard of the stewardship of God's was given to me for you" (NAU)

"administration" (NIV) "dispensation" (KJV) οίκονομία (Greek) grace which $\delta'_{i\kappa 0\zeta}$ (house) + $\nu \delta \mu 0\zeta$ (law) (law) "responsibility of management, management of a household, direction, office" (BDAG) Time of Paul's dispensation (Gentiles equal to Jews under grace)

Time before Paul's dispensation (Gentiles came through Israel under law)



PROGRESSIVE REVELATION

Adapted from Paul Benware, Understanding End Times Prophecy, 2d ed. (Chicago: Moody, 2006), 88

180f

οίκονομία in the NT

AA E- *-

COL, γαρ έκών τοῦτο πράσσω, μ εχω· εἰ δὲ ἄκων, οἰκονομίαν πεπίσται

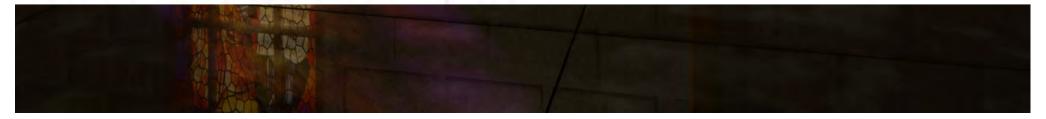
Eph., οικονομίαν τοῦ πληρώματ Eph. 1:10 τών καιρῶν, ἀνακεφαλαιώσασθαι τα πάντα ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ, τὰ ἐπὶ τοῖς οὐρανοῖς καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐν αὐτῷ.

And he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an accounting of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' 3
"The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my ¹master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig; I am ashamed to beg. 4
'I know what I shall do, so that when I am removed from the management people will welcome me into

NASB (1995) with Strong's

1 Cor. 9:17 1Cor. 9:17 For if I do this voluntarily, I have a ^areward; but if against my will, I have a ^bstewardship entrusted to me.

> fullness of the times, that is, ^bthe summing up of all things in Christ, things ²in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him



180f

AA E+ *-

οίκονομία in the NT

Eph. 3:2 AAP ει γε ήκούσατε την οικονομίαν τής χάριτος του θεού τής δοθείσης μοι

Greek NT Tagged

Eph. 3:9 και φωτίσαι [πάντας] τίς ή οίκονομία τοῦ μυστηρίου τοῦ άποκεκρυμμένου άπὸ τῶν αἰώνων ἐν τῷ Col. 1:25 τα κτίσαντι,

ης εγενόμην έγὼ διάκονος κατὰ την οικονομίαν του θεου την δοθεισάν μοι είς ύμας πληρώσαι τον λόγον του θεού 1:4

Tim. τοε προσέχειν μύθοις καί γενεαλογίαις ἀπεράντοις, αἴτινες έκζητήσεις παρέχουσιν μαλλον η οίκονομίαν θεού την έν πίστει.

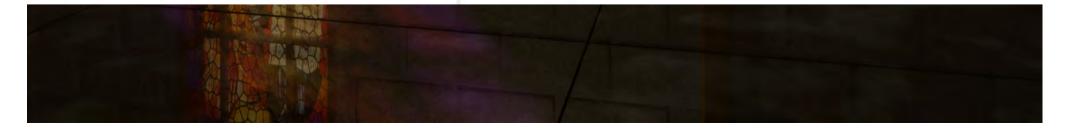
Eph. 3:2 Indeed you have heard of the astewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you;

NASB (1995) with Strong's

Eph. 3:9 To ¹bring to light what is the administration of the ^amystery which for ages has been ^bhidden in God who created all things;

Col. 1:25 this church I ¹was made a minister according to the ^bstewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might ²fully carry out the preaching of the word of God,

1 Tim. 1:4 nor to ¹pay attention to ^amyths and endless ^bgenealogies, which give rise to mere ^cspeculation rather than dfurthering ²the administration of God which is by faith.



Genesis 12:3

"I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Galatians 3:7-9

⁷ Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." ⁹ So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Isaiah 49:6

He says: "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Acts 13:46-47

⁴⁶ And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."

We must understand the mystery of the gospel plan (Ephesians 3:1-6)

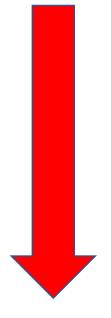
- It was progressively revealed (vs. 1-5)
- It confounds our thinking (v. 6)

Colossians 1:27

To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is <u>Christ in you</u>, the hope of glory.

God

Jews



Gentiles

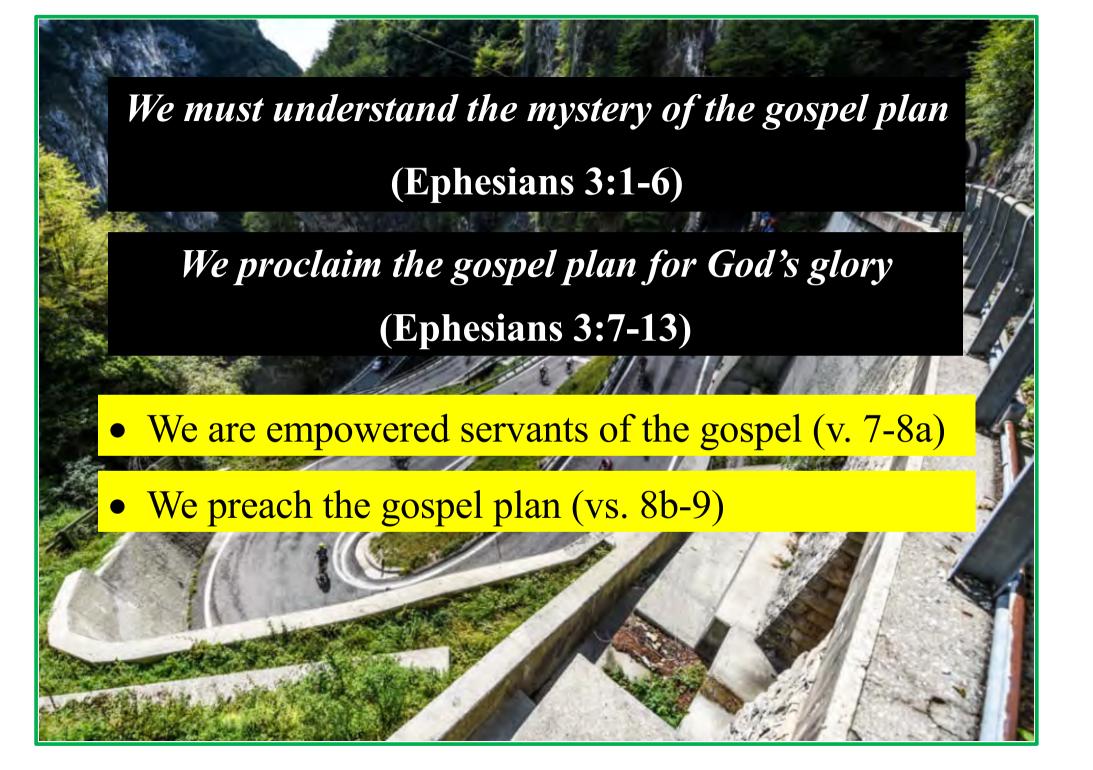
Jew/Gentile body of Christ

> Same reward Same body Same promise

Tense Jew/Gentile situations



- Paul's riot (Acts 22)
- Early church councils (Acts 11:1-18; 15:1-29)
- Paul circumcised Timothy (Acts 16:1-5)
- Rome (Romans 14–15)
- Corinth (1 Corinthians 8, 10)
- Galatia (Galatians 1–3)
- Philippi (Philippians 3)
- Colossae (Col 3:17)



Revelation 5:9-10

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

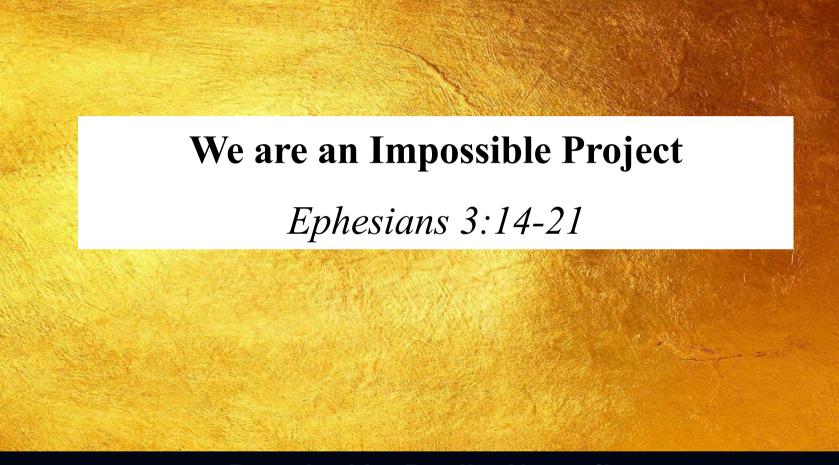
We must understand the mystery of the gospel plan (Ephesians 3:1-6) We proclaim the gospel plan for God's glory (Ephesians 3:7-13) • We are empowered servants of the gospel (v. 7-8a)

• We preach the gospel plan (vs. 8b-9)

• We honor God by the gospel (vs. 10-13)

Why the Church?

"God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 3:10 NLT).



Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling

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Impossible



for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

Who am I?

I am a blessed demonstration of God's power

Who are we?

We are dead people made alive We are a new body of people in Christ We are God's radical plan for His glory

We are an Impossible Project

Ephesians 3:14-21



We bend the knee before our Father in heaven (3:14-15)

We are strengthened by the Holy Spirit in our hearts (3:16-17a)

He deepens and solidifies us in the love of Christ (3:17b-19)





"The definite goal to which the Christian life must move, and for which therefore the apostle prays, is for his readers *to know the love of Christ*, to know how He loved and loves, and to experience His love in loving Him and loving others for His sake."

Francis Foulkes

We bend the knee before our Father in heaven (3:14-15)

We are strengthened by the Holy Spirit in our hearts (3:16-17a)

He deepens and solidifies us in the love of Christ (3:17b-19)

and the second second

We rely on God to go beyond what we can do and accomplish what we never thought about doing (3:20)

God receives the glory to realize an impossible idea (3:21)

Great God in Heaven,

We bend our knee before you because you are our Father in heaven and can do all things. You have transformed our lives through Christ and he is alive in us. Help us to grow in understanding his love for us and be empowered by your Spirit so we can in turn love each other. Do an incredible work in this church body beyond anything we could possibly accomplish. Do something we never considered before so that everyone will know you are the one who did it. We ask that you glorify your name in this church through Christ who teaches us how to love. Amen.

What About the Gift of Apostle?

The Twelve Apostles (Melbourne, Australia)

Are Apostles Living Today?



Mormons say "Yes!"

Singapore even claims its own apostles...







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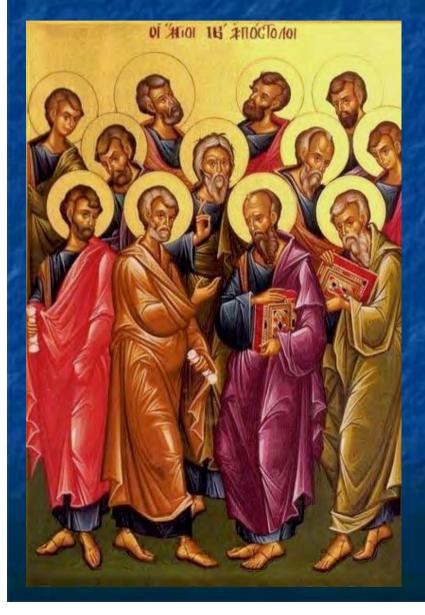
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Are there apostles today?



