

Unity in Love



E p h e s i a n s

Key Word

175

Unity

Ephesians

Theme

23

**Jew-Gentile Unity
Shown in Love**

Ephesians

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).

Ephesians

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.

Ephesians



Kingdom Statement

27c

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.

Ephesians

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).

Ephesians

Redemption

27c

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

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

Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love

175

Love as Equals

Love as Testimony

Chapters 1–3

Chapters 4–6

Doctrine

Application

Position

Practice

Belief

Behaviour

Privileges

Responsibilities

Ephesians

Salutation

Position

Reconciliation

Uniqueness

Unity

Holliness

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 **C**alling of the church
- 2 **H**eavenly position for individuals
- 3 **U**nderstanding of the mystery
- 4 **R**easons for spiritual gifts
- 5 **C**hrist's example for marriage
- 6 **H**elp in spiritual warfare

EPHESIANS



Barry Huddleston, *The Acrostic Bible*

Be United



Ephesians

**Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church Singapore
CICFamily.com & BibleStudyDownloads.org**

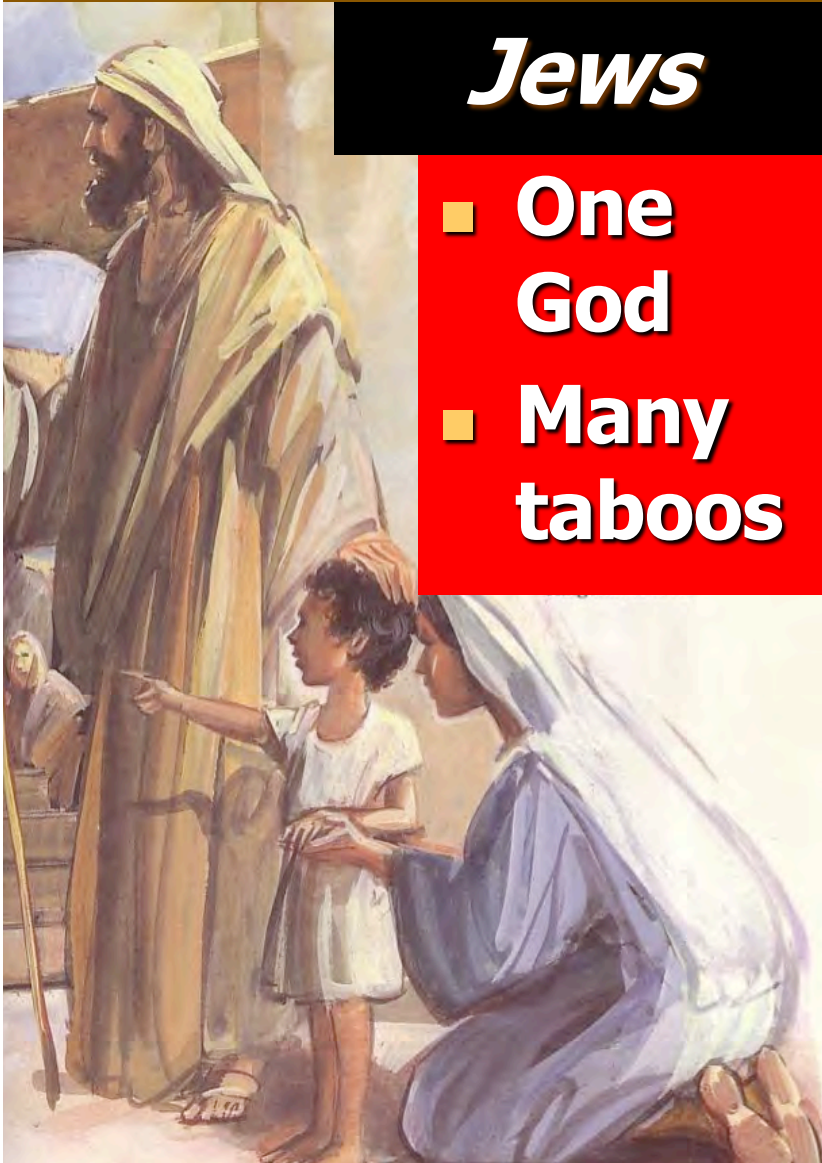
How can our church
be united
despite our many different
kinds of people?



Sometimes Christians mistreat others of a different ethnic group

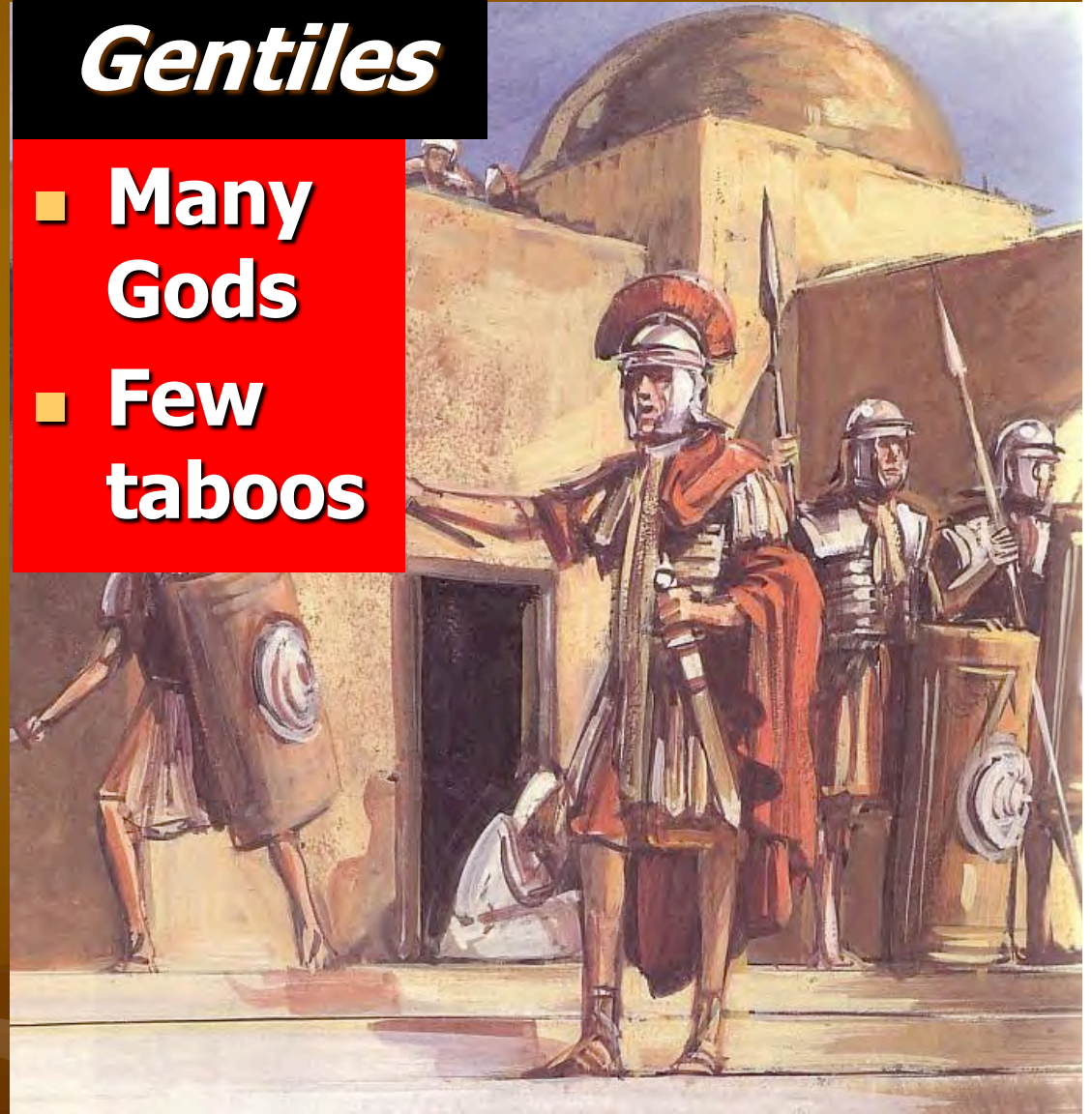
Jews

- One God
- Many taboos



Gentiles

- Many Gods
- Few taboos



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"

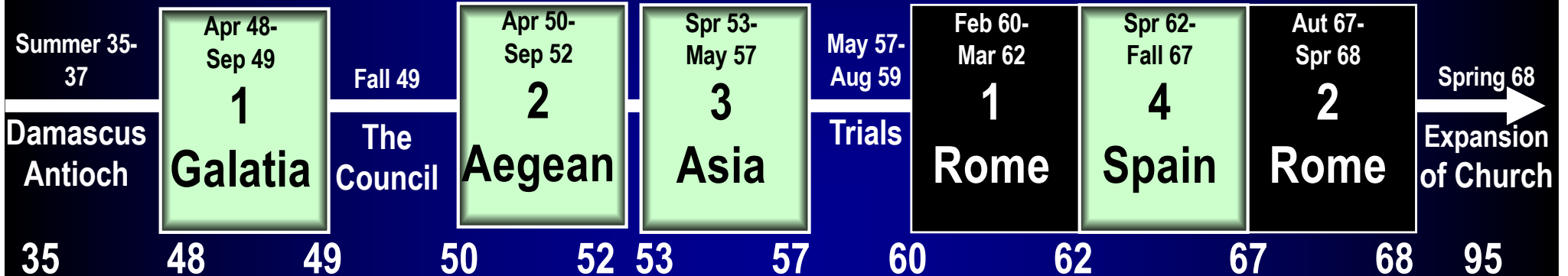


NT Overview (Paul's Letters)

38
124
39-41

"To the remotest part of the earth" (Acts 1:8)

Acts 9 13 14 15 16 18 21 27 28



Matt

Luke

Acts

Mark

John

Missionary

- Justify
- Rapture
- Tribulation
- Sanctify
- Apostle
- Righteous

Prison

- Unity
- Deity
- Forgive
- Attitude

Pastoral

- 1 Tim
- 2 Tim
- Titus

Gospels & Acts

Pauline Epistles

1234

Journeys

Rome

Imprisonments

Which letters are Prison Epistles?

- Ephesians
- Colossians
- Philemon
- Philippians



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

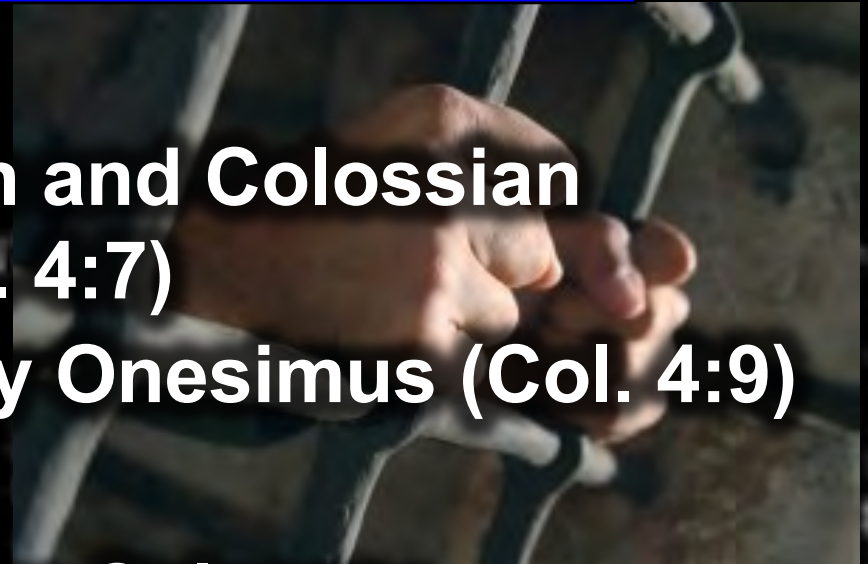
- He carried the Ephesian and Colossian epistles (Eph. 6:21; Col. 4:7)
- He was accompanied by Onesimus (Col. 4:9)

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)

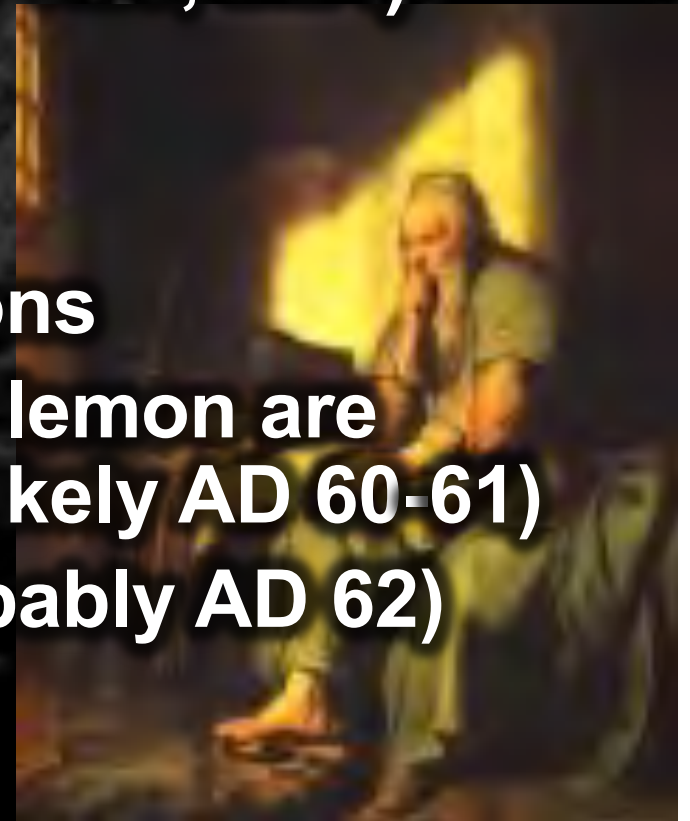


What was Paul's attitude?

- 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...

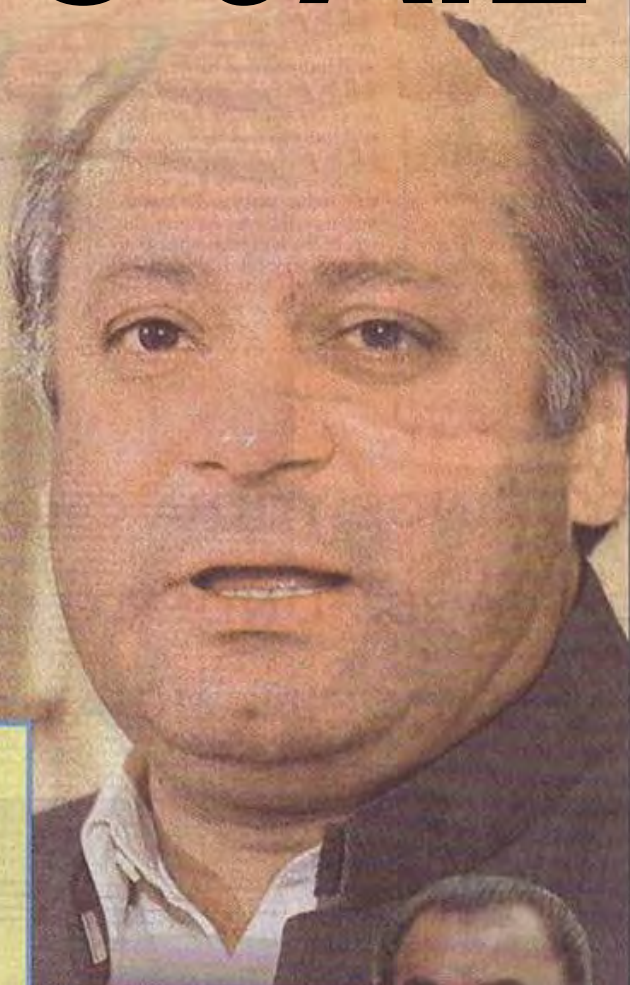
- ❑ Paul typically had a scribe write (Rom 16:22)
- ❑ Paul was under house arrest (Acts 28:30-31)
- ❑ Paul was chained to a guard (Acts 28:16)
- ❑ Paul was ≤ 60 years old (not 80 like this man!)

GO TO JAIL

LIFE

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

• Page 2



7 MONTHS

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
2. Note that a deacon appears with a terrorist & tax cheat

ST 7 April 2000
4

CJ to church man: Sorry, you must go to jail

Mandatory penalty means deacon can't be spared jail even though he rented flat to illegal immigrants unwittingly

enders were arrested.
Seow, who has three children, was convicted in November of harbouring them and sentenced to seven months' jail.
In appealing against both the conviction and sentence...

mits, which he eluded at be-

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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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?

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

MAIN MENU

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

Location

Places of Interest



Place & Date

Paul wrote this Ephesians during his first imprisonment in Rome, AD 60. He also wrote other "prison epistles": Colossians, Philemon, Philippians.



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



Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey



- city
- ⦿ addressee of Pauline Epistle
-) mountain pass
- ▲ mountain peak
- Third Missionary Journey: Paul

MI. 0 50 100 150
KM. 0 50 100 150 200

Ephesus Notables

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



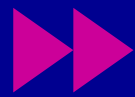
Recipients



- 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.