God's household (the church) is:

"built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone"

(Eph. 2:20)

The cornerstone was the first stone laid in ancient buildings

"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious **Cornerstone** for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it need never be afraid anymore" (Isaiah 28:16)

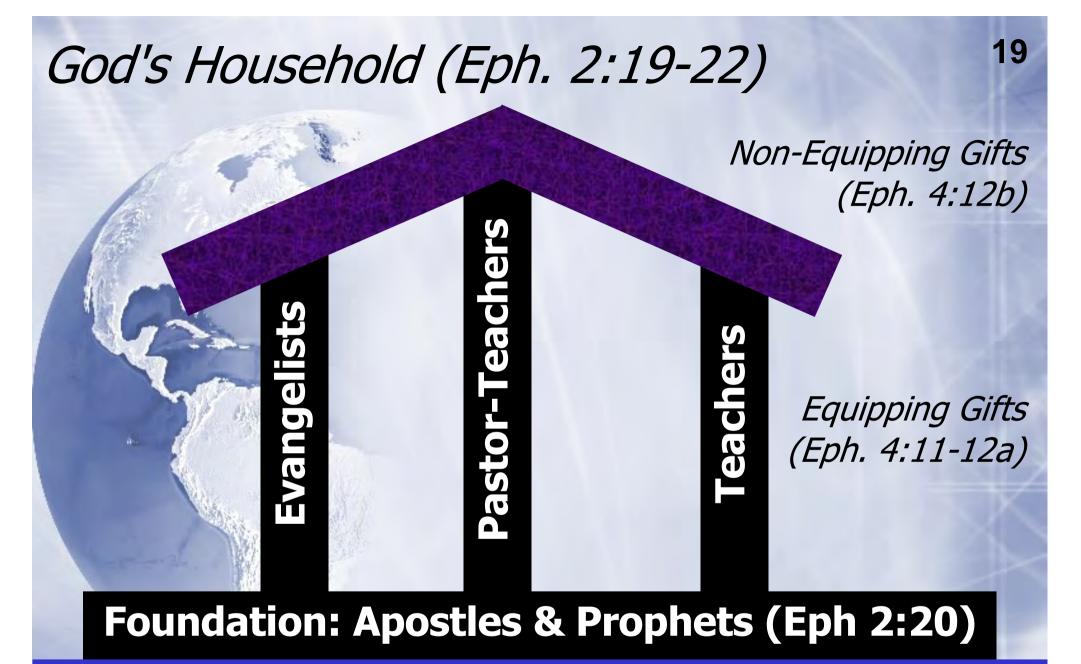
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Some take Christ as "cornerstone" more literally

20

JESUS CHRIST T THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE

Christ in us Our cornerstone



Foundation: The Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11)

Adapted from Charles R. Swindoll. "Spiritual Gifts Study Guide" (IFL, 1983), 7





 "The divinely ordained gift to establish the Church on earth by divine revelation, unquestioned authority, and authentication by miracles."



How can our church be united despite our many different kinds of people?



How to be united...



Eph 1–3

How to be united...

Love the Church Love God

Eph 4–6

Ephesians 4



Ephesians 4:1-6 (NLT)

¹ Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.

² Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

Ephesians 4:1-2 (NLT)

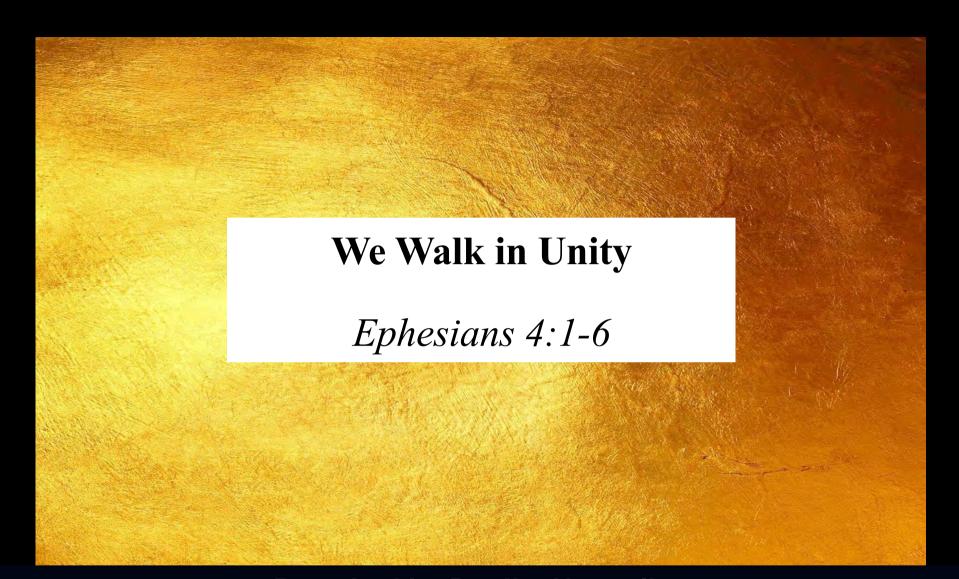
³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

Ephesians 4:3-4 (NLT)

⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

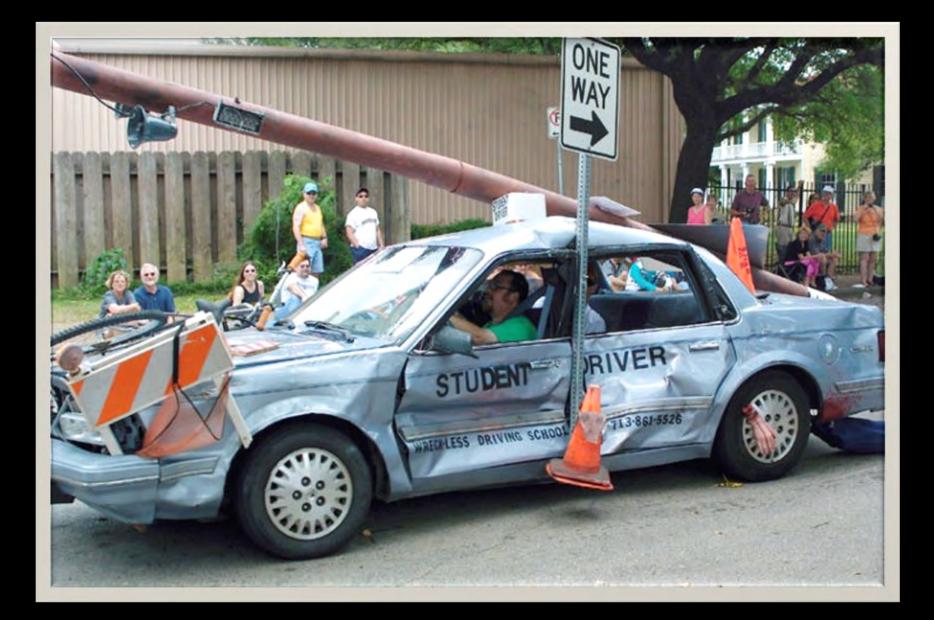
Ephesians 4:5-6 (NLT)





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for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

Who am I? *I am a blessed demonstration of God's power*

Who are we?

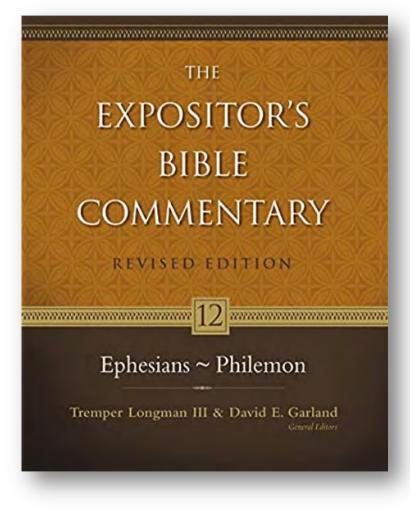
We are dead people made alive We are a new body of people in Christ We are God's radical plan for His glory We are an impossible project

How Do We Glorify God as New People?

We Walk in Unity

Ephesians 4:1-6





"This quality does not suggest weakness but characterizes the person who does not need to assert or dominate and is not touchy, resentful, or retaliatory."

William Klein







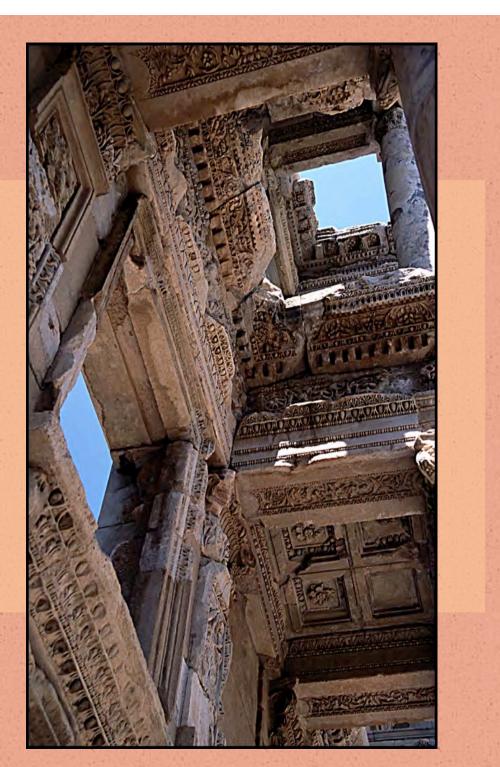
We work hard to keep the Spirit's unity (4:2-3)

We represent God's unity (4:4-6)



Ephesians 4:1-5:21

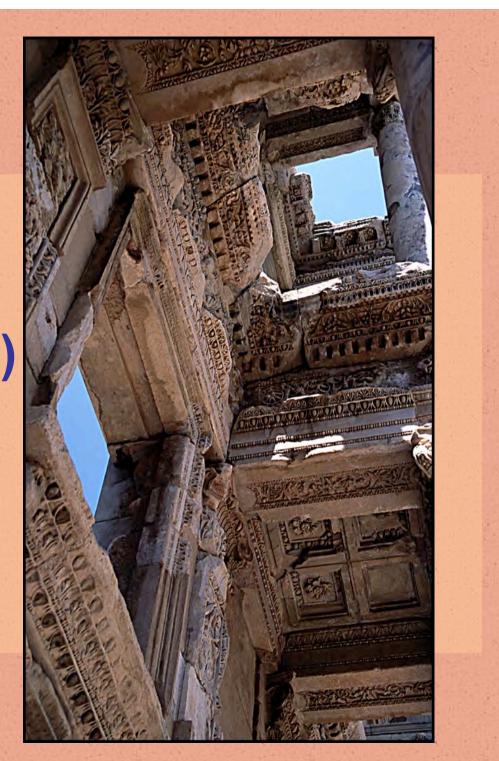
- Unity
- Walking with God

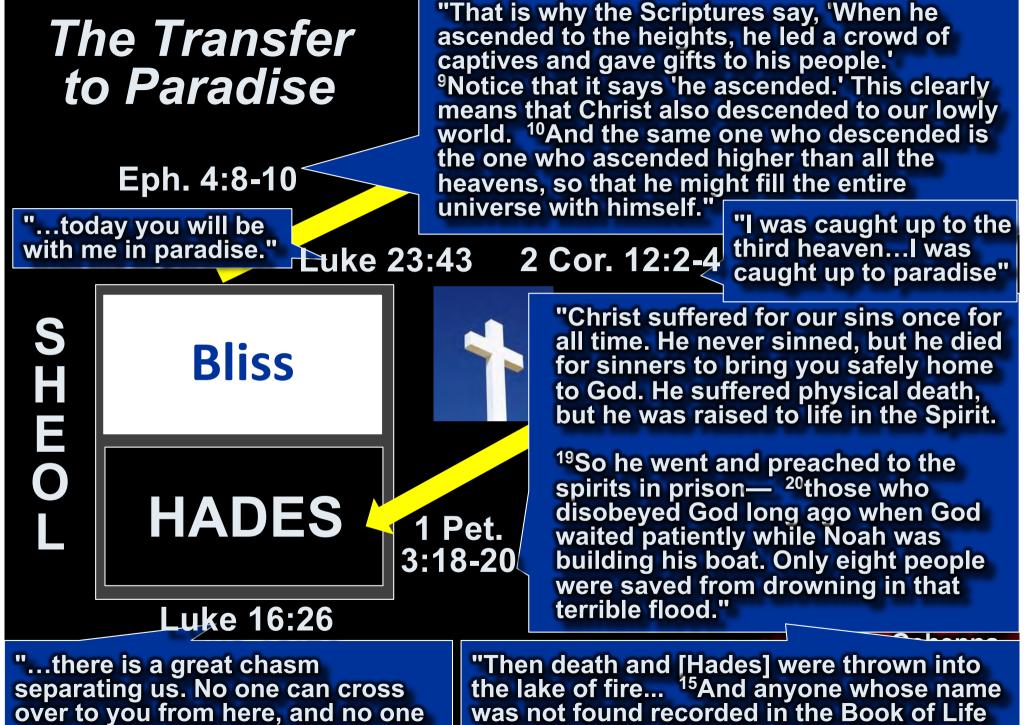


What unites us (Eph. 4:4-6)?