MAIN MENU

CITY OF EPHESUS



BACKGROUND

OUTLINE

SCRIPTURE IN SONG

CHAPTERS 1–3

CHAPTERS 4–6

CONCLUSION

Authorship

Date

Key People

Audience

Features

Purpose

BACKGROUND

Authorship

Date

Key People

Audience

- Paul
- Prison 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. Purpose: Various defined
 - B. Demonology & Spirit emphasized
 - C. Prayers
 - D. Ephesians has the longest sentence of any NT writing and 8 lengthy sentences total (1:3-14, 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
<i>Similarities:</i>	
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)	"in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (1:14)
"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)	"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)

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

189-190

Ephesians	Colossians
<i>Differences</i>	
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

BACKGROUND

Metaphors for the Church

- **Body**
- **Temple**
- **Mystery**
- **New Man**
- **Bride**
- **Soldier**

BACKGROUND

Problems in Ephesus

- **Not anticipating heaven**
- **Unsure of forgiveness**
- **Succumbing to sin**
- **Ethnic conflicts**
- **Same as society**
- **Attitudes to roles**

BACKGROUND

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:

1. an increasing awareness of their relationship to Him and their new standing in Christ as equal heirs with Jewish Christians (1–3)
2. the day-to-day experience of walking in that light by showing their unity in love (4–6)



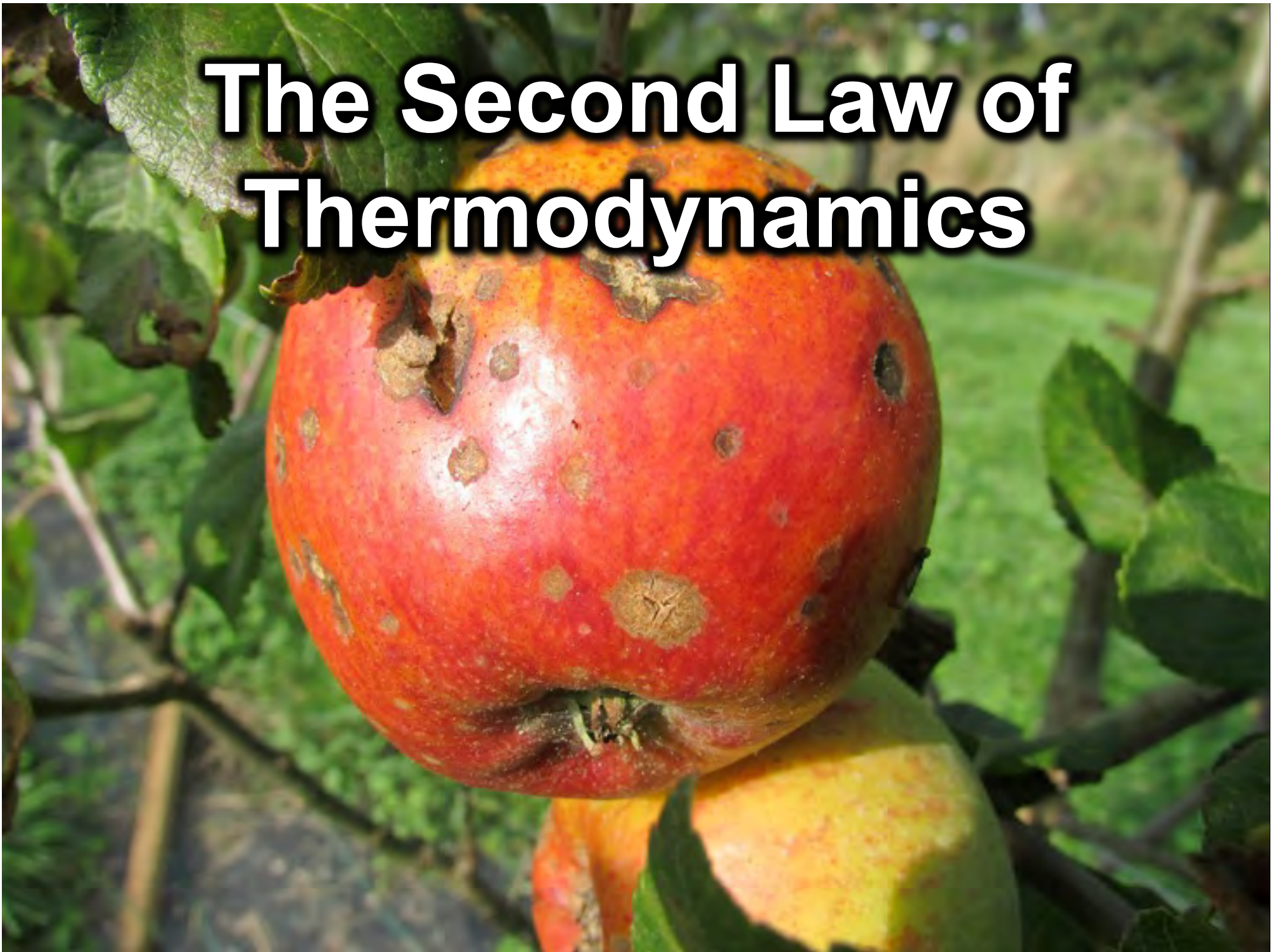
Be United



Ephesians

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The Second Law of Thermodynamics



The Second Law of Thermodynamics

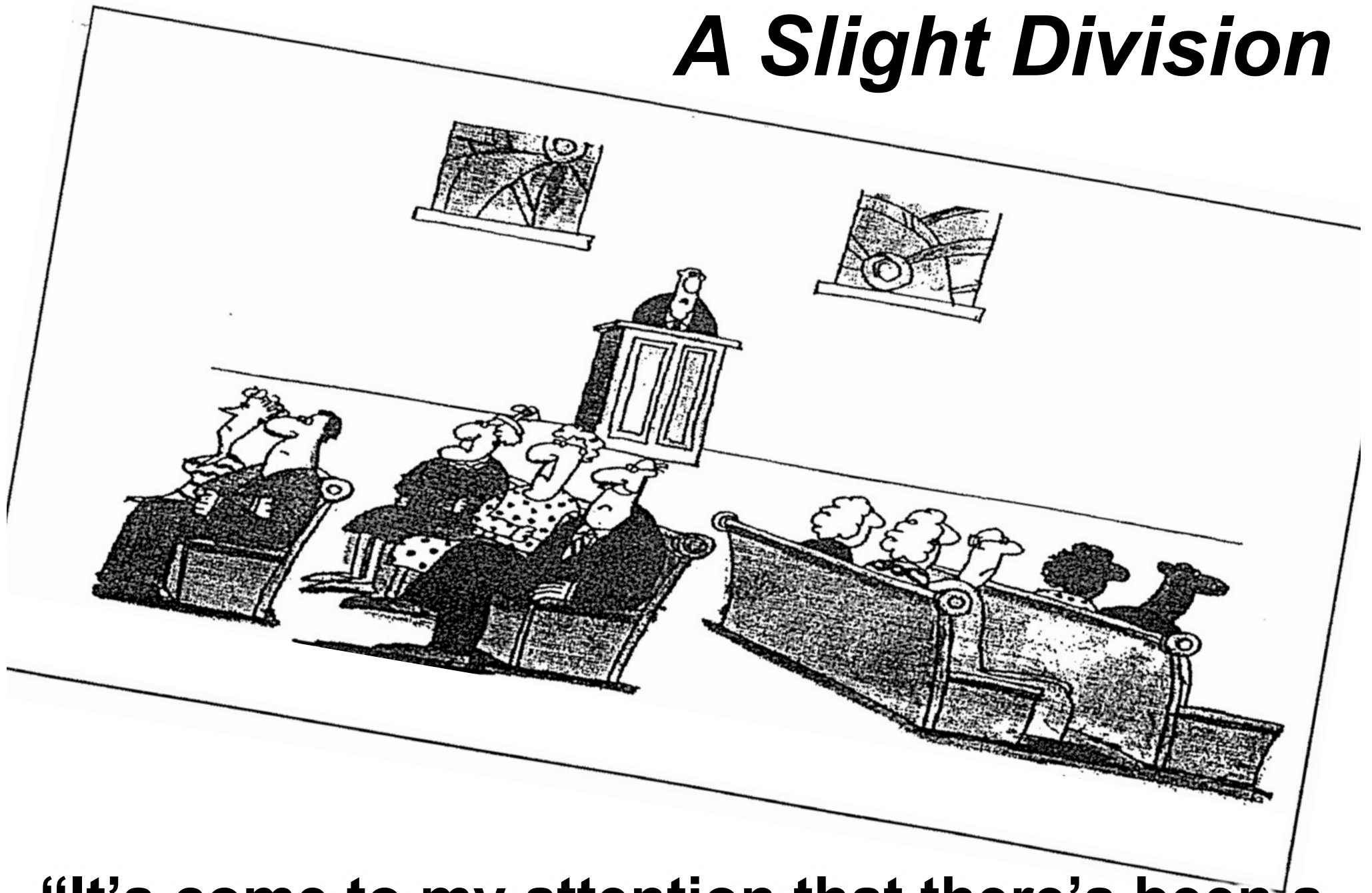


**You're right, we don't
have any dark sheep.
But they have their
own flocks. It's much
better that way!**

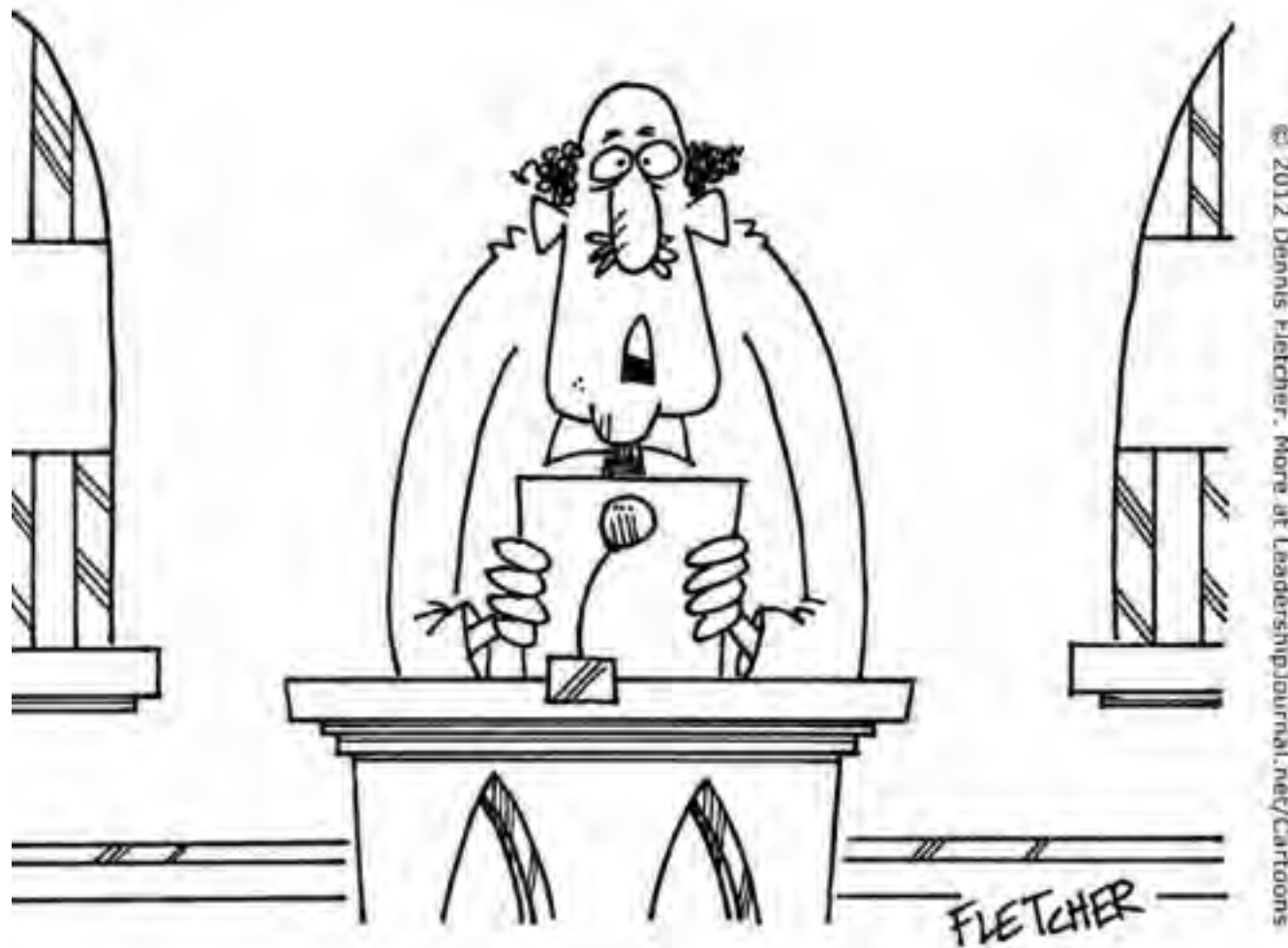


From Issue #77/February-March, 1984
"The Door" magazine

A Slight Division



“It’s come to my attention that there’s been a minor split in the church.”



“...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.”



© 2011 Dennis Fletcher. More at LeadershipJournal.net/Cartoons

“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?

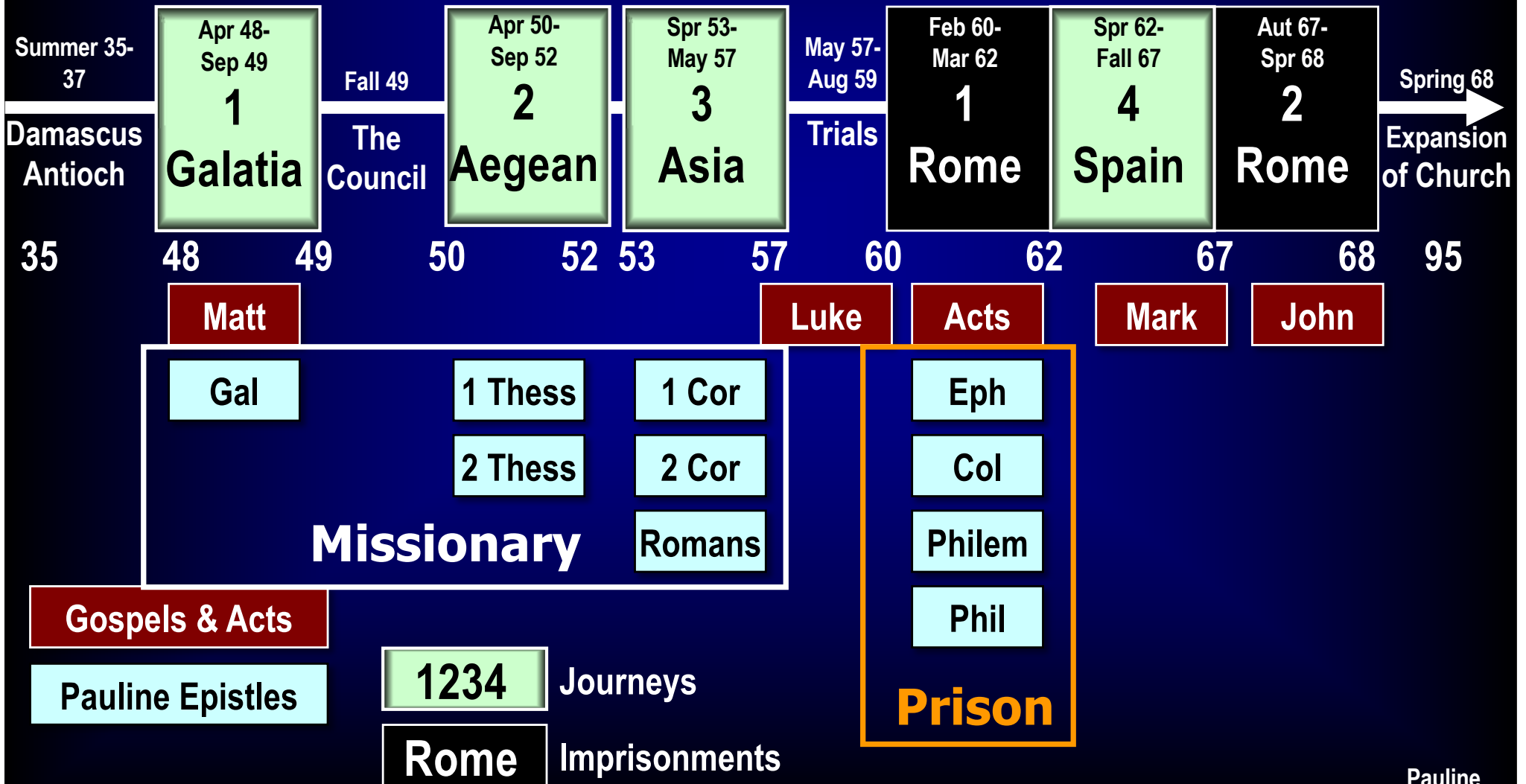


NT Overview (Paul's Letters)

38
124
39-41

“To the remotest part of the earth” (Acts 1:8)