Body – fellowship of believers (Church) **Spirit** – Holy Spirit activates fellowship Hope – of the future Lord – to whom we belong Faith – singular commitment **Baptism** – sign of entry into the Church God – our Father keeps us for eternity

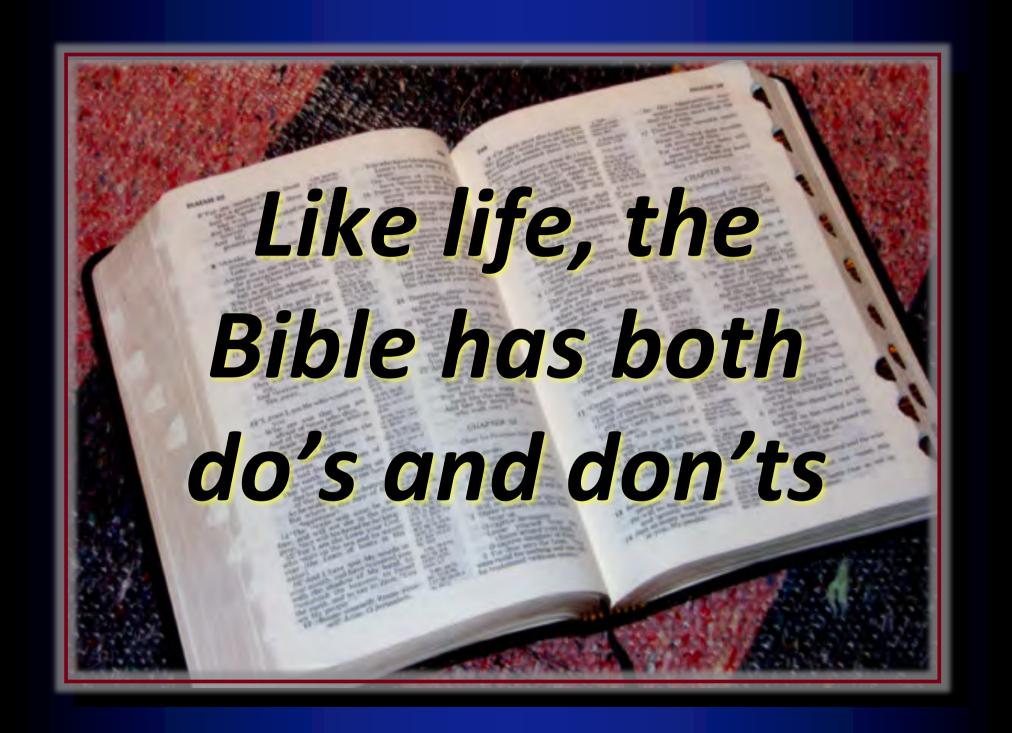
Ephesians 4:1-16 Call to Unity (1-6) Way to Unity (7-16) Ascension (7-10) •Roles (11-12a) •Purpose (12b-13) •Results (14-16)





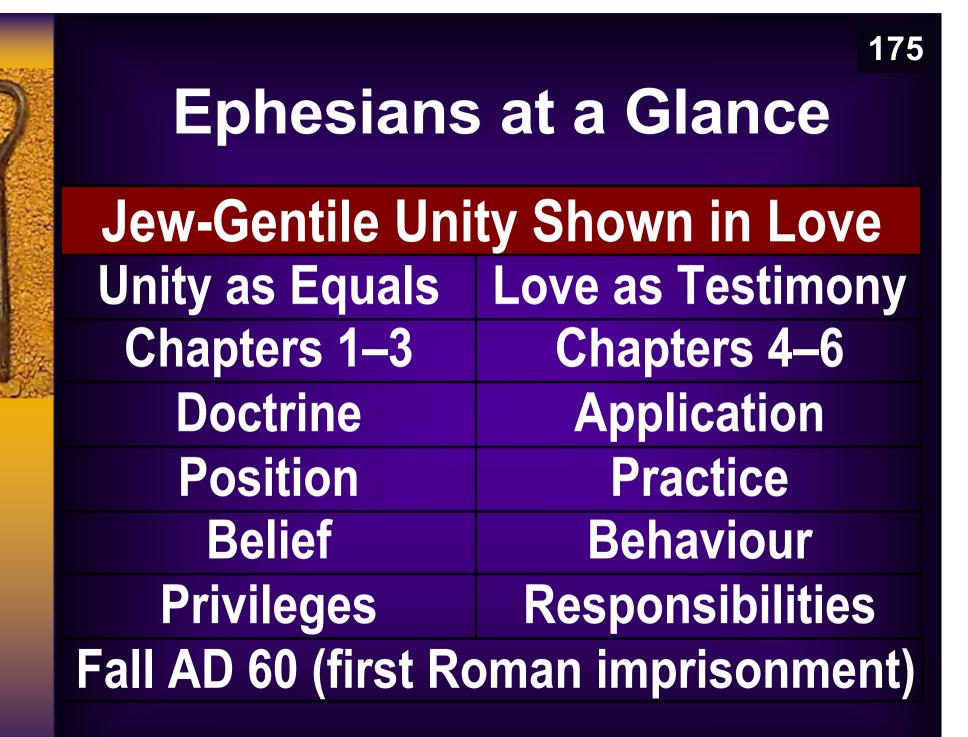
can cross over to us from there."

was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire."



The Do's (4:17-5:2)

- Put on your new self (4:17-22)
- Think anew (4:23)
- Be holy (4:24)
- Tell the truth (4:25)
- Do not sin in anger (4:26-27)
- Don't steal (4:28)
- Speak graciously (4:29)
- Be kind, compassionate & forgiving (4:31–32)
- Imitate God's love (5:1-2)



Let's see Eph. 4:11-13

Roles

The What

Purpose

The Why

What are our roles?

1. What is the <u>pastor-teacher</u> supposed to do?

2. What are the <u>people</u> supposed to do?

The issue in Eph. 4:11-13

Main Point #1 **Christ called** pastorteachers to equip you for your ministries (11-12a)

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The Gift of Prophecy

What is it? Is it here today?

Prophets

Hebrew: nabi
a mouthpiece for God
"spokesman, speaker, prophet"

Greek: prophetes "one who speaks for God, proclaiming what God wants to make known"

What is **Prophecy**?

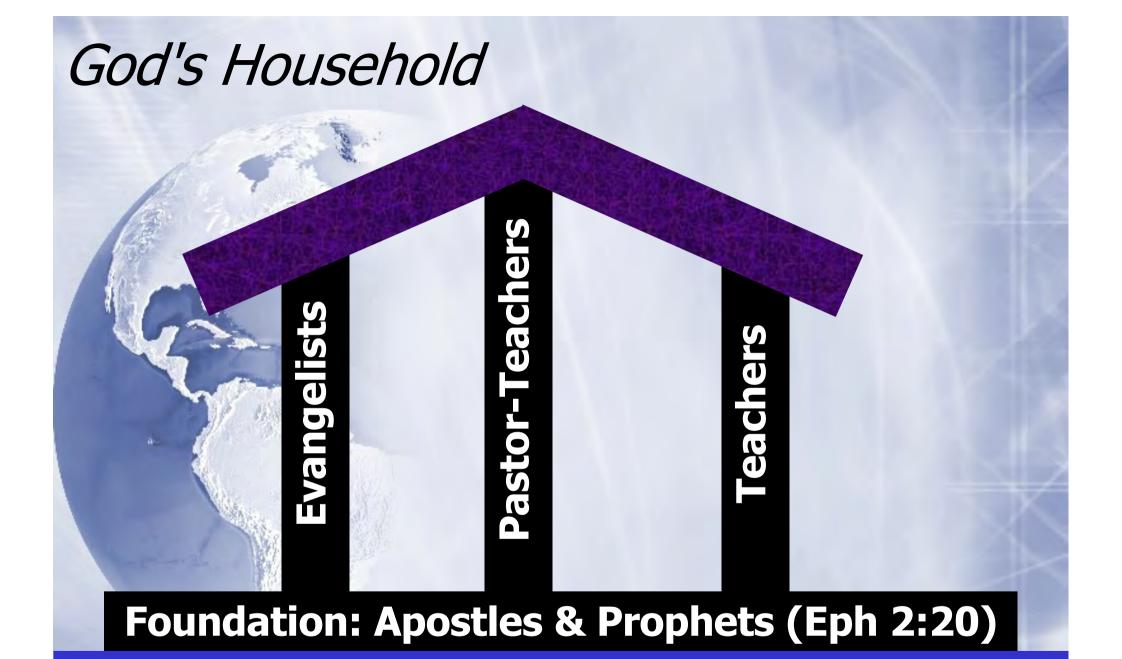
"knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit"

2 Peter 1:20-21 (ESV)

Tests of a True Prophet (Deut. 18:18-20)

1. Predictions 100% true

2. Worships the LORD



Foundation: The Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11)

A Stern Warning (Rev. 22:18-19)

"I warn everyone who hears the prophecy of this book:

- If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book.
- If anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and the holy city, which are described in this book"

Evangelists

 Is Billy Graham the standard?

Pastor-Teacher



Too often we think only of those with the *position* of pastor-teacher

Christ is the Good Shepherd



HE DUAL GIFT

And He gave some, apostles; and $(\delta \epsilon)$ some, prophets; and $(\delta \epsilon)$ some, evangelists; and $(\delta \epsilon)$ some, pastors and $(\kappa \alpha i)$ teachers

The Only "Dual" Gift

Pastor

Protection

Discipline

Leading

Caring

Teacher 110.25 Study Ants in Instruction Applyin אין הקויצאר השקט ובפות Warning שירעיא באיר מרצות



"Of course, feel free anytime to let me know what you think of the job I'm doing as your pastor."