Acts 9 13 14 15 16 18 21 27 28



Rome

Ephesus

EPHESIANS

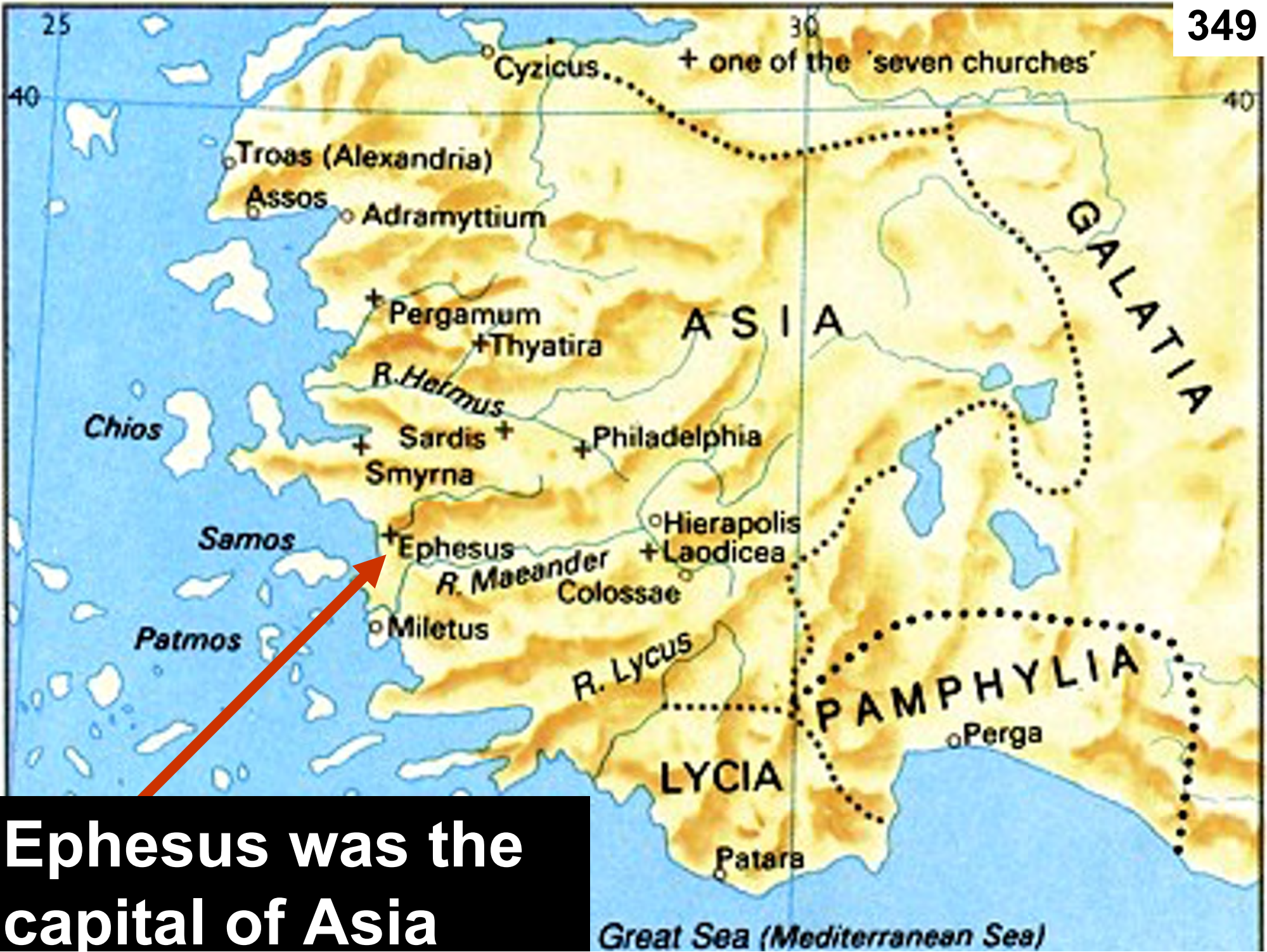


Key Word

175

Unity

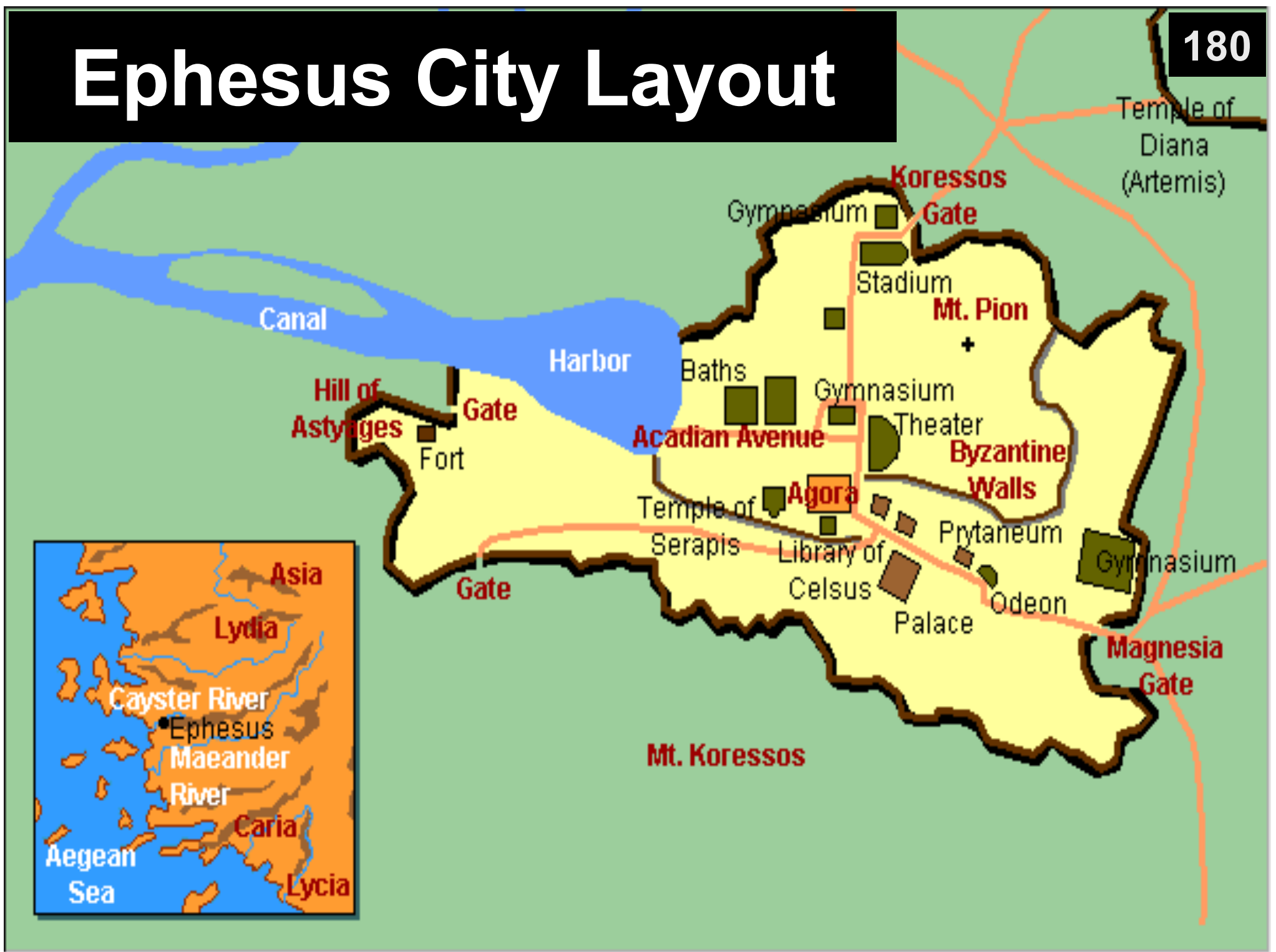
Ephesians



Ephesus was the capital of Asia

Great Sea (Mediterranean Sea)

Ephesus City Layout



A Centre of Culture





Photo Album

Artemis, Goddess of Fertility



Marble Roads



(c) Jorgen Wouters



Seven Wonders of the Ancient World

The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus

180c



180c



Artemis (Diana) Video (cf. Acts 19)