Ephesians 4:11-12 (KJV) v. 11 And He gave Some, apostles; and $(\delta \epsilon)$ some, prophets; and $(\delta \epsilon)$ some, evangelists; and $(\delta \epsilon)$ some, pastors and $(\kappa \alpha \iota)$ te achers

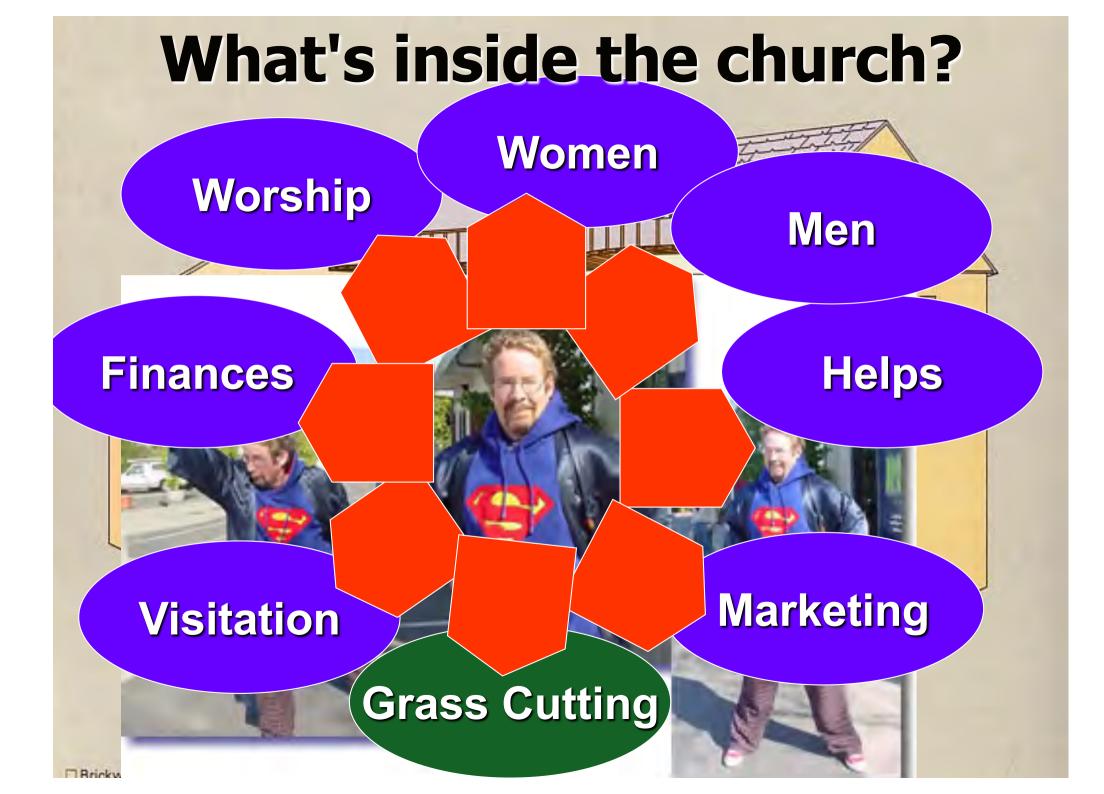
v. 12 KJV

for $(\pi\rho\sigma\sigma)$ the perfecting of the saints, for $(\epsilon\iota\sigma)$ the work of the ministry, for $(\epsilon\iota\sigma)$ the edifying of the body of Christ.

This implies the gifted men do all three ministries!

The Advertisement Read...

"Wanted: Pastor for a growing church—a real challenge for the right man. Must know about all problems of birth, life, sickness and death. Must know how to operate and fix copier. Able to sound learned at times but most of the time sounds like good-ole-Joe. Must pretend he likes hearing women talk. Applicant's wife must be both stunning and plain, never discouraged. Applicants will undergo evaluation by a committee of 100 to determine sanity."



"Equipping" (NAU, 4:12) "to prepare" (NIV)

καταρτισμός (katartismos = noun) equipping, training

καταρτίζω (katartizo = verb) mend, restore, set right, make complete $K \alpha \tau \alpha \rho \tau i \zeta \omega$ (katartizo = verb) mend, restore, set right, make complete

NAU 1 Thessalonians 3:10 complete what is lacking in your faith

NIV Hebrews 13:21 equip you with everything good for doing his will

Don't Expect Leaders to Hold the Sun!

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NASB)

v. 11 And He gave NASB some as apostles, and ($\delta\epsilon$) some as prophets, and ($\delta\epsilon$) some as evangelists, and ($\delta\epsilon$) some as pastors and ($\kappa\alpha\iota$) teachers.

v. 12 for $(\pi\rho\sigma\sigma)$ the equipping of the saints NASE for $(\epsilon\tau\sigma)$ the work of service to $(\epsilon\tau\sigma)$ the building up of the body of Christ.

God gave gifted men to train others to do ministry!

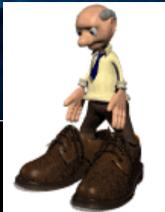
Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV)

v. 11 It was he who gave NIV some to be apostles, and some to be prophets, and some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers.

v. 12 to prepare God's people NIV for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up.

God gave gifted men to train others to do ministry!

Why No Comma?



v. 12 to prepare God's people NIV for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up.

1. All have the same "grace" (4:7)

- 2. The church is one body with parts that need each other (1 Cor. 12)
- 3. All are called and have the same armor (6:10-17)

God gave gifted men to train others to do ministry!

B. As pastor-teachers our role is to train you for your own ministry (12a)

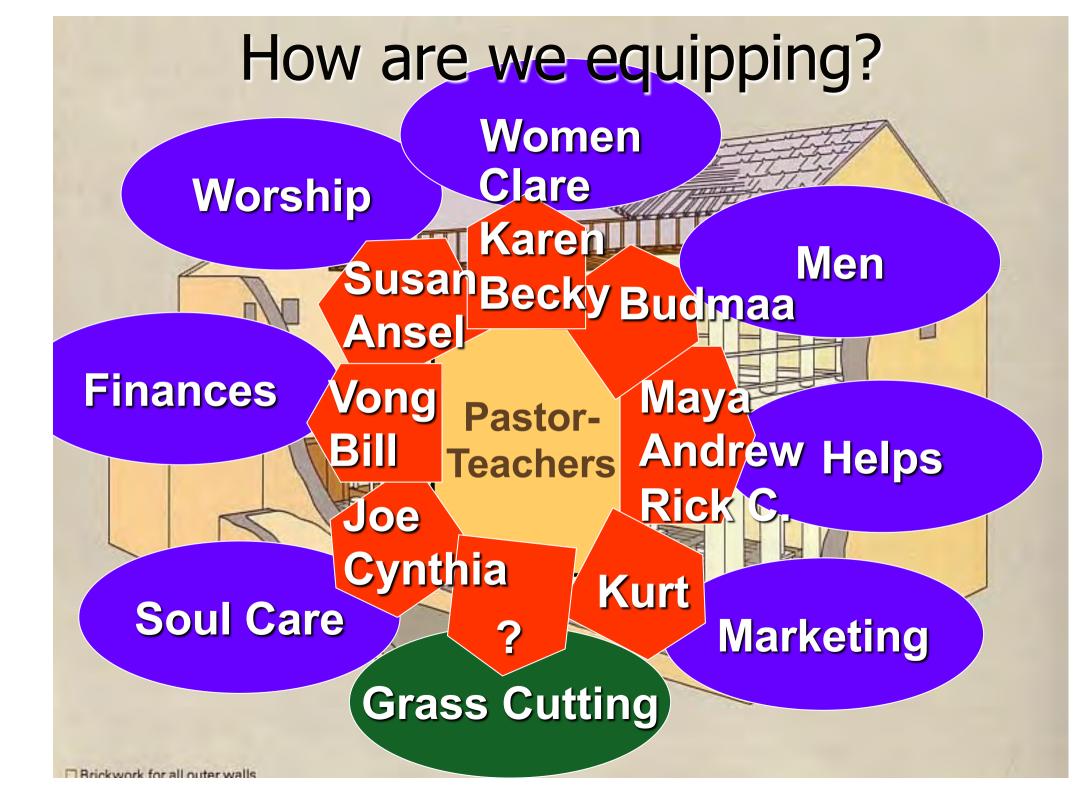
EQUIP

Works of

Service

DO

Pastor-Teachers



Flow of Eph. 4:11-13

Roles

The What

Purpose



Main Point #1

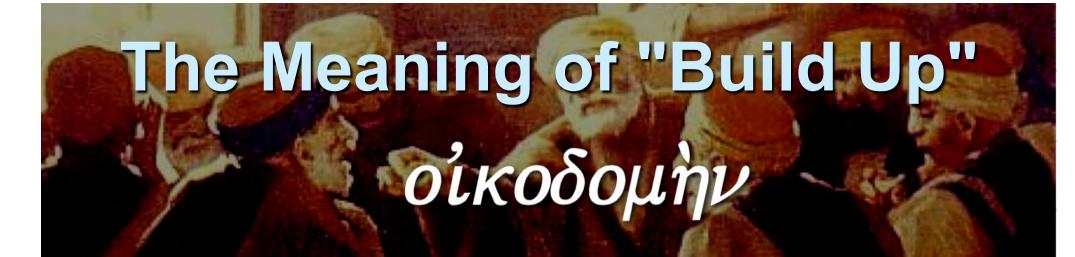
Christ called pastor-teachers to equip you for your ministries (11-12a) Main Point #2

Your being equipped will make the church like **Christ** (12b-13)

Poet le of Equipage

Encourages us (12b) Christlikeness

3c)





Upbuilding Strengthening Encouragement Building Structure

The Same Word for "Build Up" οίκοδομην

NIV Ephesians 4:16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.



The Same Word for "Build Up" οίκοδομην

NAU Ephesians 4:29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. Encourages us (12b) Unites us (13a) **3c Teaches us (13b)** Matures us (13c)

Christikeness



Why did God bring you here?

God's Design for Church Leadership

EQUIP

Pastor-Teachers

Works of Service

DO

—Main Idea— Christ called pastor-teachers to equip you to be like Christ !

So what?

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Action Points

 How can your pastor-teacher(s) better equip you for your unique role to better minister together?
 What role are you being equipped for?

Ministry/Servant Response Form

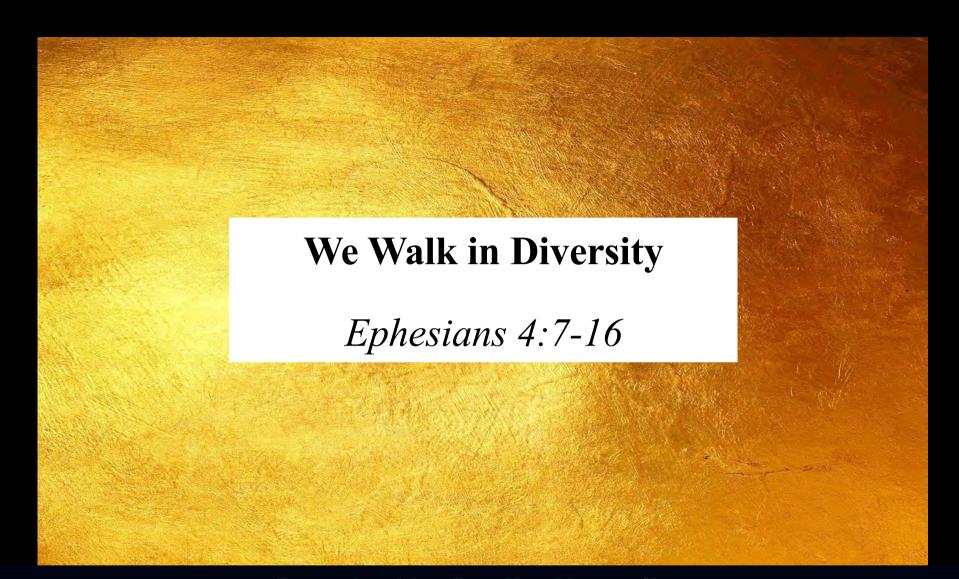
Name:		Date:	
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Usher			
□Set Up & 7	Take Down		
Administra	ation		
Deacon			
Women's N	Ainistry		
Worship le	ader/Song l	eader	
Musician :	what instru	ment	
□Vocalist			
A/V Tech			
DEvangelisn	n/Outreach		
Missions			
Small grou	p leader		
U Nursery we	orker		
Children S	S teacher		
Geodeservie	ce		
Prayer Min	nistry		
Pastoral C	are		
Other			

Comments:_____

Action Points

 How can the pastor-teachers better equip you for your unique role here?
 What role are you being equipped for?

 What character trait of Christ are you trusting God to equip in you this next year?
 How can we better help you develop here?



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for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

We Walk in Diversity

Ephesians 4:7-16

"This diversity of gifts is not only consistent with unity, but is essential to it." Charles Hodges

Our diversity is a gracious work of Christ (4:7-10)

Our diversity develops our maturity (4:11-16)

We mature through leaders who guide by God's instruction (4:11)

2 Corinthians 12:12

The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works.

Our diversity is a gracious work of Christ (4:7-10)

Our diversity develops our maturity (4:11-16)

We mature through leaders who guide by God's instruction (4:11)

James 5:14

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the <u>elders of</u> <u>the church</u>, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

Our diversity is a gracious work of Christ (4:7-10)

Our diversity develops our maturity (4:11-16)

We mature through leaders who guide by God's instruction (4:11)

Titus 1:5

This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and <u>appoint elders in every town</u> as I directed you

Our diversity is a gracious work of Christ (4:7-10)

Our diversity develops our maturity (4:11-16)

- We mature through leaders who guide by God's instruction (4:11)
- We mature by actively ministering to each other (4:12-13)
- We mature by discerning error (4:14)
- We mature by speaking the truth in love (4:15-16)



Vital issues that can cause division

Sin = Selfishness = Division Check: Self-evaluation & confession

Communication = Frustration = Division Check: Clarify & consider

Authority = Abuse & rebellion = Division Check: Biblical balance



We Do Not Walk Like the World

Ephesians 4:17-24



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for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

We Do Not Walk Like the World

Ephesians 4:17-24



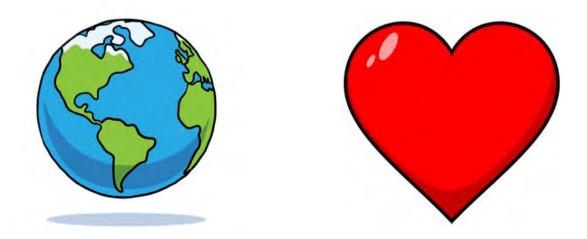
1 John 2:15-17

¹⁵ Do not love the <u>world</u> or the things in the <u>world</u>. If anyone loves the <u>world</u>, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the <u>world</u>—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the <u>world</u>. ¹⁷ And the <u>world</u> is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.



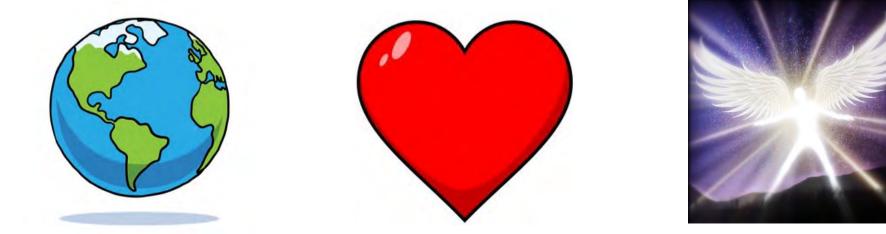
Galatians 5:16-17

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the <u>flesh</u>. ¹⁷ For the desires of the <u>flesh</u> are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the <u>flesh</u>, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.



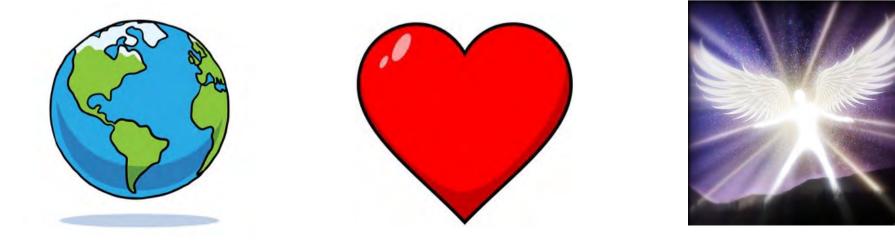
2 Corinthians 4:4

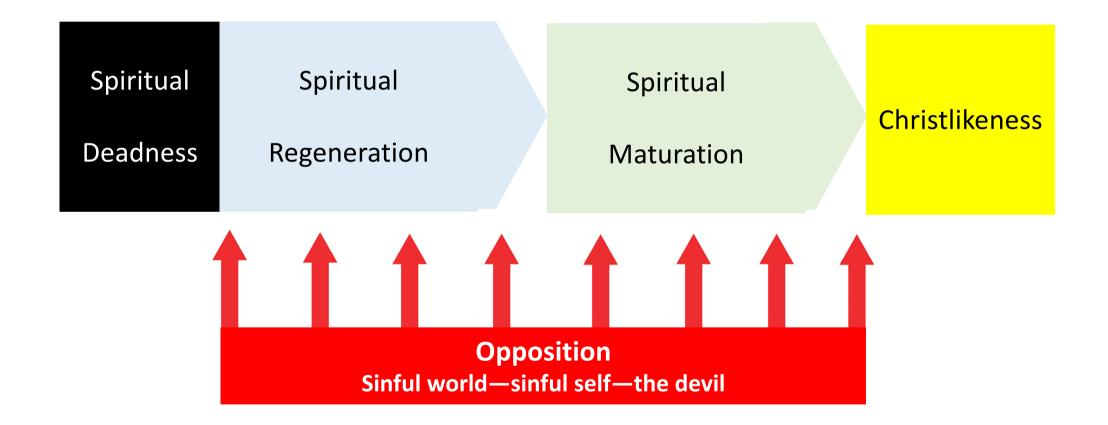
In their case the <u>god of this world</u> has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.



John 8:44

You are of your father <u>the devil</u>, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.





Stop living like an unregenerate person (4:17-19)



• A mindset without purpose (4:17)

"Because it lacks a true relationship with God, Gentile thinking suffers from the consequences of having lost touch with reality and is left fumbling with inane trivialities and worthless side issues." **Peter O'Brien**



- A mindset without purpose (4:17)
- Darkened in understanding (4:18a)
- Hard hearted towards God (4:18b)
- Callous in conscience towards impurity (4:19)



Replace sinful lifestyle with new lifestyle consistent with profession of faith (4:20-24)



"The readers of this letter did indeed learn the Christ, but not in such a way as to condone their old pagan habits. When they received the gospel, they were taught that Christian discipleship required the renunciation of all pagan vices and the cultivation of true Christian holiness."

Curtis Vaughn

- Put off old self (4:22)
- Put on new self
 (4:22-24)

2 Timothy 2:22 So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Portia Nelson

<u>Chapter 1</u> I walk down the street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I fall in. I am lost. . . I am hopeless. It isn't my fault.

It takes forever to find a way out.



Portia Nelson

Chapter 2

I walk down the same street.

- There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
- I pretend I don't see it.
- I fall in again.
- I can't believe I'm in the same place.

But it isn't my fault.

It still takes a long time to get out.



Portia Nelson

Chapter 3 I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I see it is there. I still fall in. . . it's a habit. My eyes are open. I know where I am. It is my fault. I get out immediately.

Portia Nelson

Chapter 4

I walk down the same street.

There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.

I walk around it.



Portia Nelson

<u>Chapter 5</u> I walk down another street.



We Do Not Walk Like the World

Ephesians 4:25-32

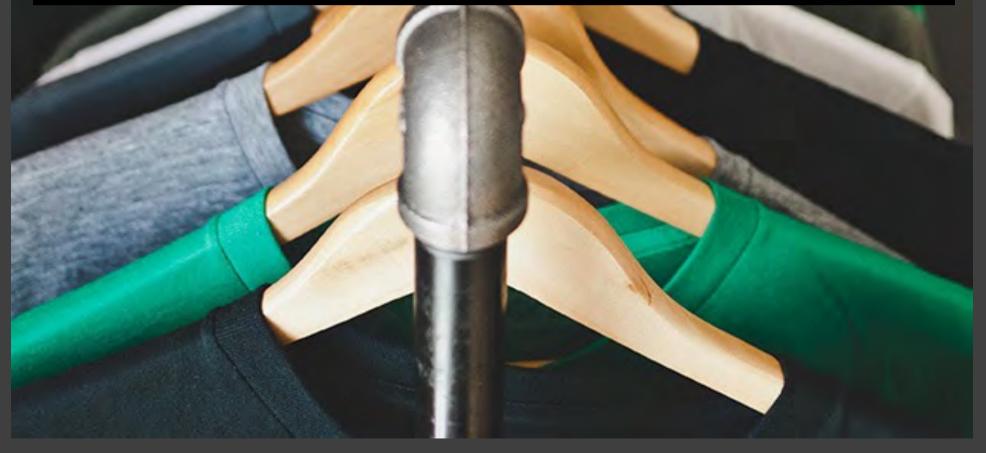


Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling at Crossroads International Church Singapore • CICFamily.com Uploaded by Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary Files in many languages for free download at BibleStudyDownloads.org We change from dishonest deception to integrity of truth (4:25)

Zechariah 8:16-17

¹⁶ These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace; ¹⁷ do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath, for all these things I hate, declares the LORD." *We change from dishonest deception to integrity of truth* (4:25)

We change from quickly giving in to temptations of anger to quickly resolving anger (4:26-27)



Psalm 4:2-5

² O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah*

³ But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*

⁵ Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

James 1:19-20

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

We change from dishonest deception to integrity of truth (4:25)

We change from quickly giving in to temptations of anger to quickly resolving anger (4:26-27)

We change from selfish taking to generous giving (4:28)

We change from destructive words to spiritually edifying words (4:29-30)

We change from embittered grudges to compassionate forgiveness (4:31-32)

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

Ephesians 4:29 NASB



CITY OF EPHESUS BACKGROUND OUTLINE SCRIPTURE IN SONG CHAPTERS 1–3 CHAPTERS 4–6 CONCLUSION

Overview Emphasis Application

Ephesians 5

The Don'ts (5:3-18)

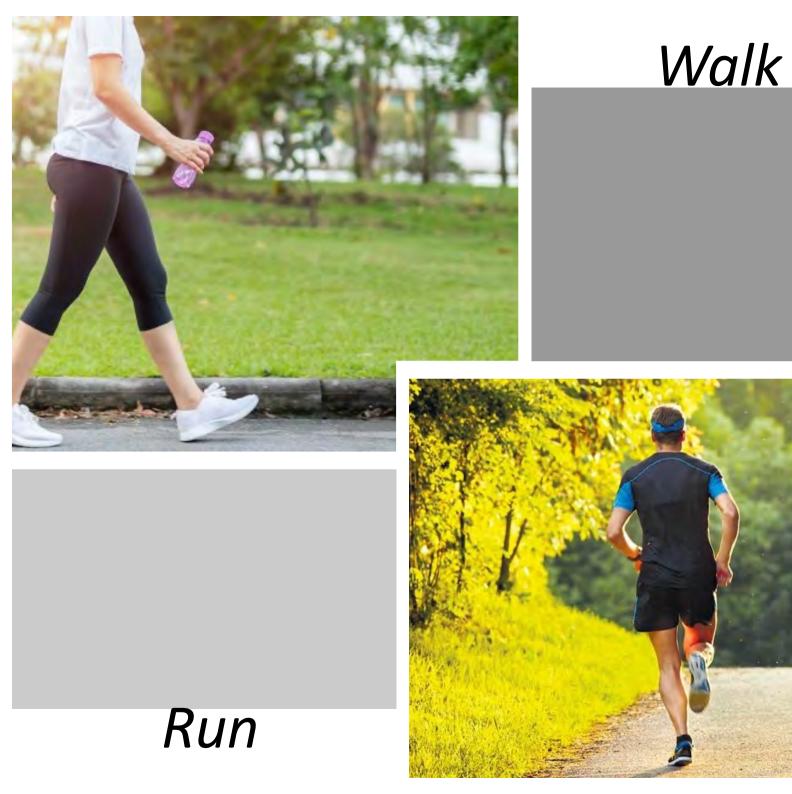
- Sexual immorality (5:3)
- Greed (5:3)
- Impurity (5:3)
- Obscenity (5:4)
- Foolish talk, coarse joking (5:4-5)
- Drunkenness (5:18)

$E P H E S I A N S \qquad 5 : 1 - 1 4$



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Taking a walk with the Ephesians

How

4:1 – "in a manner worthy of the calling"
4:17 – "no longer . . . as the Gentiles"
5:15 – "as wise"

Where

- 2:10 in prepared "good works" 5:1 – "in love"
- 5:8 "as children of light"



for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

 $E P H E S I A N S \quad 5 : 1 - 1 4$



Sacrifice self for others (5:1-2)

2 Corinthians 2:14-16 ¹⁴ But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the <u>fragrance</u> of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵ For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, ¹⁶ to one a <u>fragrance</u> from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.