180c

John's Tomb

Castle

Mosque

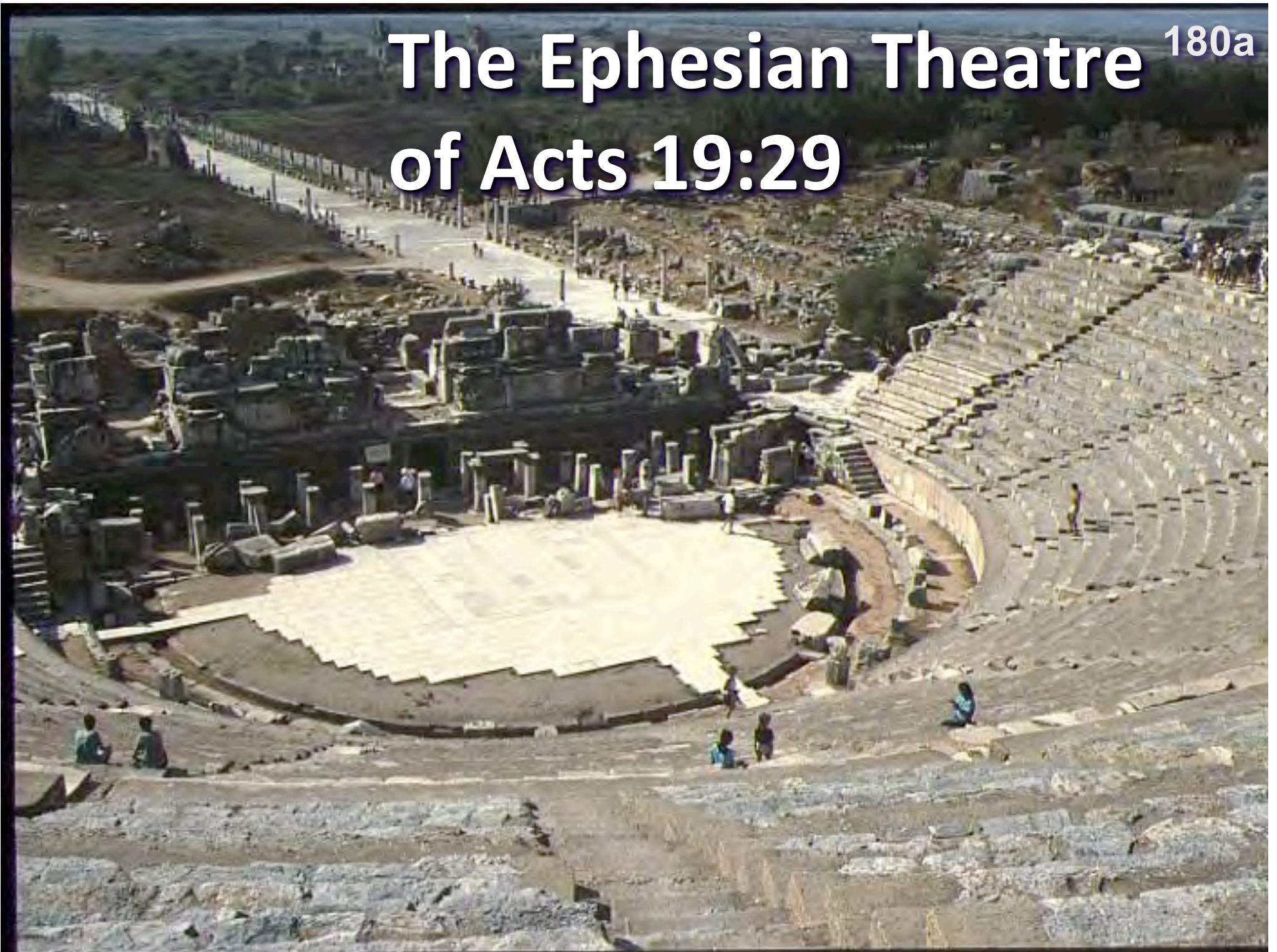


The Temple of Diana (Artemis) Today



The Library of Celsus

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



180a

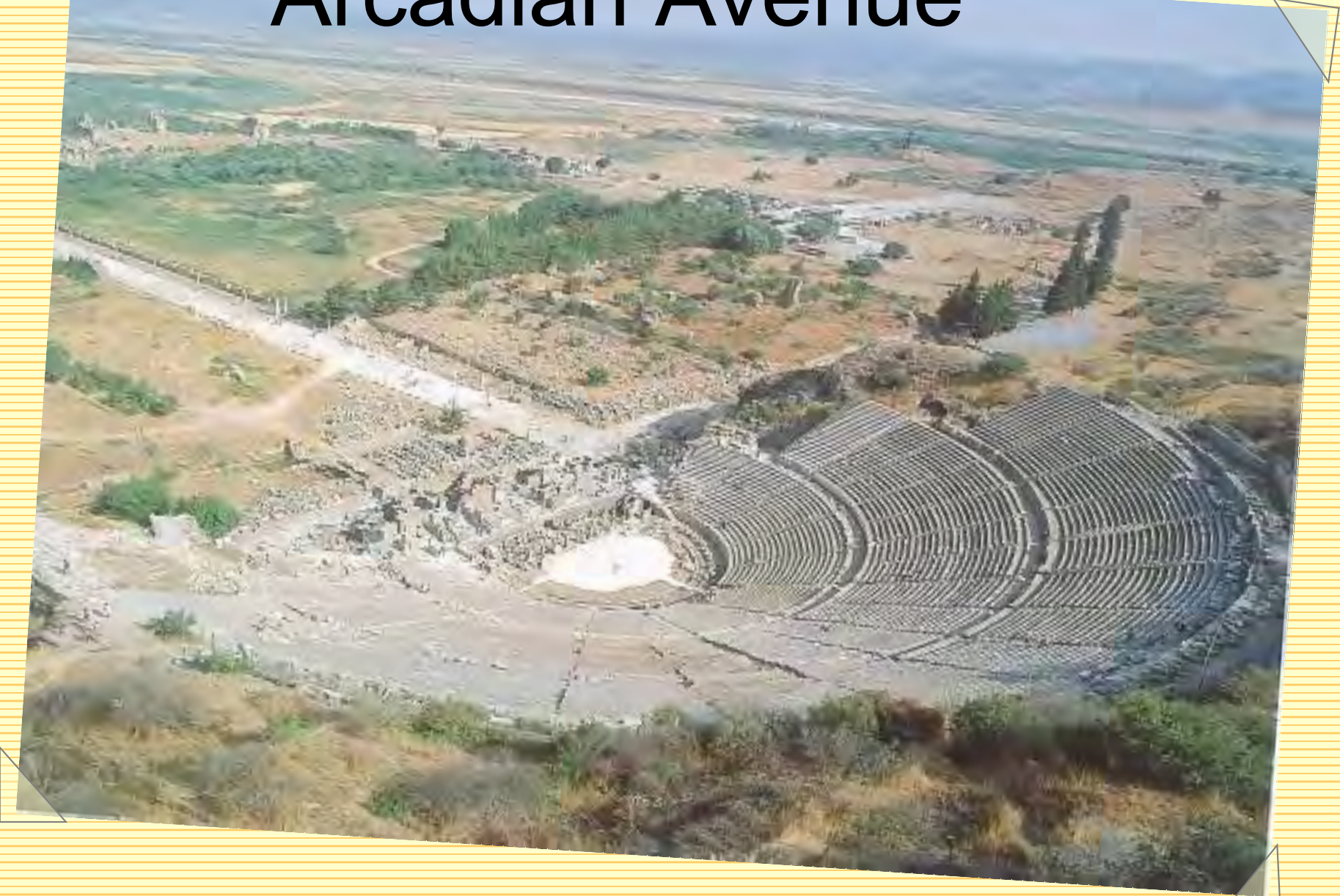
theh'-at-ron

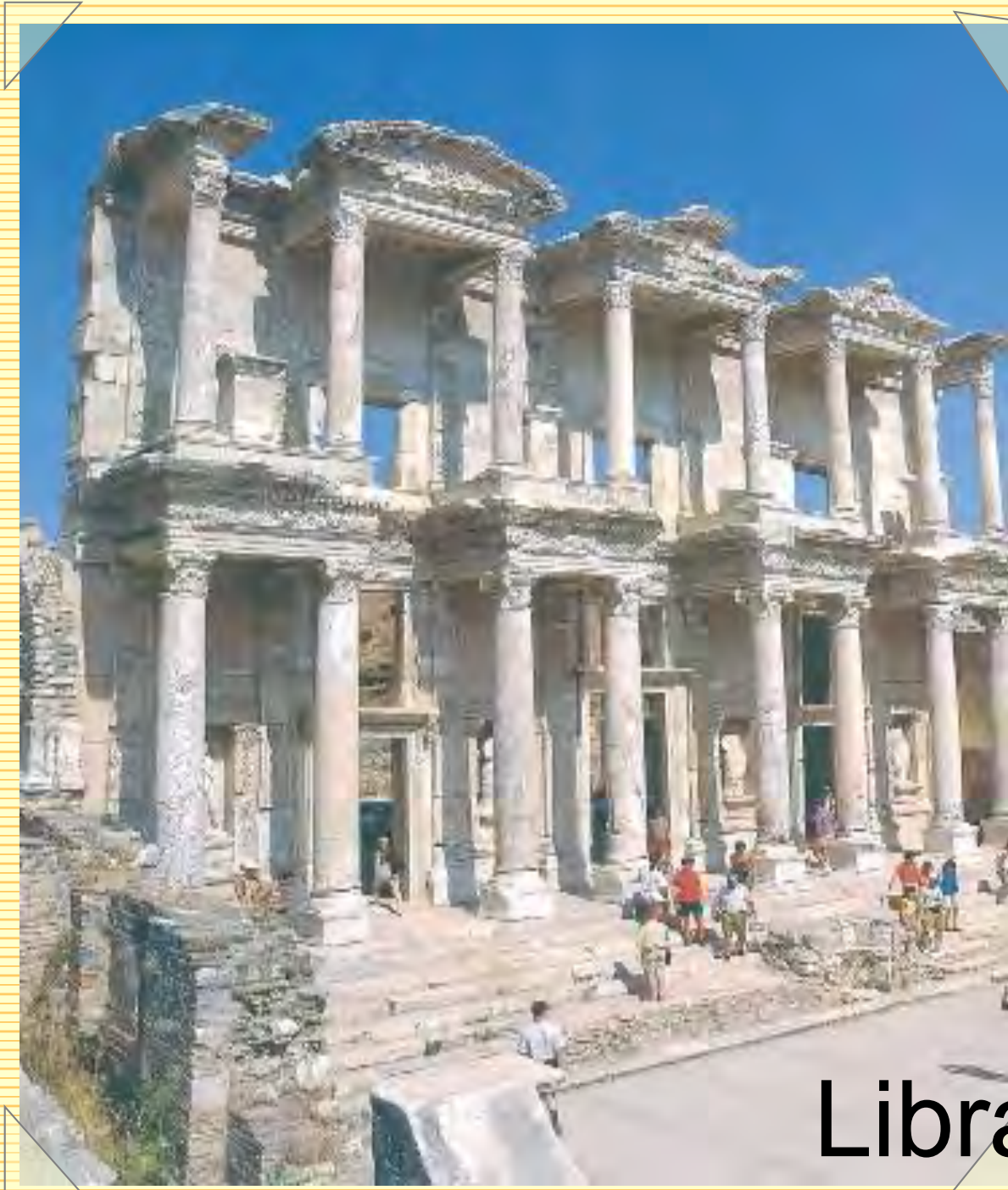
Theater Seats 25,000



Acts 19:29

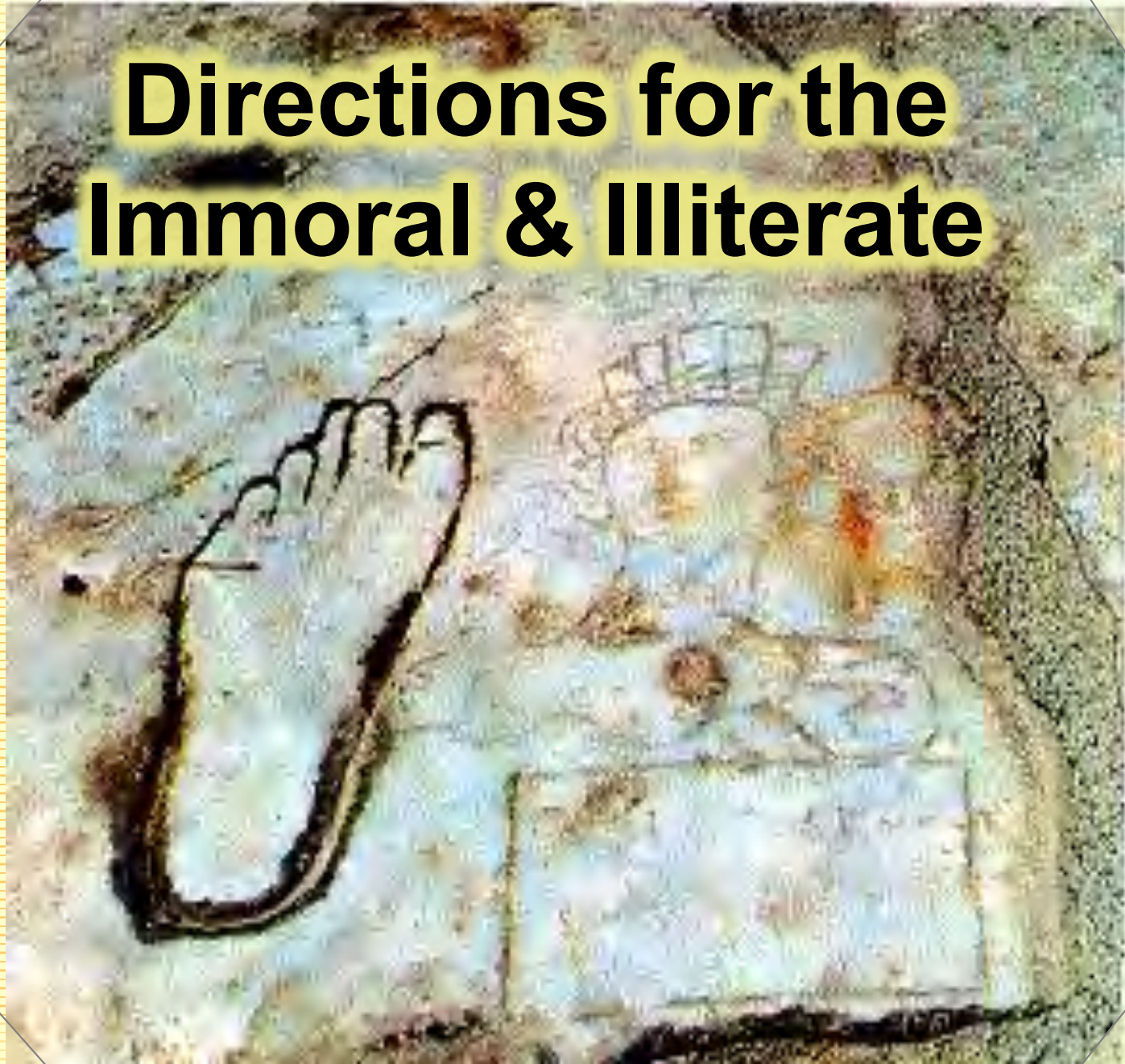
Arcadian Avenue





Library

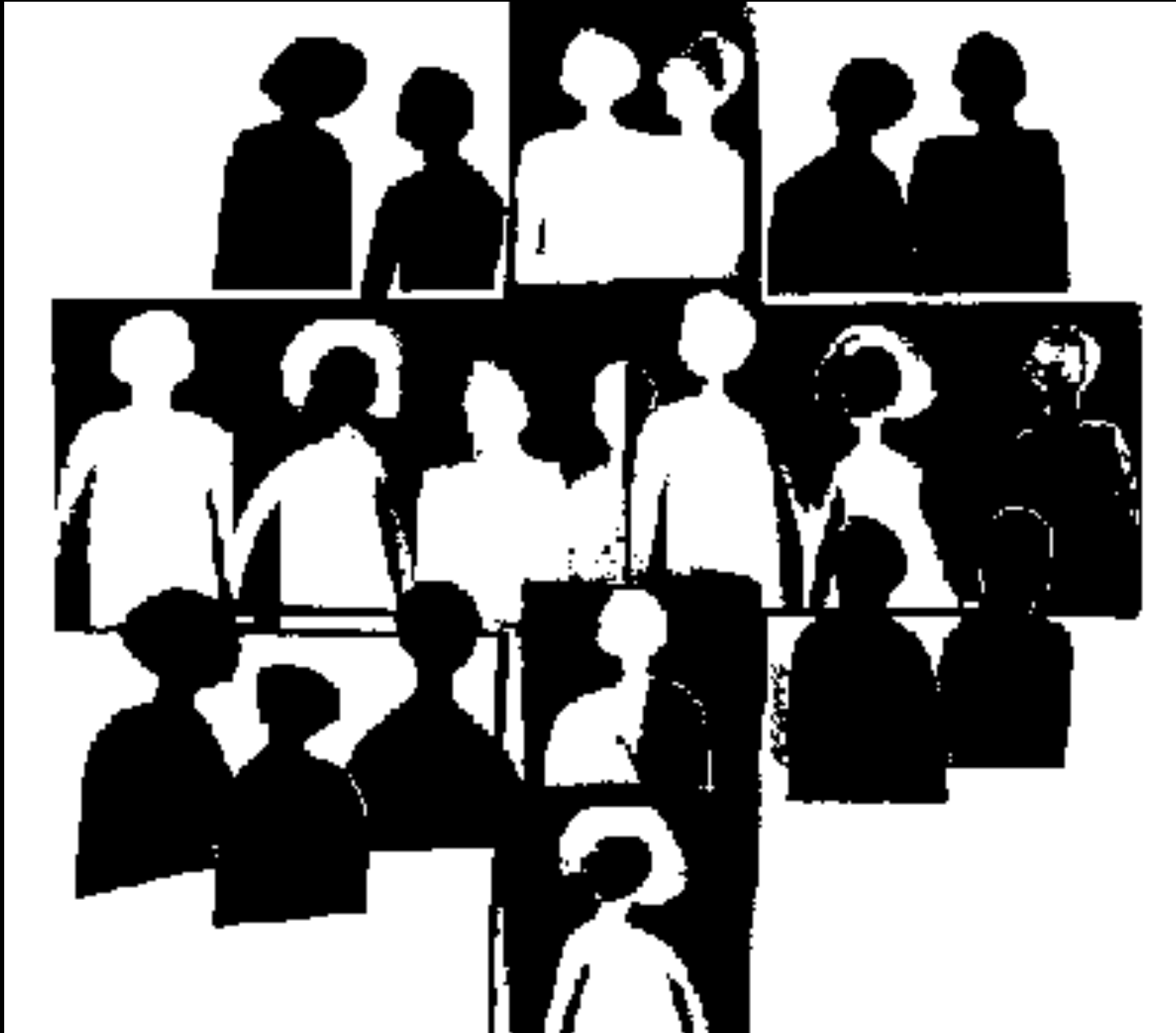
Directions for the Immoral & Illiterate



Toilets and aqueduct



Jew-Gentile Divisions



Theme

23

**Jew-Gentile Unity
Shown in Love**

Ephesians

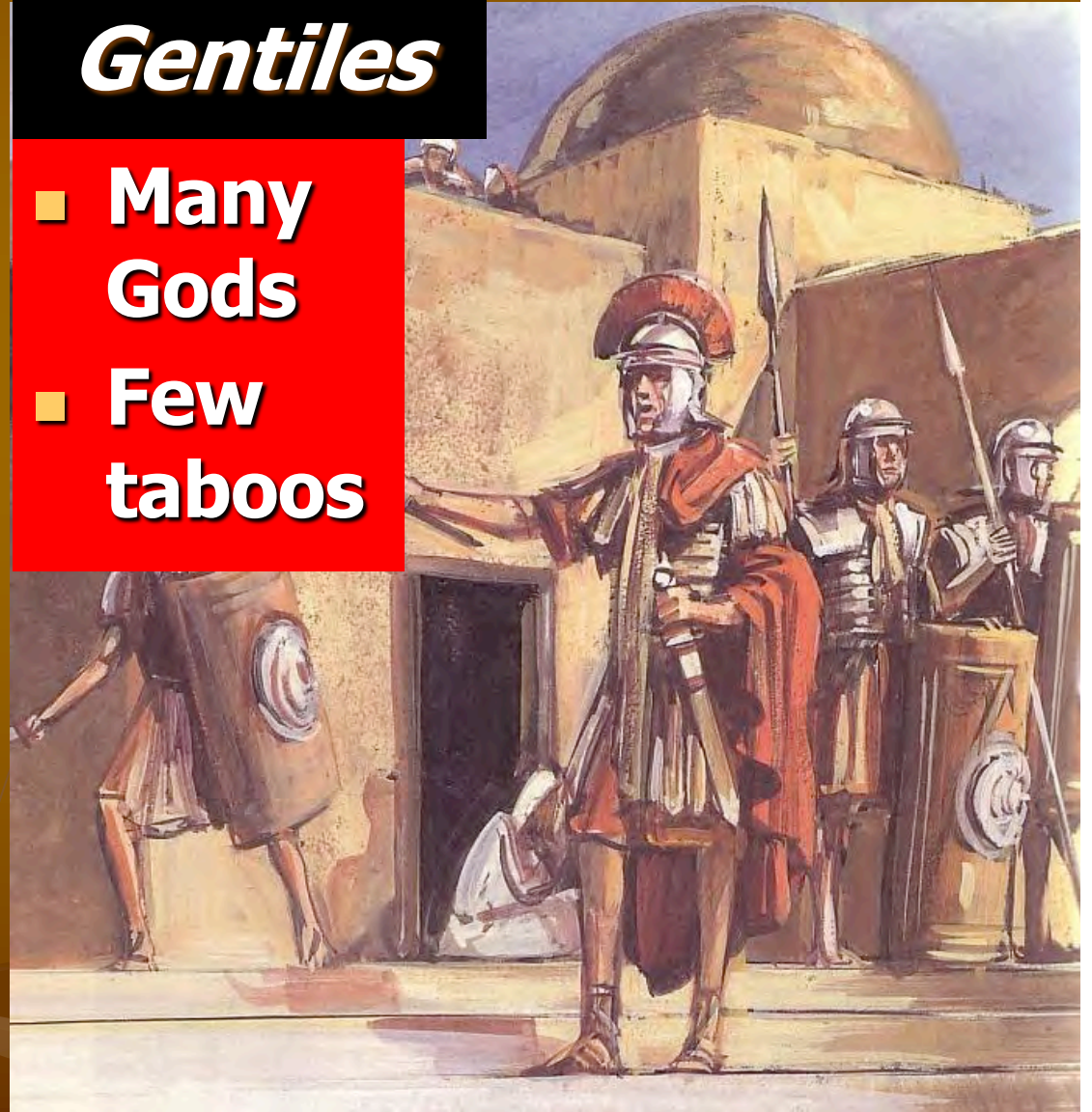
Sometimes Christians mistreat others of a different ethnic group

Jews

- One God
- Many taboos

Gentiles

- Many Gods
- Few taboos



Writing Style

Hebrew

- Favors **poetry**, imagery & symbolism

Greek

- Favors **outlines**, lists and bullet points

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway* magazine (Dec 2003): 7-9.

Hebrew

Numbers

Greek

- Sees numbers as a quality or **symbol**

- Sees numbers as a specific **quantity**

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway* magazine (Dec 2003): 7-9.

Hebrew

- Focuses on the **community** in relationship with God

Relation to God

Greek

- Focuses on the **individual's** relationship with God

Hebrew

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

Eternal Life

Greek

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

Sin

Hebrew

Greek

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

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

Existence of God

Hebrew

Greek

- Assumes that God exists

- Tries to prove God's existence

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway* magazine (Dec 2003): 7-9.

Hebrew

Faith

Greek

- **Relational and personal**
- Expressed in terms of **relationship** with God rather than rationalization

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

Hebrew

Truth

Greek

- **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**

Adapted from Lynne M. Thompson, "Christmas: The Real Deal," interview with Ray Vander Laan, *Breakaway* magazine (Dec 2003): 7-9.

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



How to be united...



Eph 1–3

Ephesians 1



Blessed by God to be in Christ

Ephesians 1:1-14

**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

New People

for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

Ephesians spiritual development

Before

Occult oriented
(Acts 19)

After

Strong leaders
(Acts 20)

Later on

Sound but Cold
(Revelation 2)

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)



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)

- When did He choose us?
- How did He choose us?

A topographical map of the Mediterranean region. A white dot on the Italian peninsula is labeled 'Rome'. A white arrow points from this dot to another white dot on the western coast of Asia Minor, labeled 'Ephesus'. The word 'EPHESIANS' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the map. Below the map, there is a block of text in white with a black outline, and a smaller line of text below that.

Rome

Ephesus

EPHESIANS

"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).

"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).

**"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).**

A topographical map of the Mediterranean region. A white dot marks Rome in Italy, with a black box containing the word 'Rome' below it. A white arrow points from this dot towards the east. Another white dot marks Ephesus in Turkey, with a black box containing the word 'Ephesus' below it. The word 'EPHESIANS' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the map, with a reflection effect below it. At the bottom, a quote in white text with a black outline is displayed.

Rome

Ephesus

EPHESIANS

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

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.

"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."



⁸He has showered his kindness on us along with all wisdom and understanding.

⁹God has now revealed to **us** his mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill his own purpose.

¹⁰That's the plan: At the end of the age, he will bring everything together under Christ—everything in heaven and on earth.

¹¹Furthermore, because **we** are united with

Christ, **we** have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us before the world began. He makes every part of our lives

God gave us Gentiles equal status with predestined Jews (1:3-23)!

US

YOU

v.

¹³And now **you** Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves **you**. ¹⁴And when **you** believed in Christ, he identified **you** as his own by giving **you** the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago."

Acts 13:48

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

“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.

A photograph of a forest path with a yellow triangle in the bottom right corner. The path is made of concrete slabs and is surrounded by green foliage and trees. The text is overlaid on the image.

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 red wax seal is visible on the parchment background, partially overlapping the text on the right. The seal is oval-shaped and has a textured, slightly irregular surface, suggesting it was once used to seal a document.

*A Seal Guarantees Security and
Provides Assurance*



*Assurance
of
Salvation*

"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 right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved (lit., 'it is confessed unto salvation')"

Romans 10:9-10 NLT

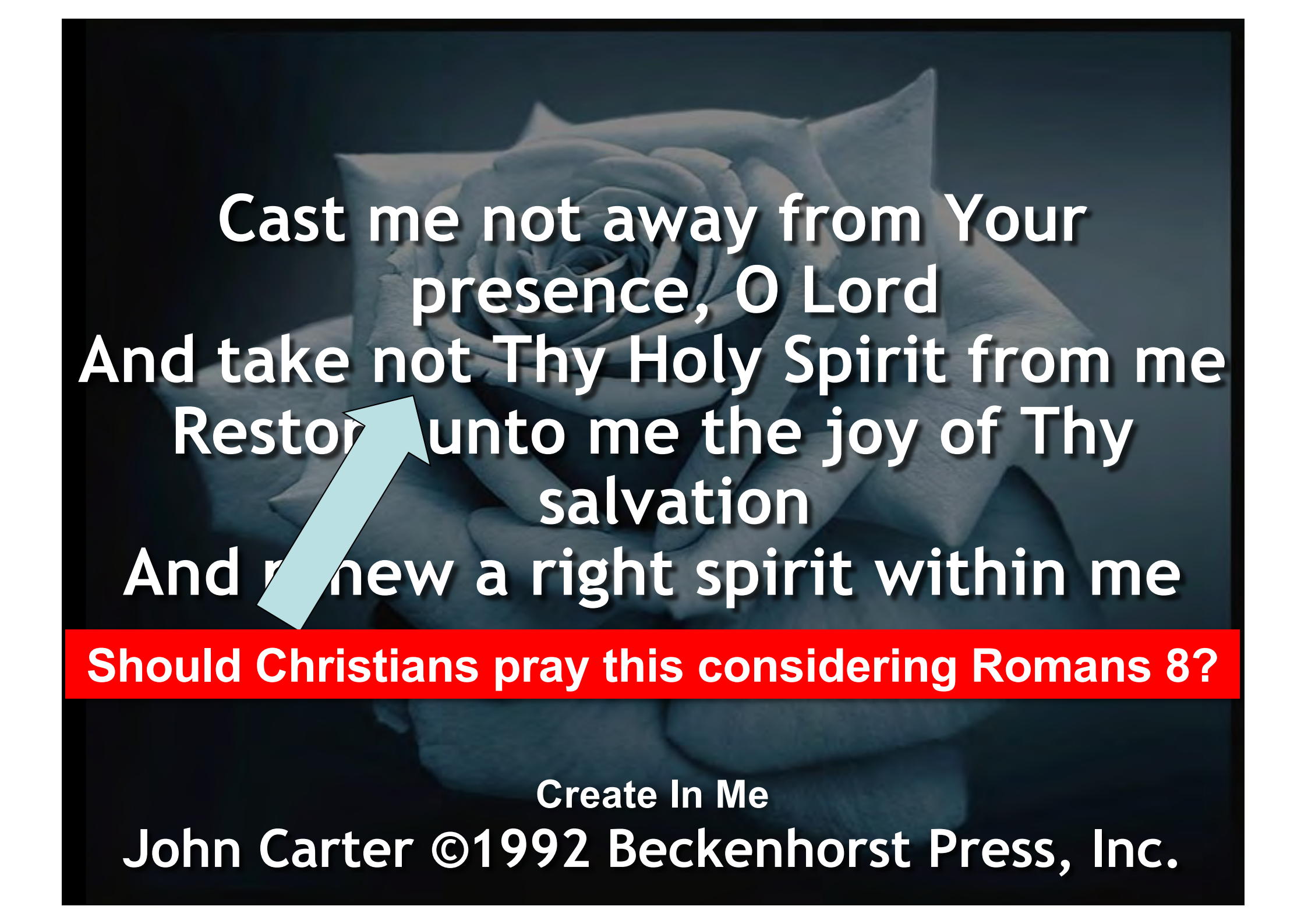
Create In Me



**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[↑] unto me the joy of Thy
salvation
And renew 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
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**



New People

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 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)
- 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.

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)
- Marveling over future inheritance (18b)
- Confident in living by God's power (19-23)

“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

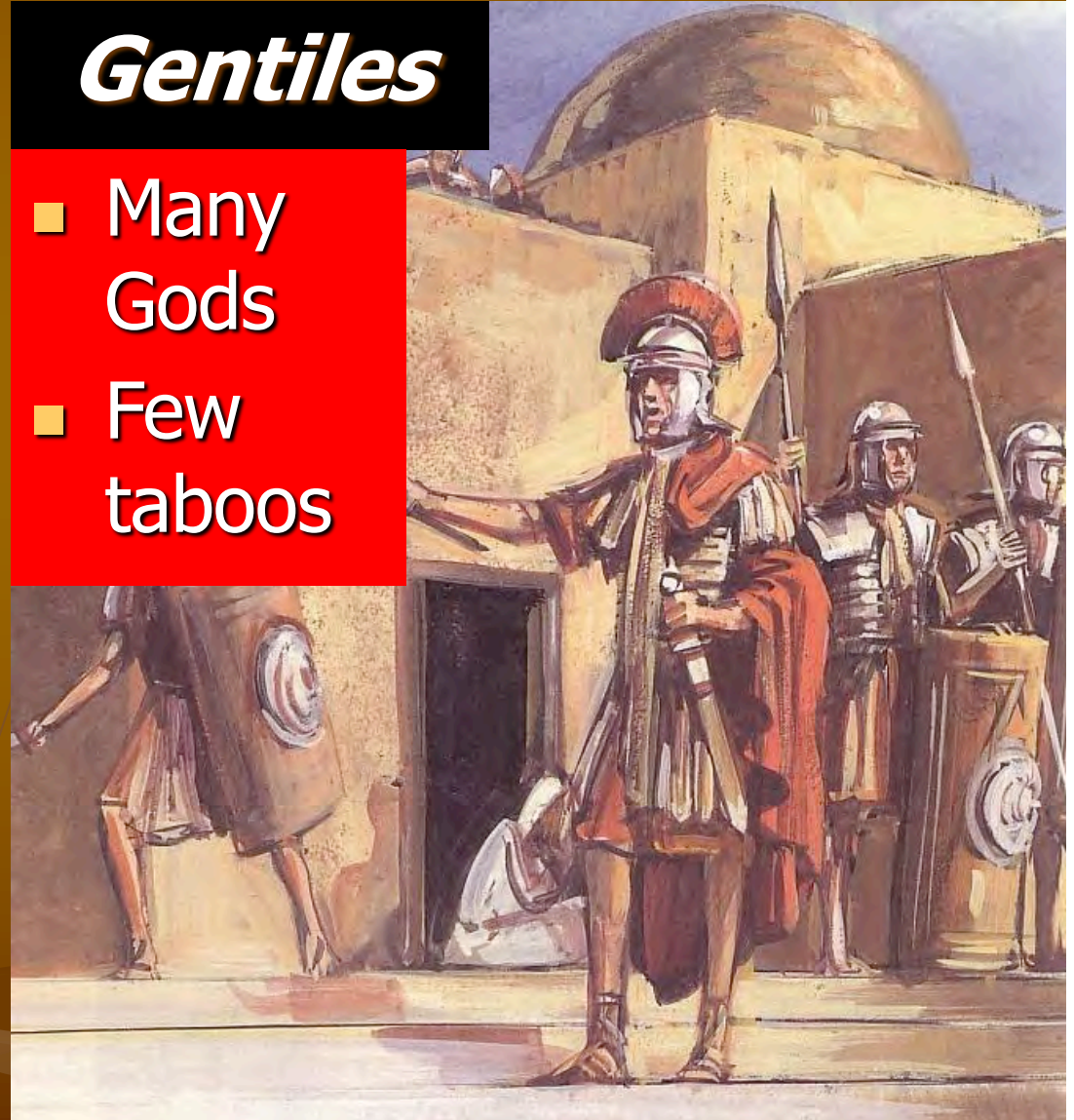
What About Ethnic Differences Now?