Sacrifice self for others (5:1-2)

Live in purity and contentment (5:3-7)

Contrast the world's darkness (5:8-14)

• Remind yourself of your identity (5:8-9)

"If they are *light*, then let them behave as *children of light*, and this will mean living by values that are diametrically opposed to those of their surrounding society." Peter O'Brien

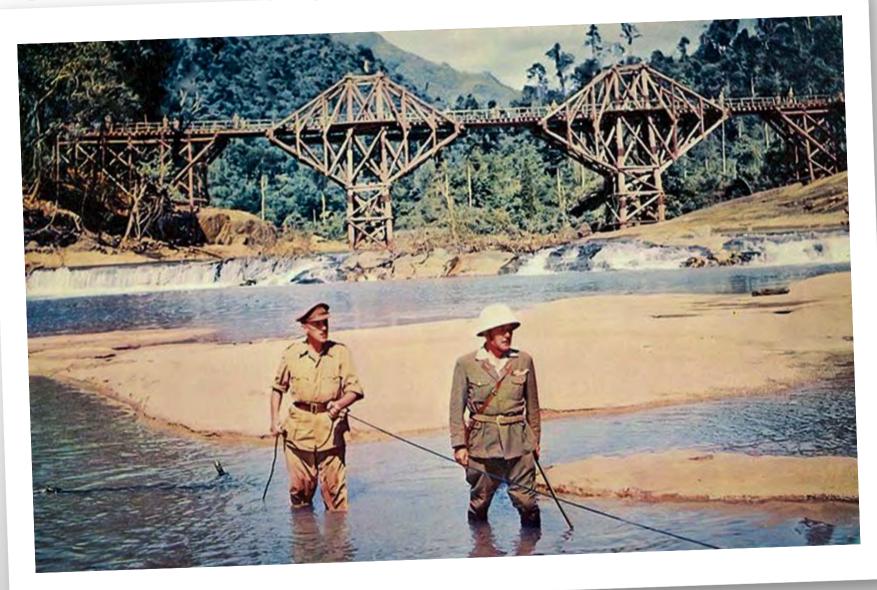
Sacrifice self for others (5:1-2)

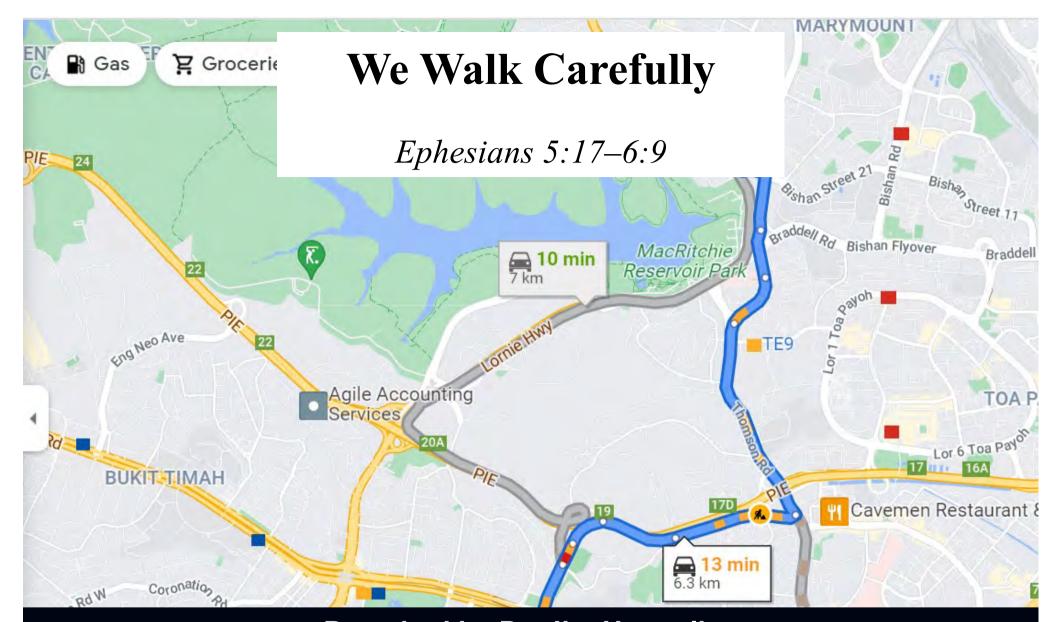
Uive in purity and contentment (5:3-7)

Contrast the world's darkness (5:8-14)

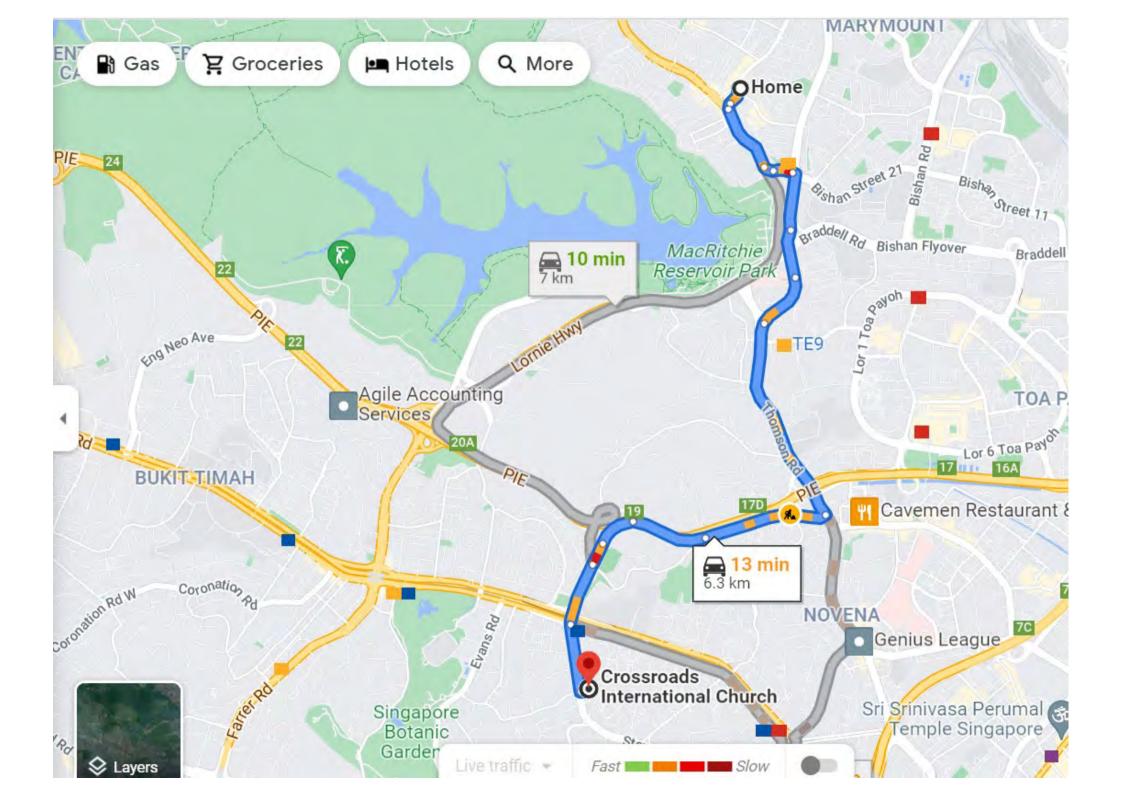
- Remind yourself of your identity (5:8-9)
- Discern what is pleasing to God (5:10)
- Expose and transform darkness (5:11-14)

Light in the Valley of the Kwai





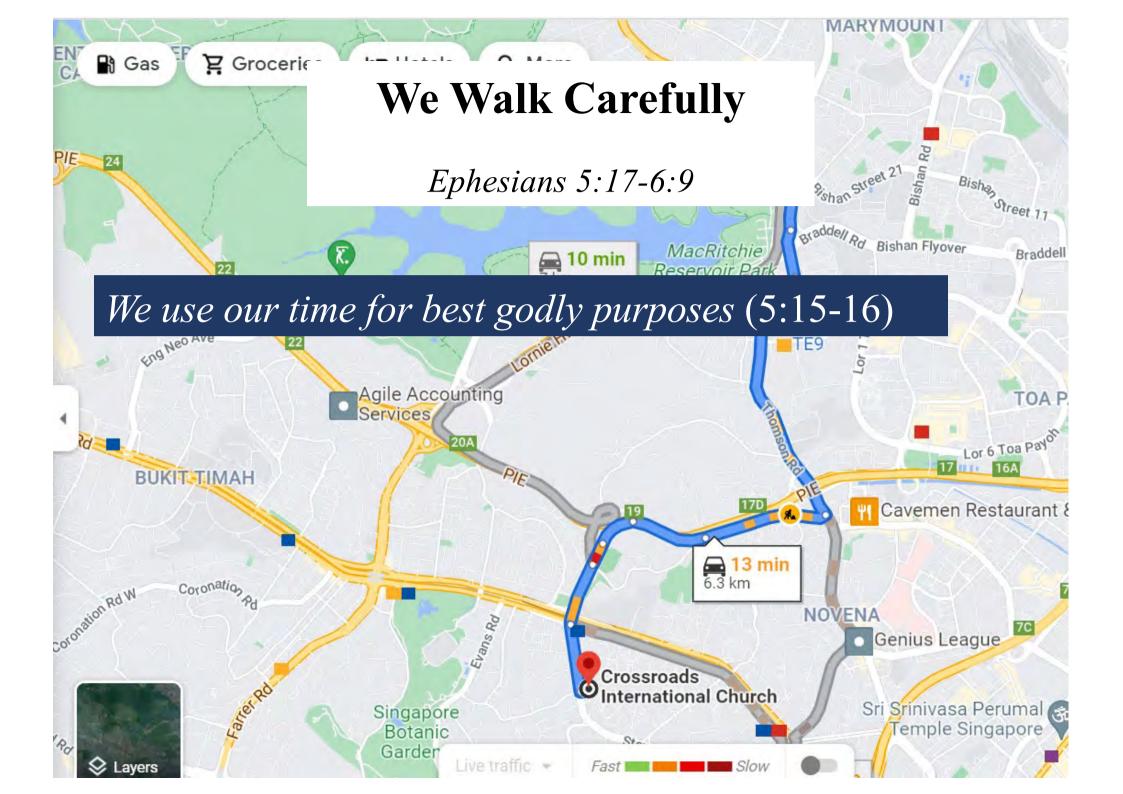
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for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians



"So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. ¹⁶Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. ¹⁷Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do" (Eph 5:15-17 NLT).

"Therefore, be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of your time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph 5:15-17 NAU).

How can you "redeem the time"?

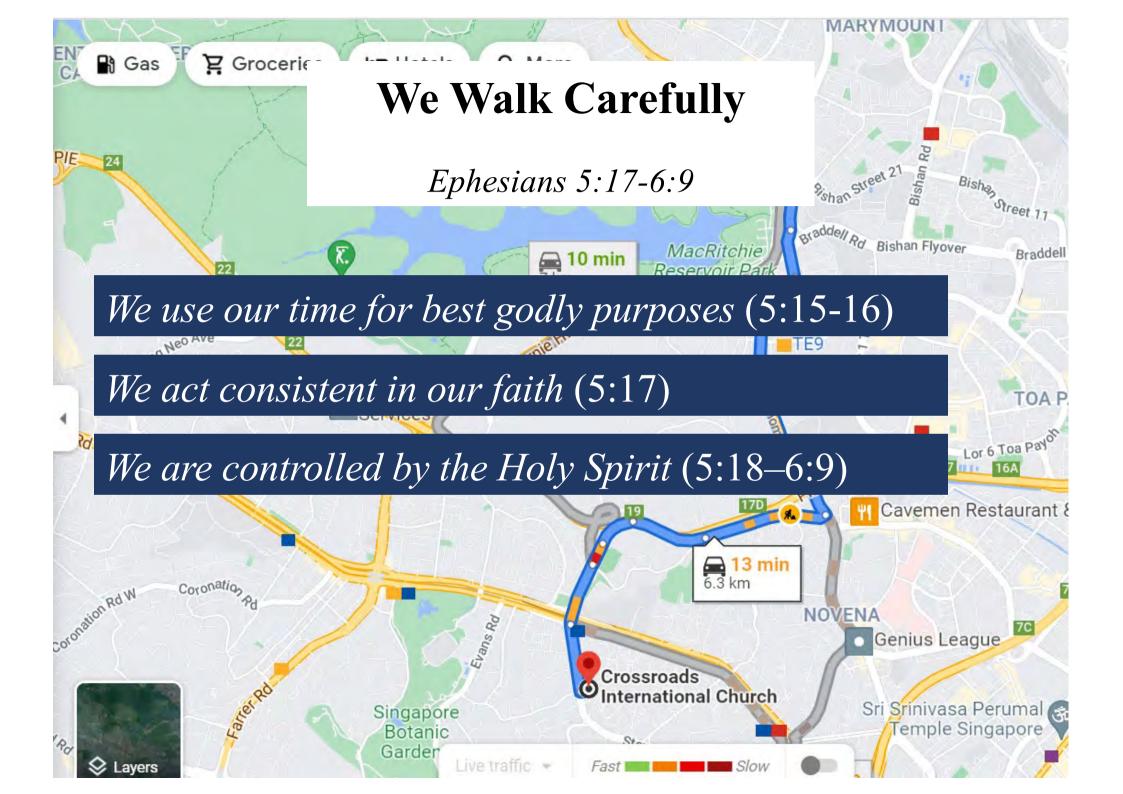




Bartering



"Certainly wise people know that time is a precious commodity. All of us have the same amount of time at our disposal, with sixty minutes in every hour and twenty four hours in every day. None of us can stretch time. But wise people use it to the fullest possible advantage. They know that time is passing, and also that *the days are evil*. So they seize each fleeting opportunity while it is there. For once it has passed, even the wisest people cannot recover it." **John Stott**



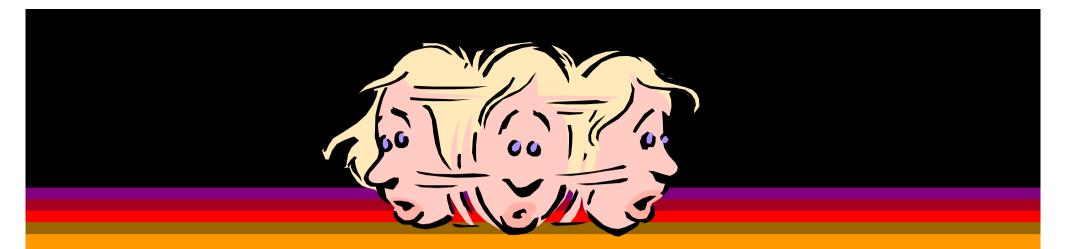
When someone is drunk...

Ephesians 5:18-20 NLT

Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,



¹⁹singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.
²⁰And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Can a believer sin to the extent that the Holy Spirit leaves?

Controversial Issues about the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

Baptism v. Filling	
--------------------	--

xxii

	The Baptism with the Holy Spirit	The Filling with the Holy Spirit
Definition or Purpose	The Spirit's work of placing believers into the body of Christ	The Spirit's work to empower (control) believers for service & equip them with Christ's character
Scripture	Prophesied (Matt. 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5); Fulfilled (Acts 2:1ff.; cf. 11:15-16); Explained (1 Cor. 12:13)	"Walk by the Spirit" (Gal. 5:16) "Keep in step with the Spirit" (Gal. 5:25) Be "led by the Spirit" (Gal. 5:18)
Key Passage	1 Corinthians 12:13	Ephesians 5:18
Tense	Aorist: past event, action undefined	Present: continuous, action repeated

	Baptism v. Filling xxii			
	The Baptism with the Holy Spirit	The Filling with the Holy Spirit		
Mood	Indicative: states a fact ("were baptized"), never commanded or shown "how to get the baptism"	Imperative: a command to heed ("be filled"), shown how to receive the filling by yielding ourselves to Christ		
Time Occurs	At salvation: "promiseis for all" (Acts 2:38-39), when they believed (Acts 11:16-17), "every spiritual blessing" (Eph. 1:3), "complete in Him" (Col. 2:9-10), "everything pertaining to godliness" (2 Pet. 1:3)	At and after salvation		

	Baptism v. Filling xxi	
	The Baptism with the Holy Spirit	The Filling with the Holy Spirit
Frequency	Not repeated (a one-time experience)	Repeated (throughout one's life; compare Acts 9:17; 13:9)
Participants	All Christians (spiritual and carnal) ("we were all baptized" 1 Cor. 12:13; cf. Gal. 3:2, 14; 4:6)	Spiritual Christians
Permanence	Eternal: cannot be undone	Temporal: can be lost (Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31)
Prerequisites	Faith in Christ	Yieldedness to Christ
OT occurrences?	No: never happened before Pentecost	Yes: OT believers sometimes empowered for service by the Spirit but not indwelt

	Baptism v. Filling xxii		
	The Baptism with the Holy Spirit	The Filling with the Holy Spirit	
Results	Position: Placed in the body of Christ (Church)	Practice: Praise, worship, thanksgiving, submissiveness (Eph. 5:19-21); Christ like character (Gal. 5:22-23); evangelism (Acts 2:4 with 2:41; 4:31 with 5:14; 6:3 with 6:7)	
Commanded?	Νο	Yes	
Sought?	No (Acts 11:15-16)	Yes	

John 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another <u>Helper</u>, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Acts 6:3

Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, <u>full of the Spirit and of wisdom</u>, whom we will appoint to this duty.

1 Corinthians 12:13

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

John 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another <u>Helper</u>, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be <u>in you</u>.

Being Spirit Controlled

• Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)

an strength

Results of Spirit Filling (Eph 5:18-21)

- Be filled with Spirit (5:18)
- Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (5:19a)
- Make music to the Lord (5:19b)
- Always be thankful (5:20)
- Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ (5:21)

Ephesians 5:21–6:9

Submission in the family of God



Family Life = Relationships Between...

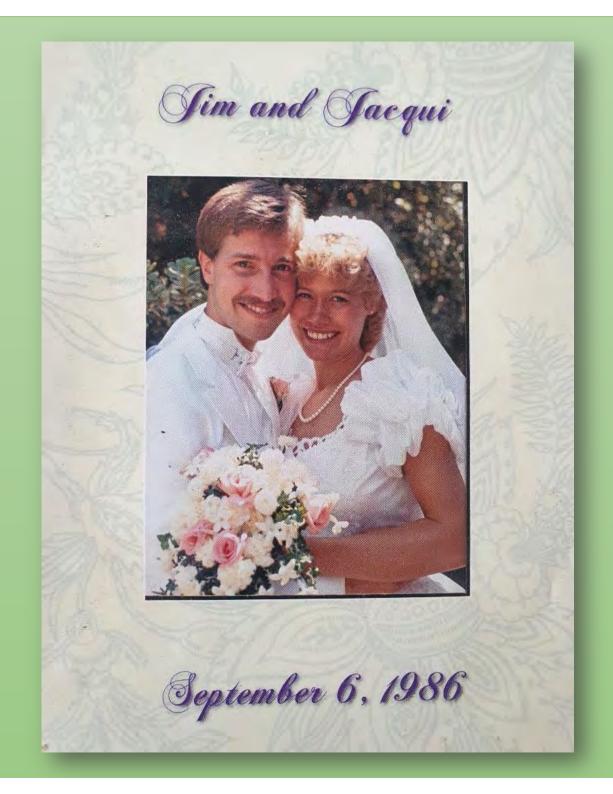
- husband and wife (5:21–33)
- parents and children (6:1-4)
- masters and slaves (6:5-9)

Specifics:

- Marriages should show mutual submission
- Raise children to obey their parents
- Employers & employees are both responsible

We Walk Carefully Spirit Controlled Marriage Ephesians 5:21-32

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Studies in Ephesians



Being Spirit Controlled

• Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)

and the second

• Spirit controlled marriage (5:21-32)

Unity Checklist

sovereign election (1:3-5) security of salvation (1:13-14; 4:30) mixture of races in the church (2:13-19) the work of the Holy Spirit (4:7-16; 5:18) male headship (5:22-32)

spiritual warfare (6:10-20)

Being Spirit Controlled

• Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)

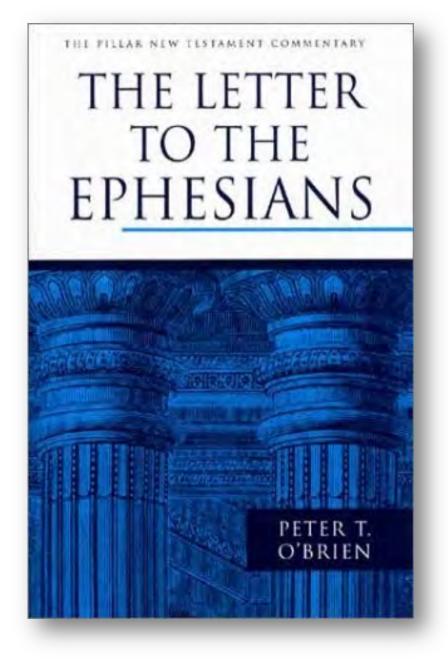
and the second

• Spirit controlled marriage (5:21-32)

Mutual Submission (Ephesians 5:21).

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ."





"The idea of subordination to authority in general, as well as in the family, is out of favour in a world which prizes permissiveness and freedom. Christians are often affected by these attitudes. Subordination smacks of exploitation and oppression that are deeply resented. But authority is not synonymous with tyranny, and the submission to which the apostle refers does not imply inferiority."







Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

—Ephesians 5:22-27 NIV—



Wives submit to their husband's spiritual leadership (22-24)

Husbands lead their wives towards spiritual maturity (25-32)



Christ's leading

Glorifier (v. 27)

Purifier (v. 26)

Savior (v. $\overline{23}$)



Nourish

Cherish





Speak with respectPursue virtue

Wives

1 Peter 3:1-6

¹Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, ² when they see your respectful and pure conduct. ³ Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—⁴ but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. ⁵ For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, ⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

- Speak with respect
- Pursue virtue
- Promote godly leadership

Wives

- Mature by modeling
- Love by serving
- Lead by fulfilling Christ's goal

Husbands

Ephesians 6

We Walk Carefully

Ephesians 6:1-9

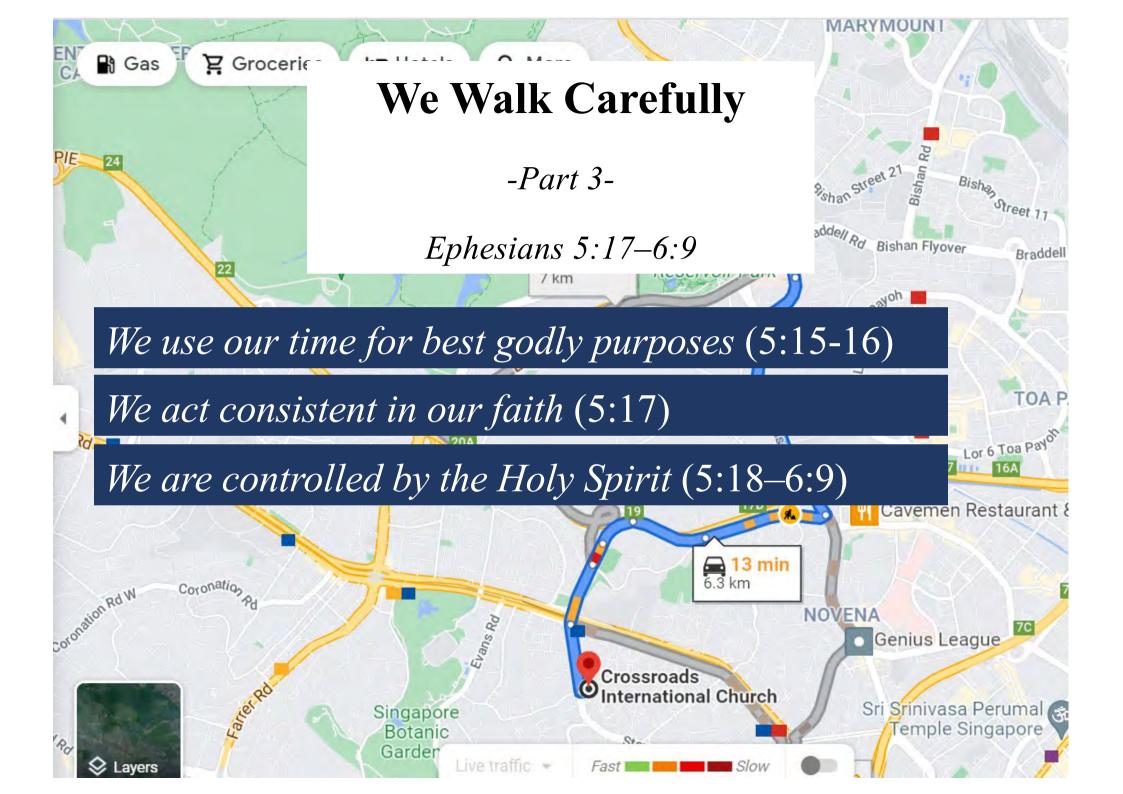
Spirit Controlled Family & Employment

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Studies in Ephesians



Being Spirit Controlled

• Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)