Jews

- One God
- Many taboos

Gentiles

- Many Gods
- Few taboos



The Cross Makes Ethnicity Irrelevant

Jew-G

Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴For 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

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28 ESV

Love as Equals				Love as Testimony				
Chapters 1–3				Chapters 4–6				
Doctrine				Application				
Position				Practice				
Belief				Behaviour				
Privileges				Responsibilities				

Salutation	Position	Reconciliation	Uniqueness	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**



MAIN MENU

CITY OF EPHESUS

BACKGROUND

▶▶ OUTLINE

SCRIPTURE IN SONG

CHAPTERS 1–3

CHAPTERS 4–6

CONCLUSION

Love as Equals				Love as Testimony				
Chapters 1–3				Chapters 4–6				
Doctrine				Application				
Position				Practice				
Belief				Behaviour				
Privileges				Responsibilities				

Salutation	Position	Reconciliation	Uniqueness	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)



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

MAIN MENU

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

MAIN MENU

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



We are Dead People Made Alive

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

New People

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.”

THE PILLAR NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY

THE LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS



PETER T.
O'BRIEN



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)
- We think according to the lies of the devil (v. 2c)

2 Corinthians 4:4

In their case the god of this world 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 the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,



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)
- We think according to the lies of the devil (v. 2c)
- We are controlled by impulses of the sinful flesh (v. 3a)

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 by his own desire.

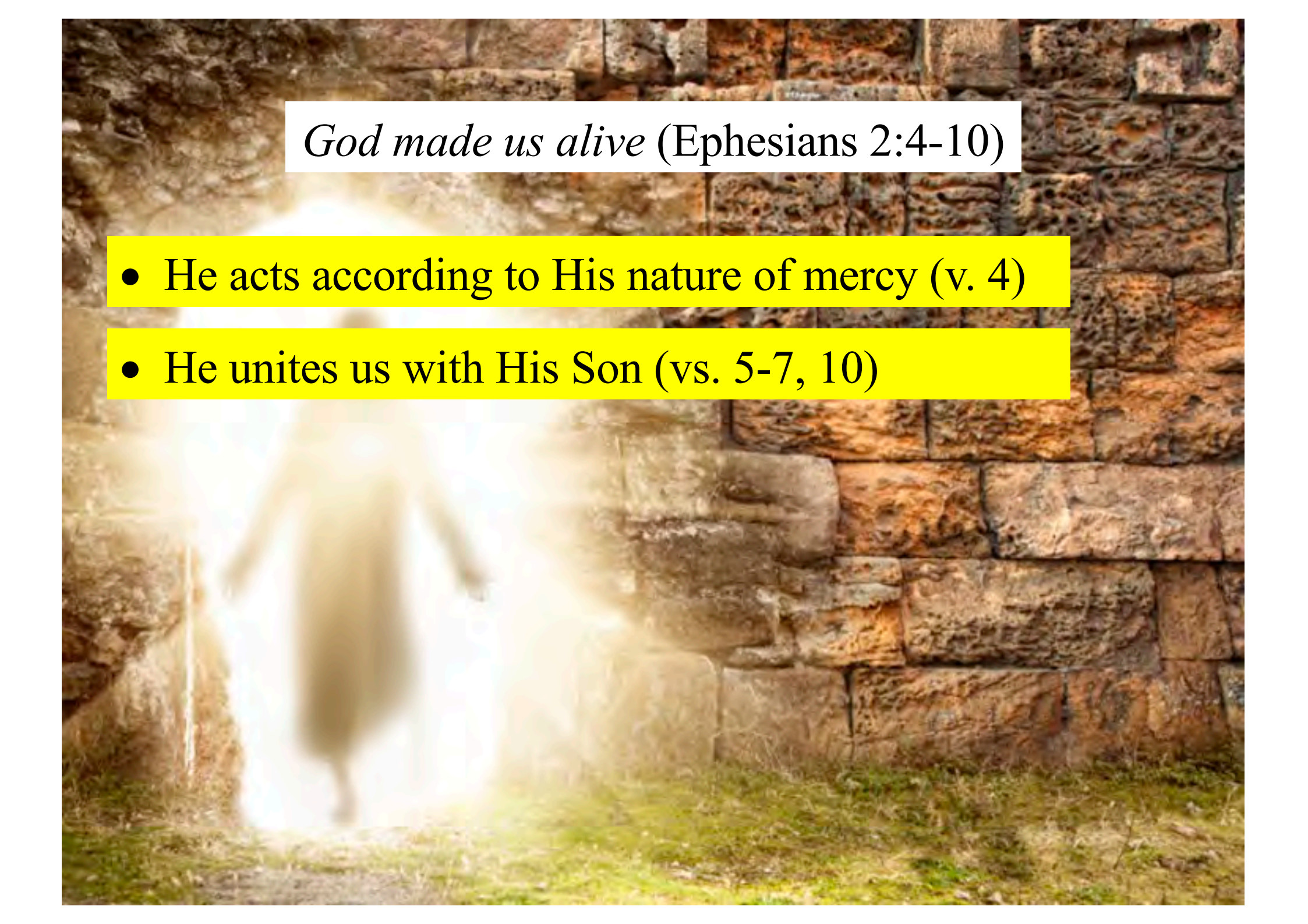
James 4:1-2

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



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)
- We think according to the lies of the devil (v. 2c)
- We are controlled by impulses of the sinful flesh (v. 3a)
- We are subject to God's wrath (v. 3b)

A stone wall made of large, irregular blocks of reddish-brown and grey stone. In the background, a bright, glowing figure, possibly Jesus, is visible, appearing to walk through the wall. The figure is out of focus and surrounded by a bright, hazy light. The overall scene is set outdoors with some green grass visible at the bottom.

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)

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



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

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New People

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)



Everyone on earth

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

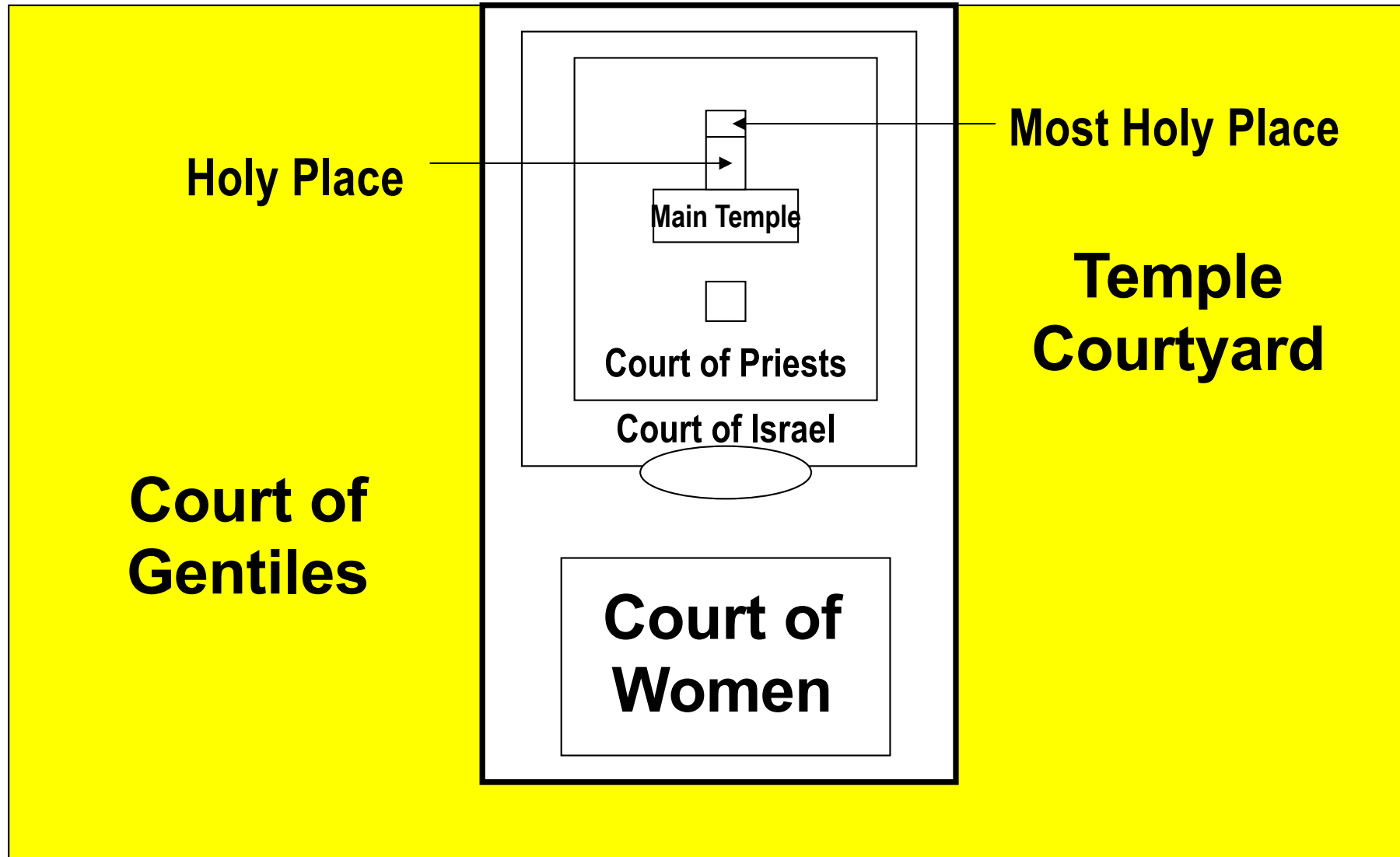


We are now brought near to God
(Eph 2:13-18)

- Christ makes peace with God by paying for our sin
(2:13)



Divisions in Herod's Temple



Divisions in Herod's Temple

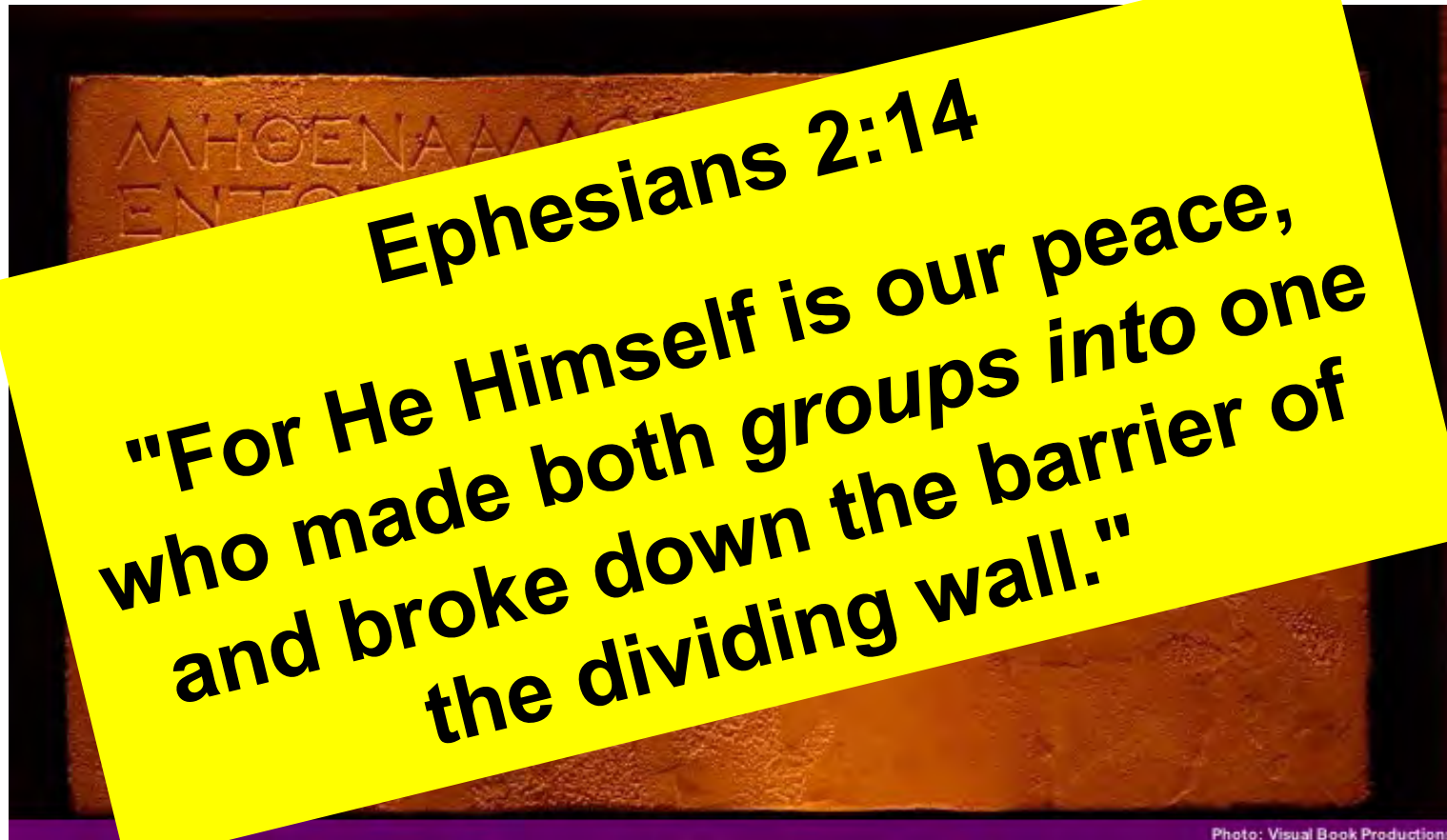


Gentiles Brought Near

"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. ¹³**But 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."

A blue-tinted night scene featuring a crescent moon in the upper center and the silhouettes of bare trees against a dark blue sky. The text is overlaid on this background.

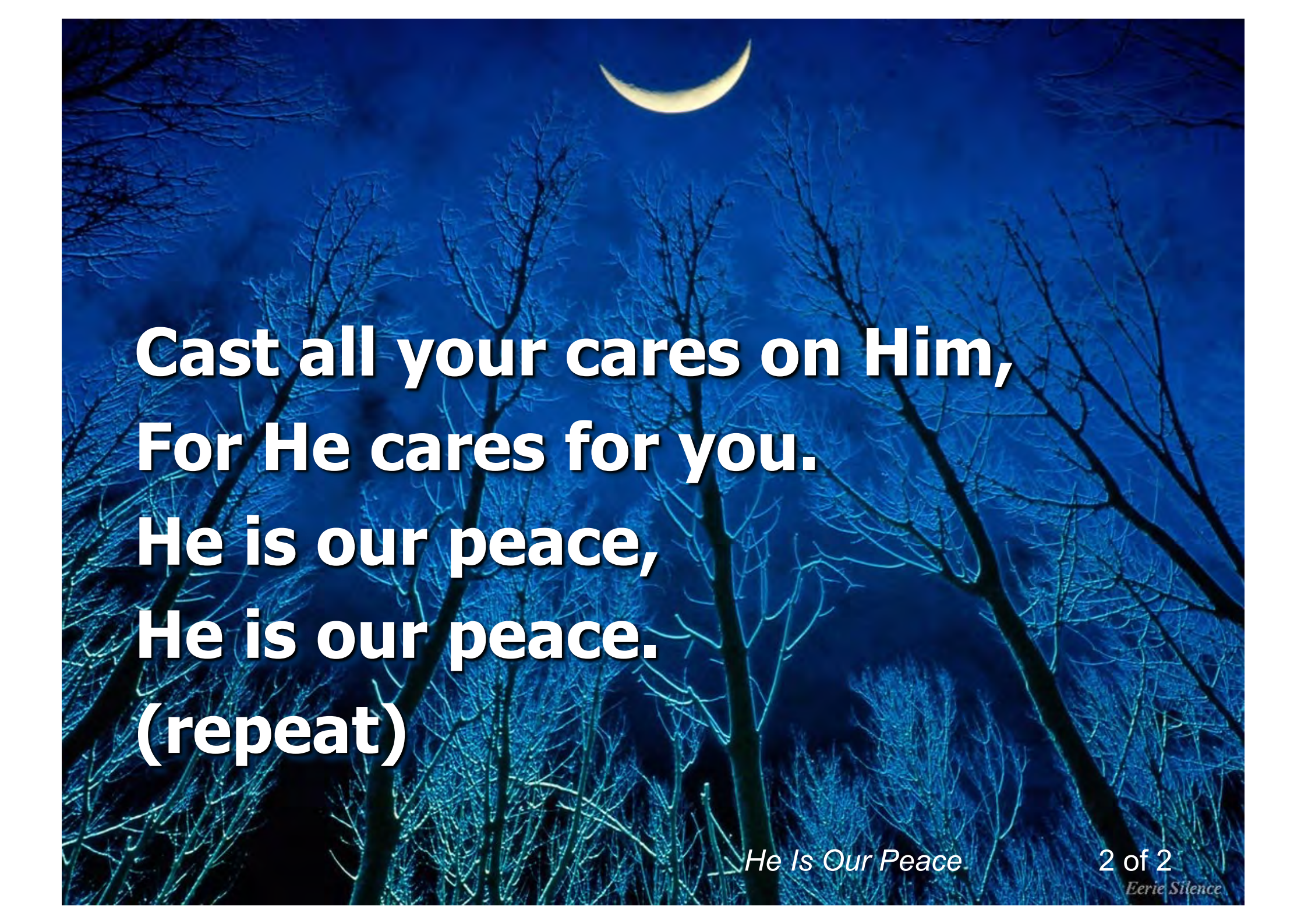
He Is Our Peace

**He is our peace, who has
broken down every wall.**

He is our peace,

He is our peace.

(repeat)

A night scene with a crescent moon and bare trees against a blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

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

We are now brought near to God
(Eph 2:13-18)

- Christ makes peace with God by paying for our sin (2:13)
- Christ makes peace with God by fulfilling the Law (2:14-15)
- Christ makes peace with God by proclaiming the gospel message (2:16-18)

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

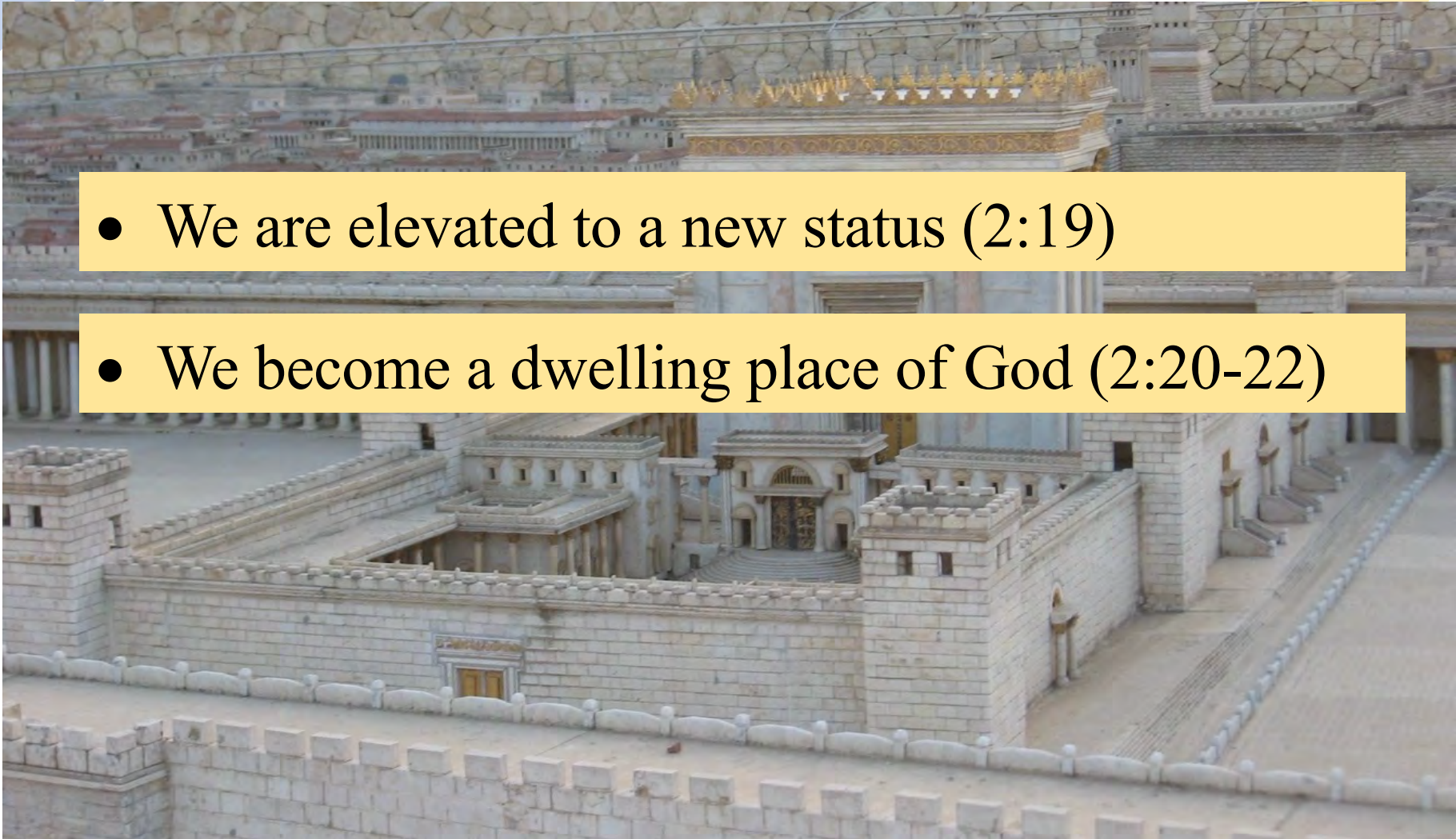
and aliens

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

EPHESIANS 2:19

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

- We are elevated to a new status (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)

God's Household (Eph. 2:19-22)

19

*Non-Equipping Gifts
(Eph. 4:12b)*

Evangelists

Pastor-Teachers

Teachers

*Equipping Gifts
(Eph. 4:11-12a)*

Foundation: Apostles & Prophets (Eph 2:20)

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

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

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PLOT
TWIST

New People

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
grace which
was given to
me for you"
(NAU)

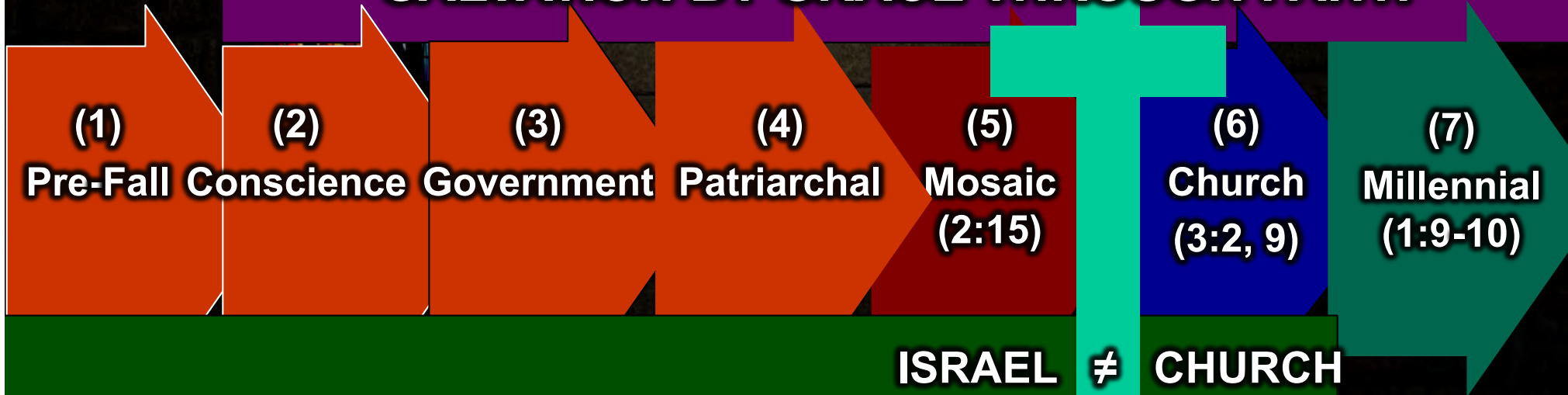
"**administration**" (NIV)
"**dispensation**" (KJV)
οἰκονομία (Greek)
οἶκος (house) + *νόμος* (law)
"**responsibility of
management, management
of a household, direction,
office**" (BDAG)

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

Time of Paul's
dispensation (Gentiles
equal to Jews
under grace)

DISPENSATIONS IN EPHESIANS

SALVATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH



ISRAEL ≠ CHURCH

PROGRESSIVE REVELATION

οἰκονομία IN THE NT

Luke 16:2

16:2 καὶ φωνήσας αὐτὸν εἶπεν αὐτῷ· τοῦτο ἀκούω περὶ σοῦ; ἀπόδος τὸν λόγον τῆς οἰκονομίας σου, οὐ γὰρ δύνη ἔτι οἰκονομεῖν. ³ εἶπεν δὲ ἐν ἑαυτῷ ὁ οἰκονόμος· τί ποιήσω, ὅτι ὁ κύριός μου ἀφαιρεῖται τὴν οἰκονομίαν ἀπ' ἐμοῦ; σκάπτειν οὐκ ἰσχύω, ἐπαιτεῖν αἰσχύνομαι. ⁴ ἔγνων τί ποιήσω, ἵνα ὅταν μετασταθῶ ἐκ τῆς οἰκονομίας δέξωνται με εἰς τοὺς οἴκους αὐτῶν.

Cor. 9:17

Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἐκὼν τοῦτο πράσσω, μὴ ἔχω· εἰ δὲ ἄκων, οἰκονομίαν πεπίστευκα.

Eph. 1:10

ἡμεῖς οἰκονομίαν τοῦ πληρώματος τῶν καιρῶν, ἀνακεφαλαιώσασθαι τὰ πάντα ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ, τὰ ἐπὶ τοῖς οὐρανοῖς καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐν αὐτῷ.

Luke 16:2

16:2 "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 their homes.'

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.

Eph. 1:10

with a view to an administration ¹suitable to ^athe 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

οἰκονομία IN THE NT

Eph. 3:2

Greek NT Tagged

AA

NASB (1995) with Strong's

AA

Εἰ γε ἠκούσατε τὴν **οἰκονομίαν** τῆς χάριτος τοῦ θεοῦ τῆς δοθείσης μοι

Eph. 3:2

if indeed you have heard of the ^astewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you;

Eph. 3:9

καὶ φωτίσαι [πάντας] τίς ἡ **οἰκονομία** τοῦ μυστηρίου τοῦ ἀποκεκρυμμένου ἀπὸ τῶν αἰώνων ἐν τῷ θεῷ ὁ ὅτι πάντα κτίσαντι,

Eph. 3:9

to ¹bring to light what is the administration of the ^amystery which for ages has been ^bhidden in God ^cwho created all things;

Col. 1:25

ἣς εγενόμην ἐγὼ διάκονος κατὰ τὴν **οἰκονομίαν** τοῦ θεοῦ τὴν δοθείσάν μοι εἰς ὑμᾶς πληρῶσαι τὸν λόγον τοῦ θεοῦ

Col. 1:25

for 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

μηδὲ προσέχειν μύθοις καὶ γενεαλογίαις ἀπεράντοις, αἵτινες ἐκζητήσεις παρέχουσιν μᾶλλον ἢ **οἰκονομίαν** θεοῦ τὴν ἐν πίστει.

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)

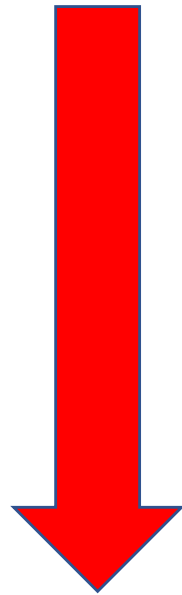
- It was progressively revealed (vs. 1-5)
- It confounds our thinking (v. 6)

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 Christ in you, 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)





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)

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).**



We are an Impossible Project

Ephesians 3:14-21

**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**



Impossible

New People

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

The background is a rich, textured gold color, resembling aged parchment or leather. A white rectangular box is centered on the page, containing the main title and subtitle. The title is in a bold, black, serif font, and the subtitle is in a black, italicized serif font.

We are an Impossible Project

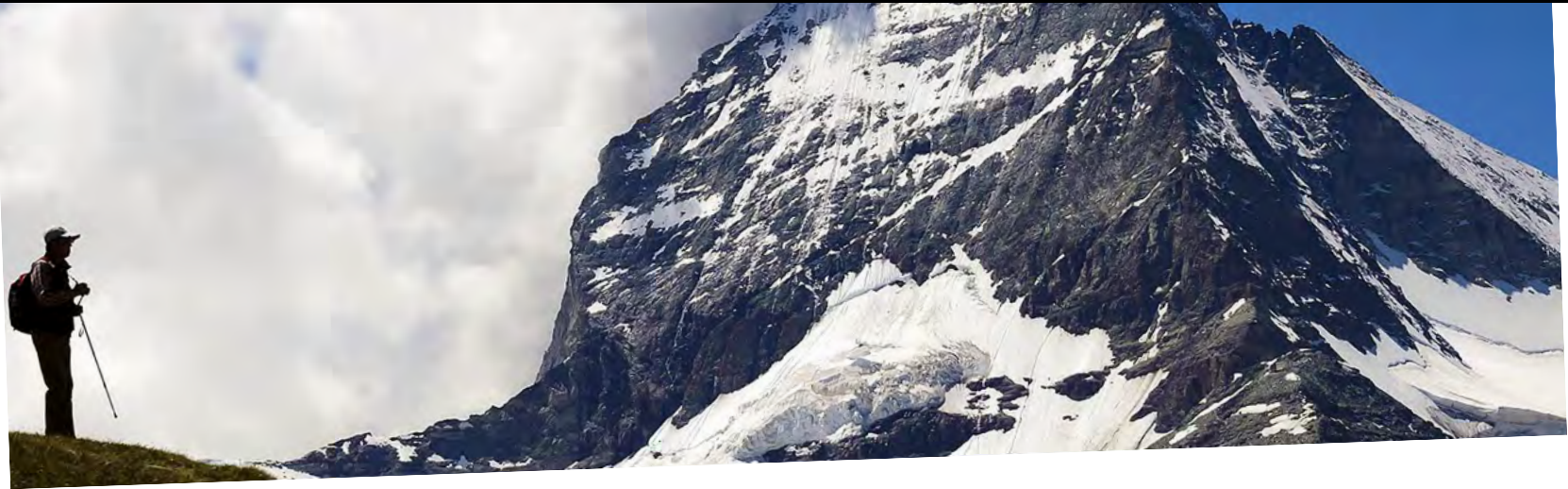
Ephesians 3:14-21



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)*

*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...





ACEA
 APOSTOLIC COUNCIL FOR
 EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY



"Apostolic accountability
 academic excellence."

Apostolic Council for Educational Accountability

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- About Us
- News & Events
- Member Schools
- Join ACEA
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Member Schools

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 Fax: 952-937-6248
 Email: mail@actscollege.org
 Website: www.actscollege.org
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 DaleSisam@epilife.org

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Wagner Leadership Institute

Advocate Institute

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 Elisa French, Administrator
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World This Moment

AIM (Advanced Institute of Ministry)

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Lawrence Khong, Apostle

Rev. Yong Tai Tong, Director

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Technopark @ Chai Chee

SINGAPORE 469001

Phone: 011-65-64249400

Fax: 011-65-64249500

Email: taitong.yong@touch.org.sg

Website: www.FCBC.org.sg

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

20



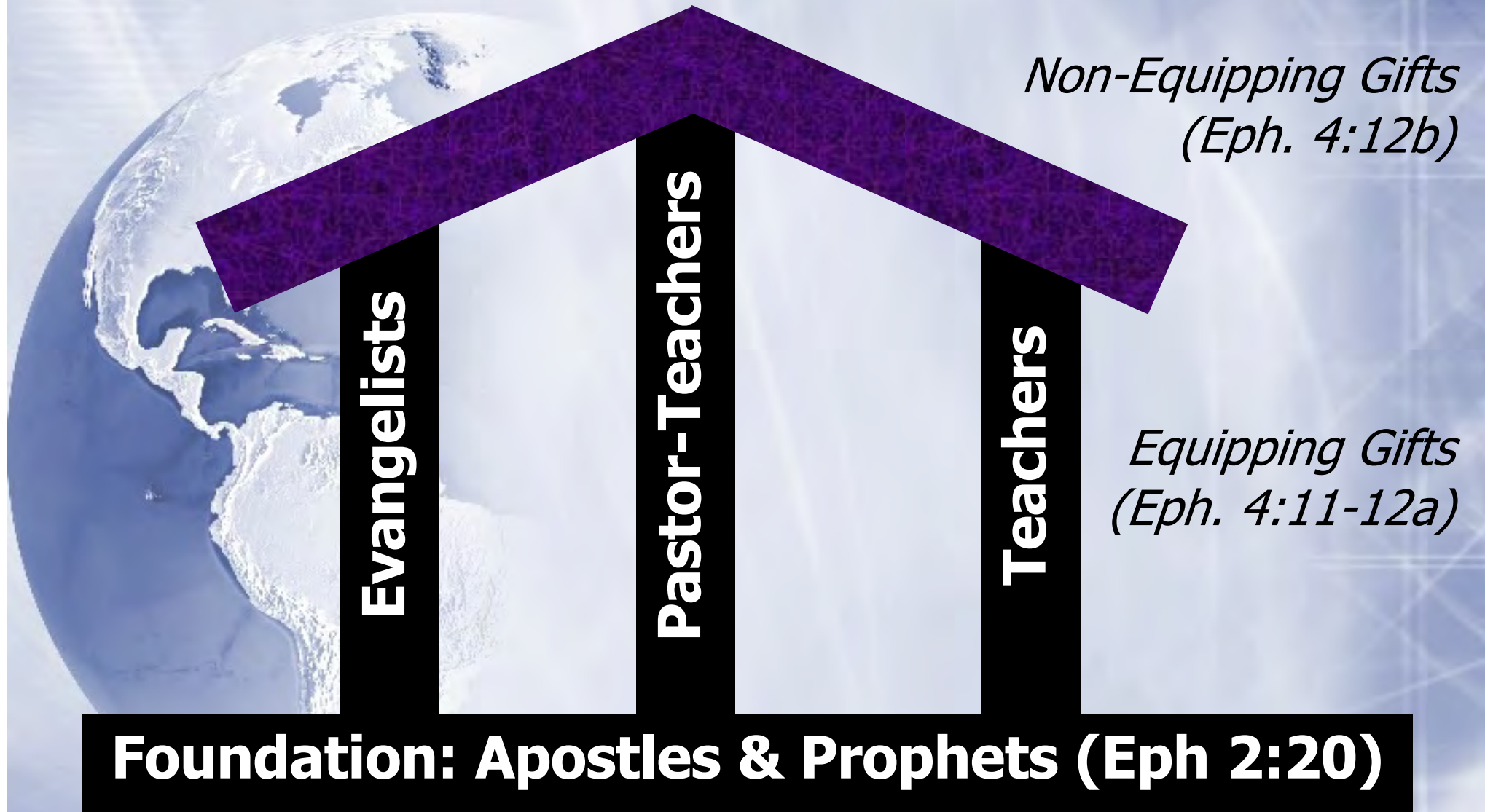
"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, **a precious Cornerstone** for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it need never be afraid anymore" (Isaiah 28:16)

Some take Christ as "cornerstone" more literally



God's Household (Eph. 2:19-22)

19



Foundation: Apostles & Prophets (Eph 2:20)

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



What is the gift of **apostleship**?