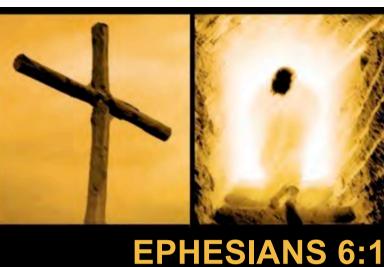
• Spirit controlled marriage (5:21-32)

• Spirit controlled family (6:1-4)

Parenting is the hardest job in the world







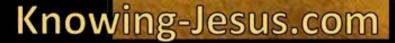


CHILDREN



OBEY YOUR PARENTS IN THE LORD

FOR THIS IS RIGHT





Children obey and honor parents

"in the Lord" "right"



That it may go well with you and you live long in the land

<u>Deuteronomy</u>
4:40
5:16
5:29
6:2-3
11:9
12:25
12:28
22:7
28:1-68
Proverbs 3:1-2

OBEY THE LAW OF GOD

1st Generation Israelites



2nd Generation Israelites



Did not enter the Promised Land Entered the Promised Land Children obey and honor parents

Parents nurture their children in the Lord



"Children are not allowed to grow up without care or control. They are to be instructed, disciplined, and admonished, so that they be brought to knowledge, self-control, and obedience." Charles Hodge > Children obey and honor parents

Parents nurture their children in the Lord

"do not provoke" "bring them up"



Being Spirit Controlled

- Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)
- Spirit controlled marriage (5:21-32)
- Spirit controlled family (6:1-4)
- Spirit controlled employment (6:5-9)

Love the Nations

"Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ" (Ephesians 6:5 NLT).

Love the Nations "Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart. ⁷Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people" (Ephesians 6:6-7 NLT).

Facts on Roman Slavery

- 50-60 million slaves in Roman Empire
- 1/3 population of Rome and Ephesus
- Became slaves due to debt, judicial sentence, & loss at war
- Some became slaves to gain Roman citizenship

Under the Roman system slaves could

- Purchase their freedom
- Gain education
- Own land
- Own slaves

Paul said . . .

- Gain freedom if possible, but live for Christ if you remain a slave (1 Cor 7:21-24)
- Philemon to offer freedom to his runaway slave Onesimus, but the runaway is also encouraged to return home (Philemon 15-17)

Employees work as unto the Lord
 "rendering service . . . as to the Lord" "with a sincere heart" "not by the way of eye-service"

"with a good will"





Questions to ask

- "Is this the best I can do?"
- "Would God approve of my work or work attitude?"
- "Do I treat others, either subordinates or superiors, with fairness, kindness, and respect?"
- "Am I a cheerful person to be around?"

Employees work as unto the Lord

> Employers treat their employees with fairness

"do the same to them"





Is there a battle between human armies?

Our Real Enemy

Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹²For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

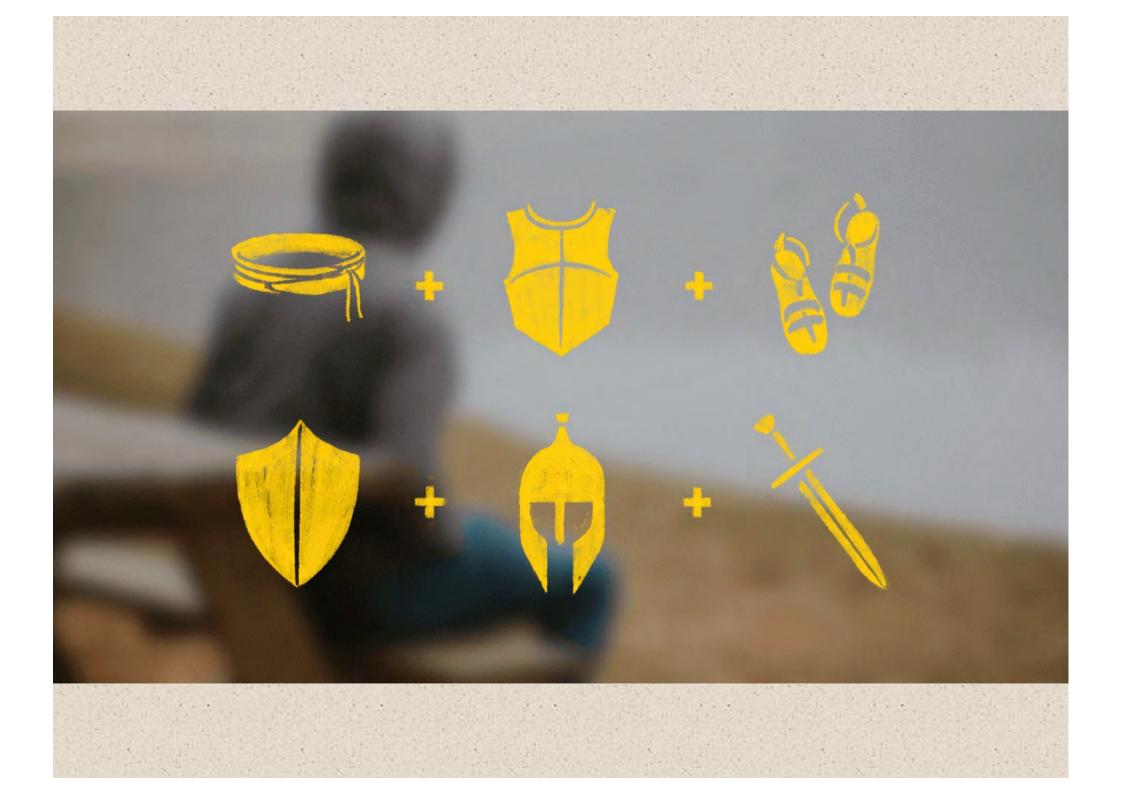
—Ephesians 6:11-12 NLT—

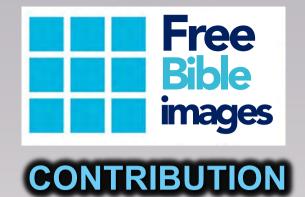


Ephesians 6:10-20

The Armor of God "A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹²For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:10-12 NLT).

180h





Ephesians 6:10-20 THE CHRISTIAN'S ARMOUR

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Held up flowing robe and sword

= integrity



Breastplate of righteousness



Protected vital organs

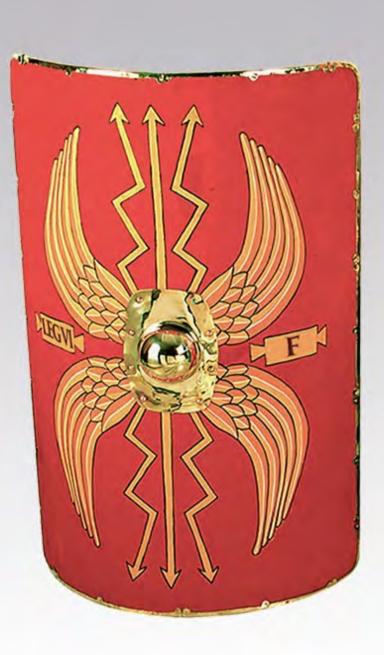
= imputed righteousness

Shoes that lead to peace



Sure footing and mobility to fight anywhere

= availability in evangelism



Shield of faith



Shield of faith

Extinguished fiery arrows and fended off swords

= faith to fight temptations





Protected from head injury

000080000

= assurance of salvation

Sword of the Spirit

Attacked the foe or defended against attack

= using God's Word

Unity in battle

"The Turtle"

= advancing together

Protecting one another



CONTRIBUTED BY

David Padfield

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Roman Soldier



Pieces of the Armor

Helmet (17a)

180h-i

Breastplate (14b) Sword (17b) Belt (14a)

Shield (16)

Shoes (15)

180i Weapons



Poman	Spiritual	Defende	D ractical	
Function	Meaning	Against	Applica-	
		Accusa-	tions	
		tions of		
			Function Meaning Against	Function Meaning Against Applica- Accusa- tions





CITY OF EPHESUS BACKGROUND OUTLINE SCRIPTURE IN SONG CHAPTERS 1–3 CHAPTERS 4–6 CONCLUSION

Q&A Recap

RECAP: The Book of Ephesians

Written in AD 60 at the first Roman imprisonment to strengthen Jew-Gentile unity in Ephesus to show love as a witness

- God's work of redemption and sanctification
- Response: the Christian's walk of unity, repentance and power

Key verses in 4:2-3 extol us to live a life worthy of the calling we have received

"And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike" (Ephesians 6:19 NLT).

Love one another

²³ Peace be with you, dear brothers and sisters, and may God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you love with faithfulness.

²⁴ May God's grace be eternally upon all who love our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6: 23-24 (NLT)

How can our church be united despite our many different kinds of people?



Love God, love the church as equals, and love the nations



Main Idea of Ephesians

How to be united...



Eph 1–3

How to be united...

Love the Church Love God

Eph 4–6

How to be united...

Love the Nations

Love the Church

Love God

Ephesians

"And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth" (Ephesians 1:10 NLT).

"God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church" (Ephesians 1:22 NLT).

"And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself" (Ephesians 1:23 NLT).

"So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:7 NLT).

"Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them" (Ephesians 5:11 NLT).

"Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ" (Ephesians 6:5 NLT).

Love the Nations "Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. As slaves of Christ, do the will of God with all your heart. ⁷Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people" (Ephesians 6:6-7 NLT).

"And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike" (Ephesians 6:19 NLT).

Think about it.

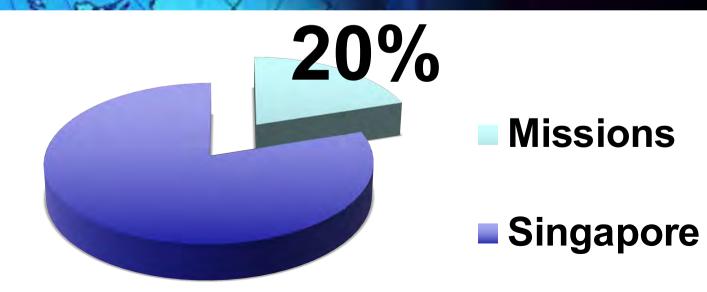
Do you really act like you are equal with other members of the body of Christ?

- Maids?
- Former Muslims (Malays)?
- Believers in Prison?
- Poor churches of India, Myanmar, Bangladesh, etc.?
 How do you show your unity with believers different from you?

Crossroads in Missions



Missions Giving





Love the Church Love God



Unity in Diversity Brings Joy!

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