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



***Biblical Roles
Are now fuzzy***

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

Oneness


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)



Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

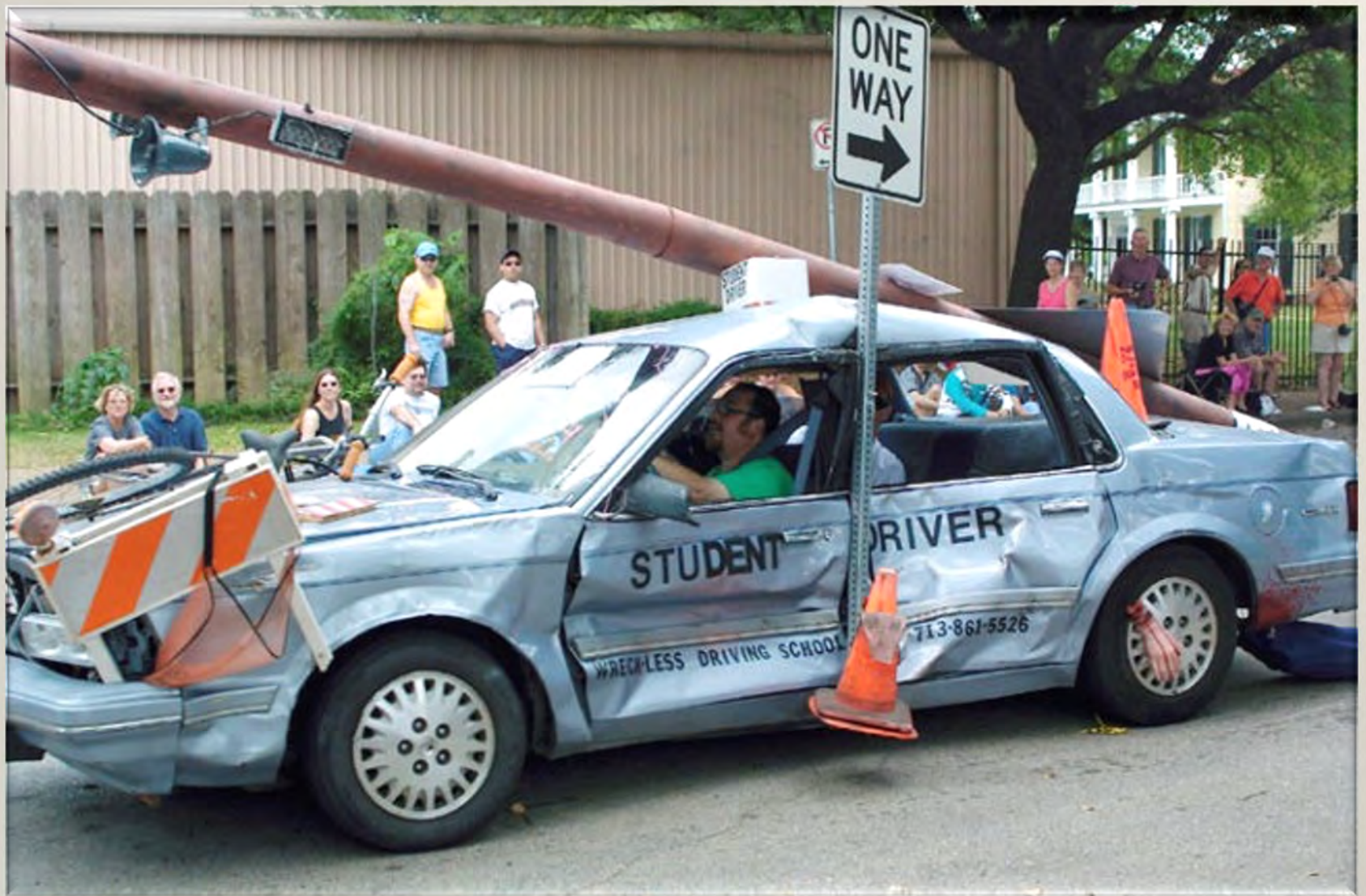
Ephesians 4:3



We Walk in Unity

Ephesians 4:1-6

**Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling
at Crossroads International Church Singapore • CICFamily.com
Uploaded by Dr. Rick Griffith • Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary
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New People

for the glory of God

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Who am I?

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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

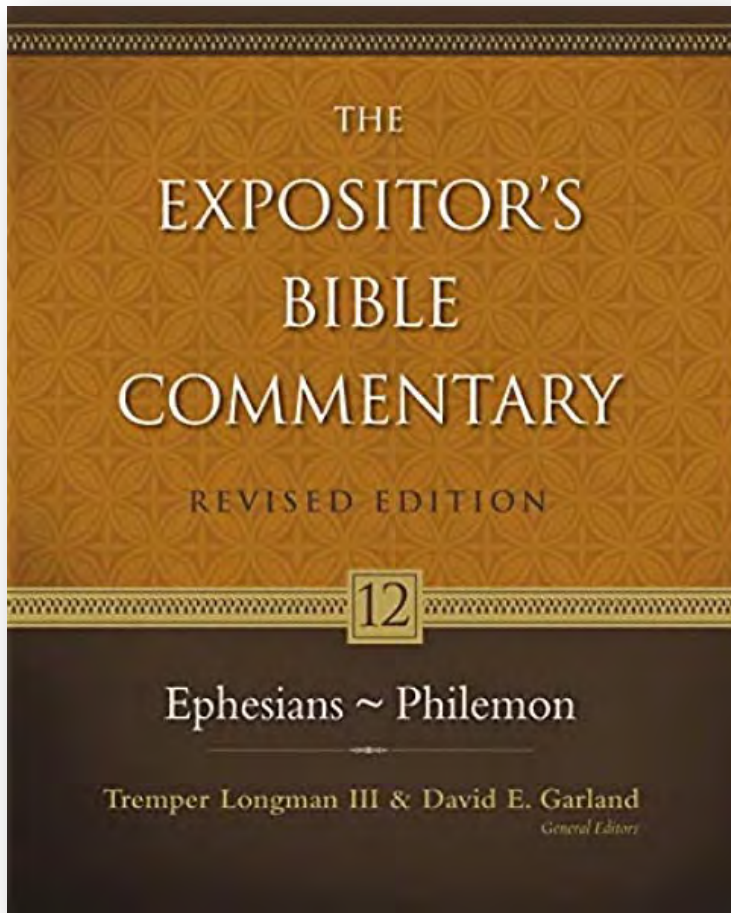
Ephesians 4:1-6



We remind ourselves of our new identity (4:1)

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

- We are to be humble (2a)
- We are to be meek (2b)



“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 remind ourselves of our new identity (4:1)

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

- We are to be humble (2a)
- We are to be meek (2b)
- We are to be patient and endure each other (2c)
- We are to be eager for peace (3)



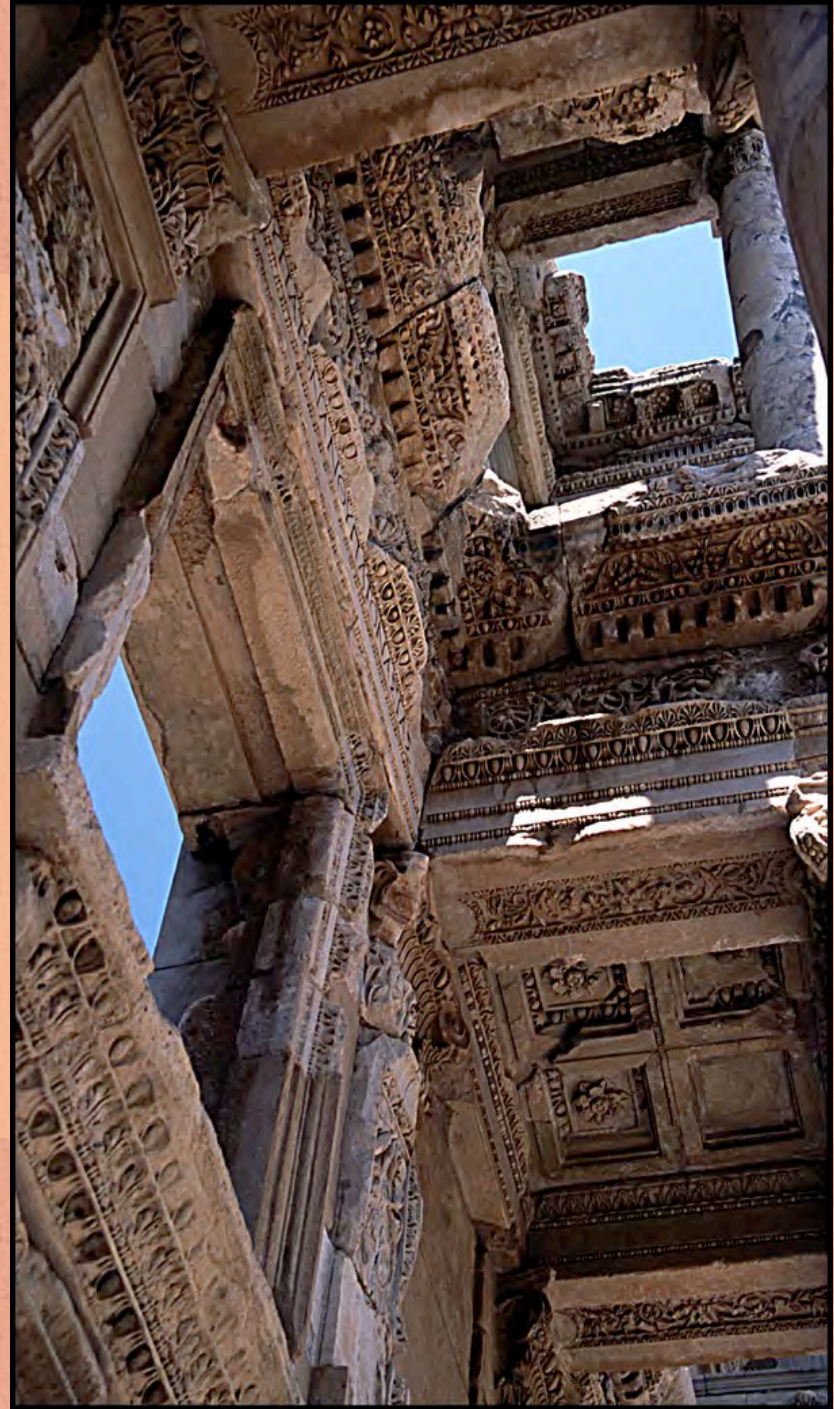
We remind ourselves of our new identity (4:1)

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

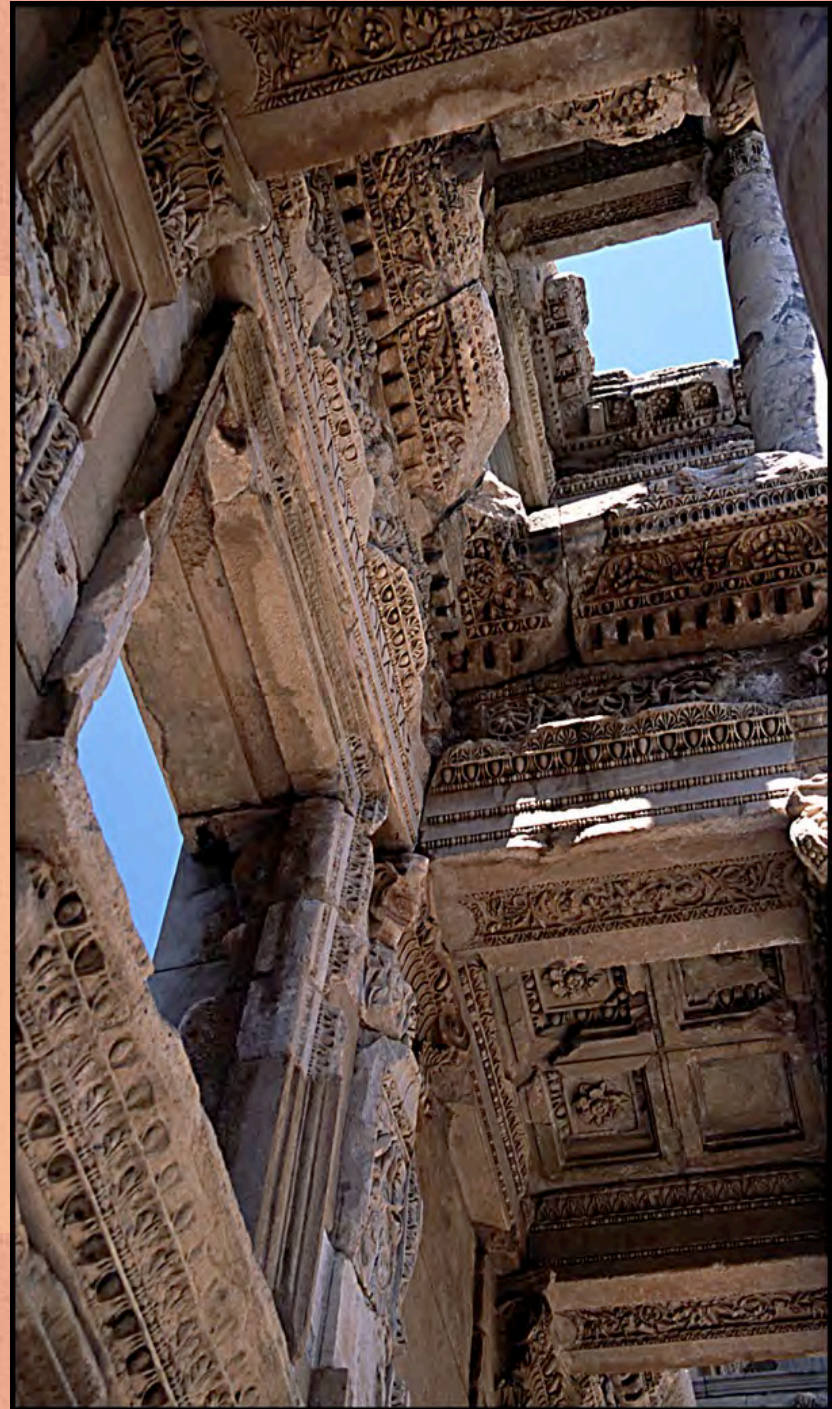
Faith – singular commitment

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)



The Transfer to Paradise

Eph. 4:8-10

"That is why the Scriptures say, 'When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people.'

⁹Notice that it says 'he ascended.' This clearly means that Christ also descended to our lowly world. ¹⁰And the same one who descended is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that he might fill the entire universe with himself."

"...today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:43

2 Cor. 12:2-4

"I was caught up to the third heaven...I was caught up to paradise"

S
H
E
O
L

Bliss



"Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.

¹⁹So he went and preached to the spirits in prison— ²⁰those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood."

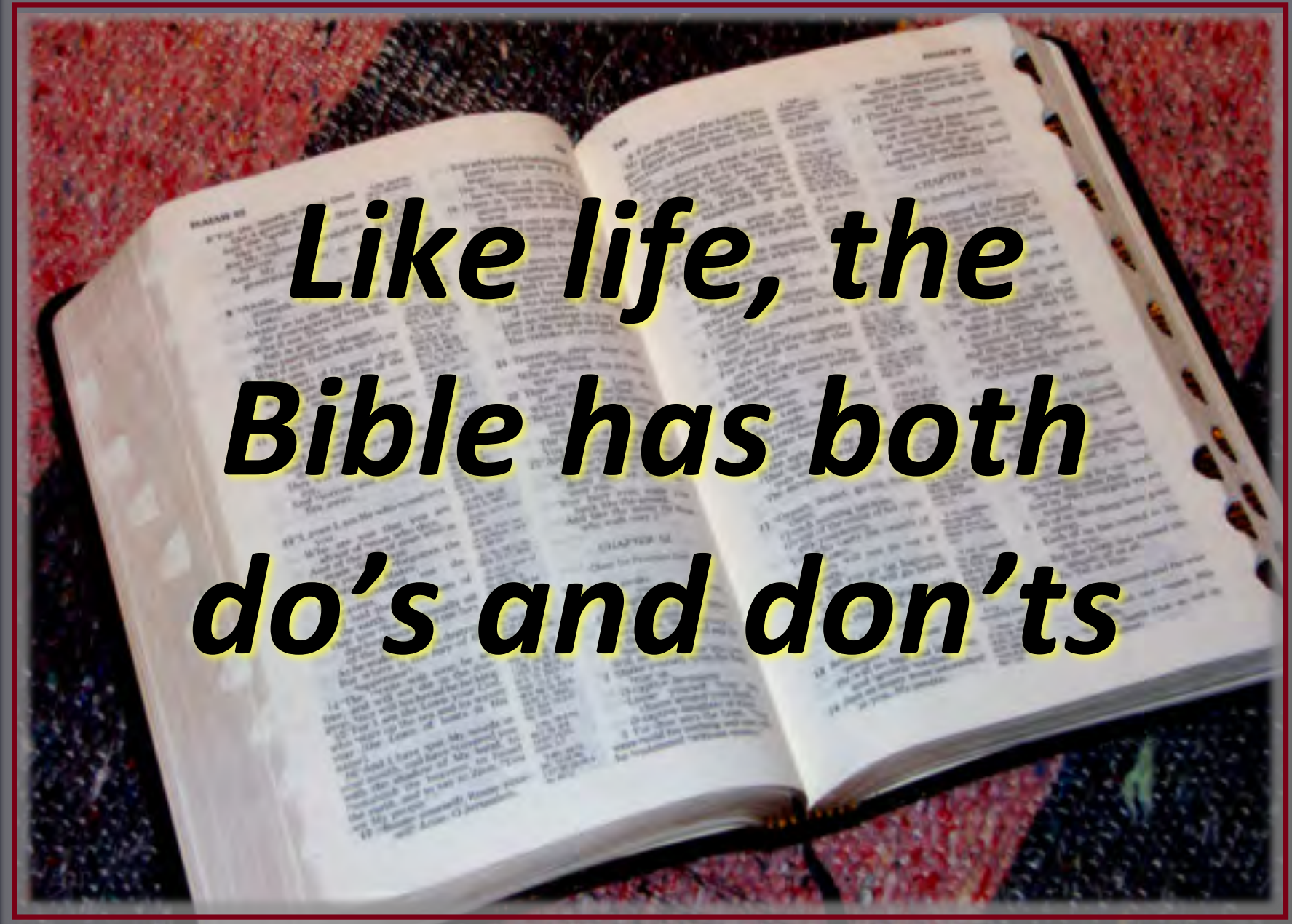
HADES

1 Pet.
3:18-20

Luke 16:26

"...there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there."

"Then death and [Hades] were thrown into the lake of fire... ¹⁵And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire."

An open Bible is shown lying flat on a red and black patterned surface. The pages are filled with text, and the spine of the book is visible on the right side. Overlaid on the center of the Bible is the text "Like life, the Bible has both do's and don'ts" in a bold, italicized, black font with a yellow outline.

***Like life, the
Bible has both
do's and don'ts***

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)

Ephesians at a Glance

Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love

Unity as Equals

Love as Testimony

Chapters 1–3

Chapters 4–6

Doctrine

Application

Position

Practice

Belief

Behaviour

Privileges

Responsibilities

Fall AD 60 (first Roman imprisonment)



Let's see Eph. 4:11-13

Roles



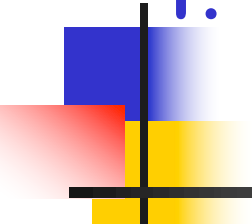
Purpose

The What



The Why

What are our roles?

- 
1. What is the pastor-teacher supposed to do?
 2. What are the people supposed to do?

The issue in Eph. 4:11-13

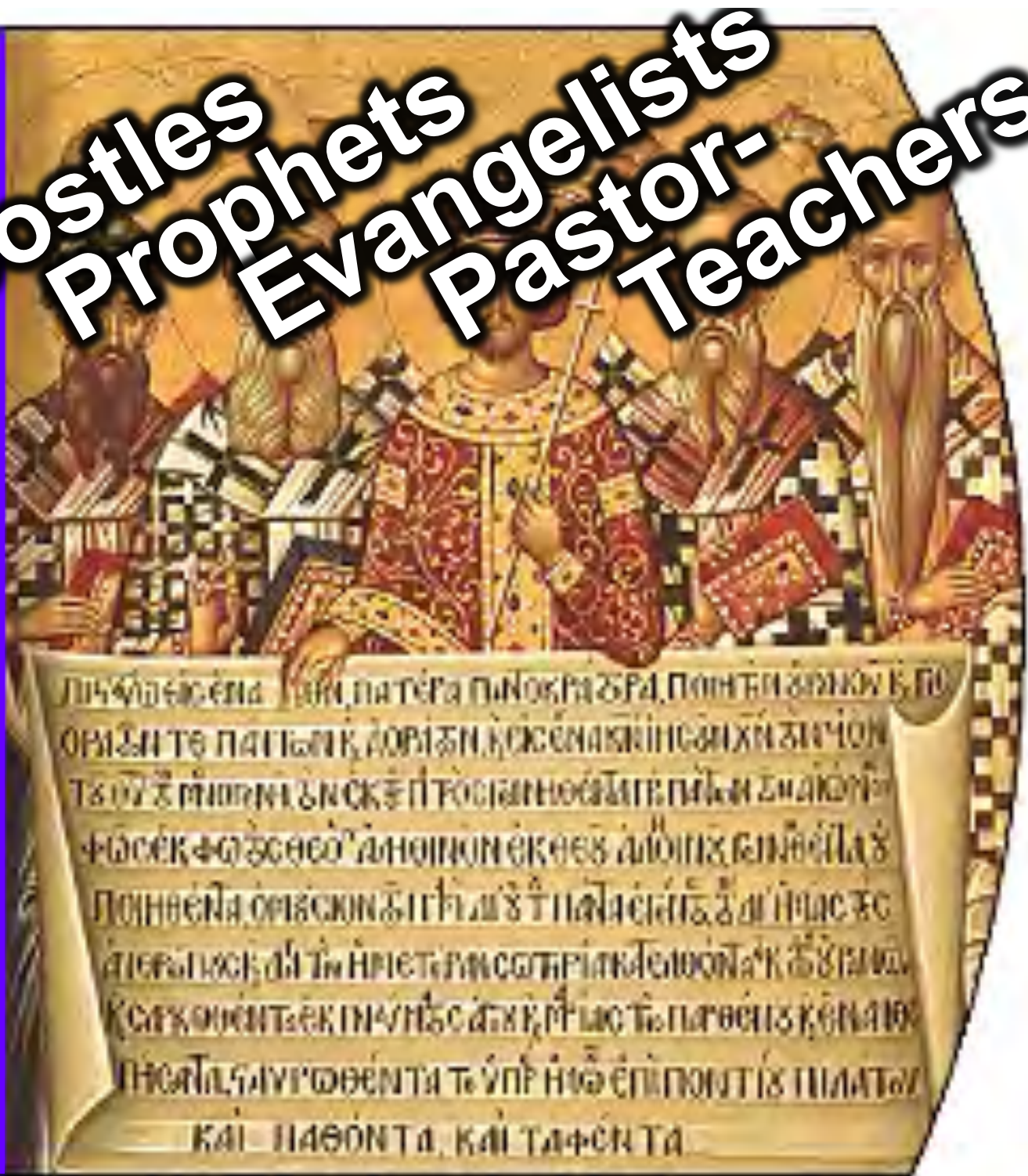
The What

Main Point #1

**Christ called
pastor-
teachers to
equip you for
your
ministries
(11-12a)**

"The Professionals"

Apostles
Prophets
Evangelists
Pastor-
Teachers





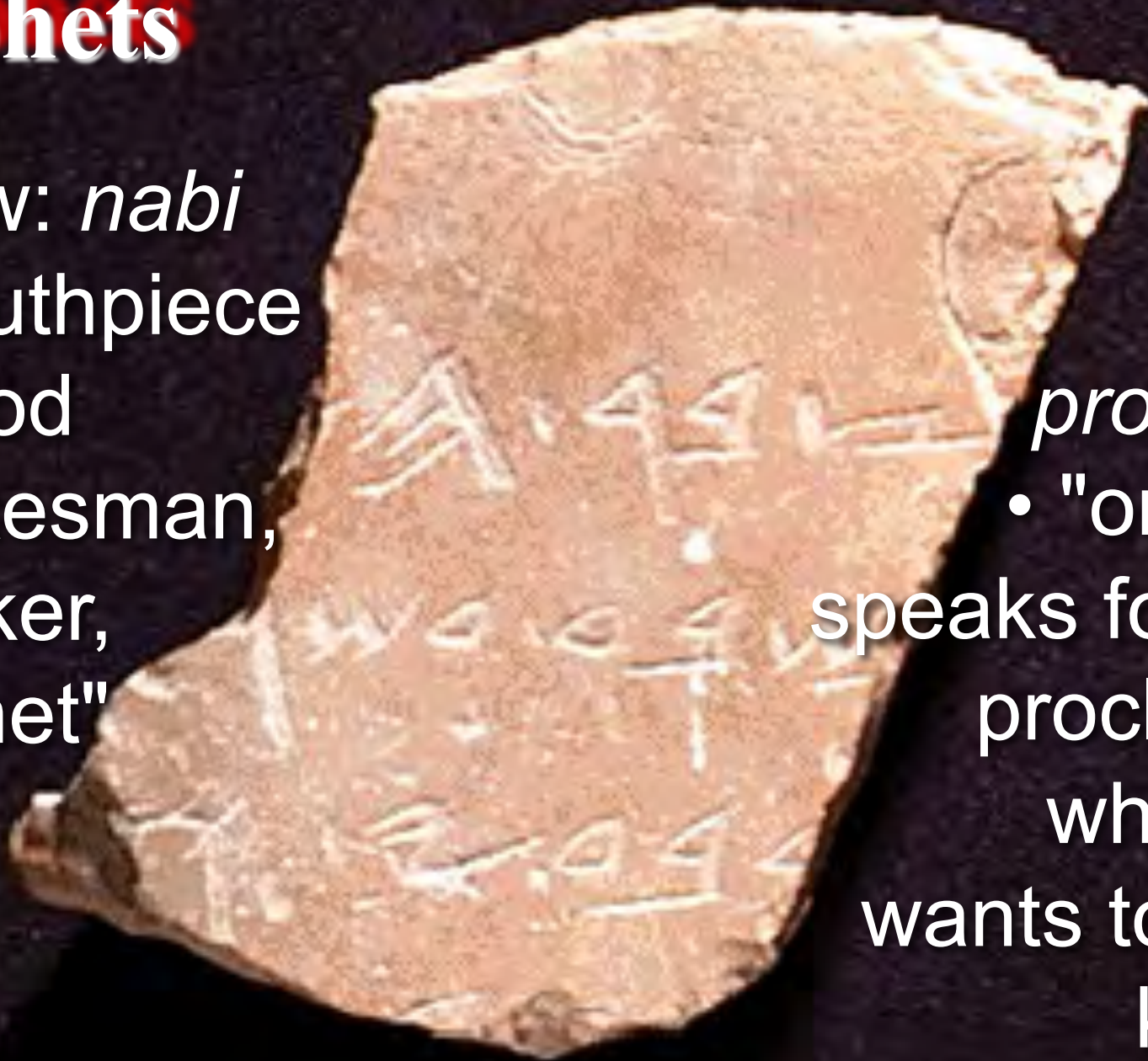
The Gift of Prophecy

- **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

God's Household



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



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

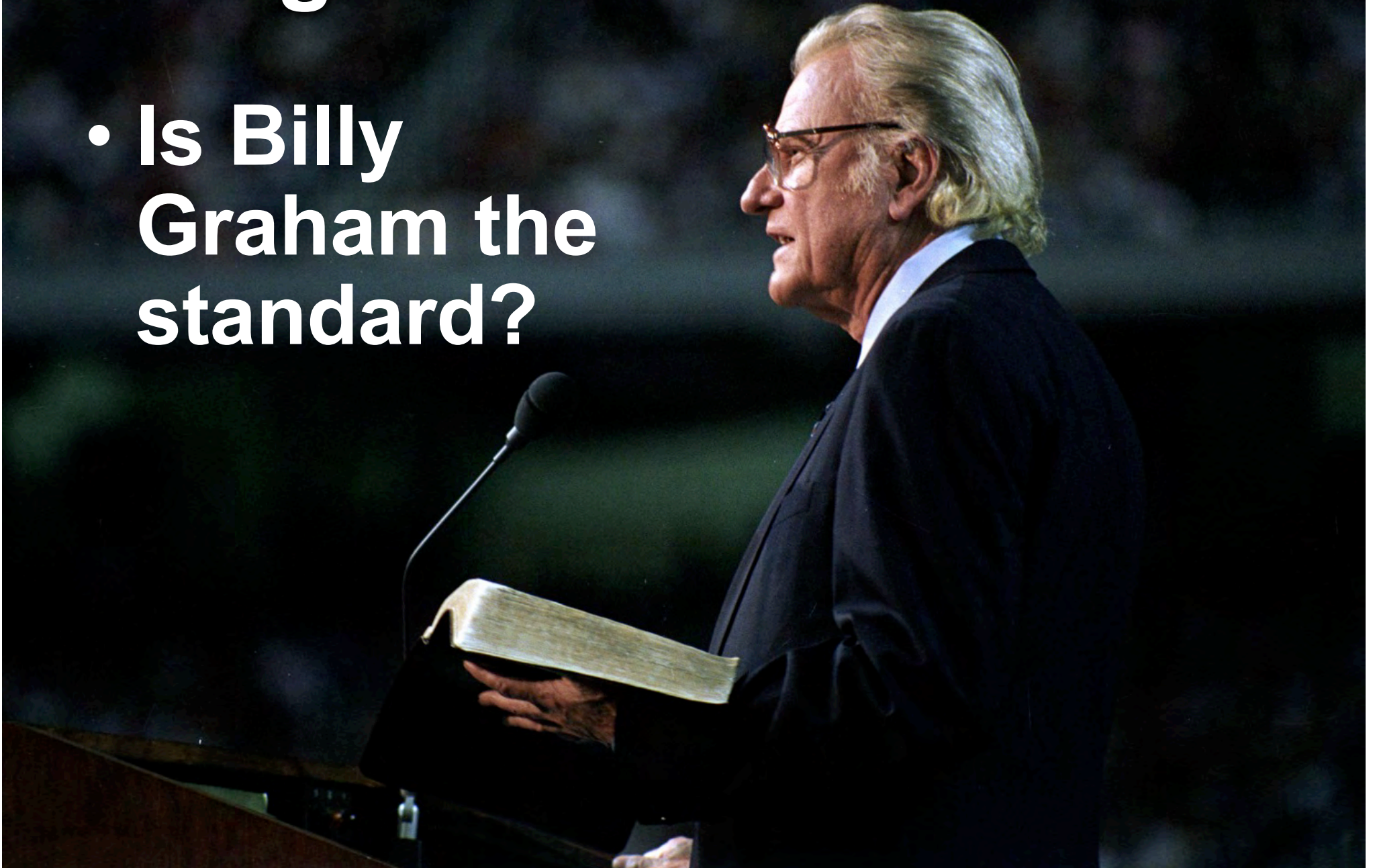
THE WORD OF GOD

"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



THE DUAL GIFT

And He gave
some, apostles;
and (δε) some, prophets;
and (δε) some, evangelists;
and (δε) some, [pastors and (καί) teachers]

The Only "Dual" Gift

Pastor

Protection

Discipline

Leading

Caring

Teacher

Study

Instruction

Applying

Warning





"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)

The Comma



v. 11
KJV

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

v. 12
KJV

for ($\pi\rho\omicron\sigma$) the perfecting of the saints,
for ($\epsilon\lambda\omicron$) the work of the ministry,
for ($\epsilon\lambda\omicron$) 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."

What's inside the church?



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

καταρτισμός (katartismos = noun)

equipping, training

καταρτίζω (katartizo = verb)

mend, restore, set right,
make complete

καταρτίζω (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 ($\pi\rho\omicron\sigma$) the equipping of the saints

NASB for ($\epsilon\lambda\omicron$) the work of service
to ($\epsilon\lambda\omicron$) the building up of the body of Christ.

God gave gifted men to train *others* to do ministry!

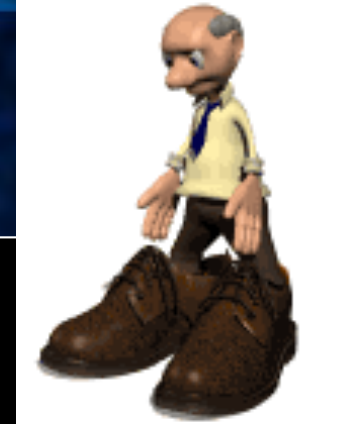
Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV)

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)

Pastor-Teachers

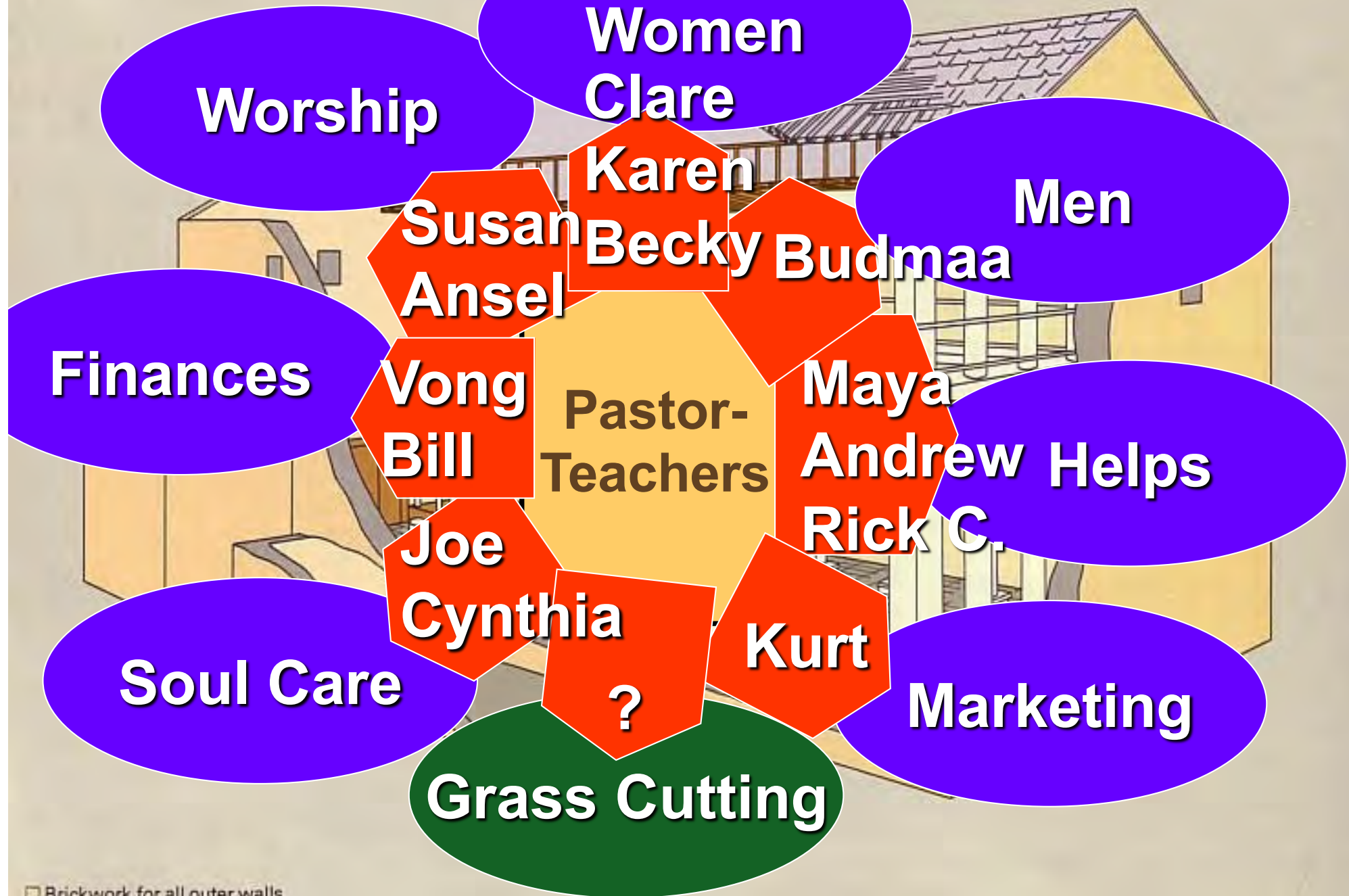
EQUIP

DO

Works of Service



How are we equipping?



Flow of Eph. 4:11-13

Roles



Purpose

The What



The Why

The What

Main Point #1

Christ called
pastor-teachers
to **equip** you for
your ministries
(11-12a)

The Why

Main Point #2

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

Results of Equipping

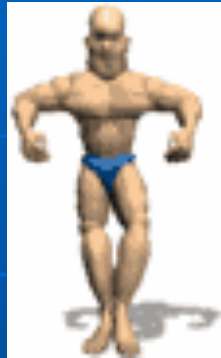
Encourages **us** (12b)

**Christ-
likeness
(13c)**



The Meaning of "Build Up"

οἰκοδομὴν



**Upbuilding
Strengthening
Encouragement
Building
Structure**

The Same Word for "Build Up"

οἰκοδομῆν

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"

οἰκοδομήν

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.**

Results of Equipping

Encourages us (12b)

Unites us (13a)

Teaches us (13b)

Matures us (13c)

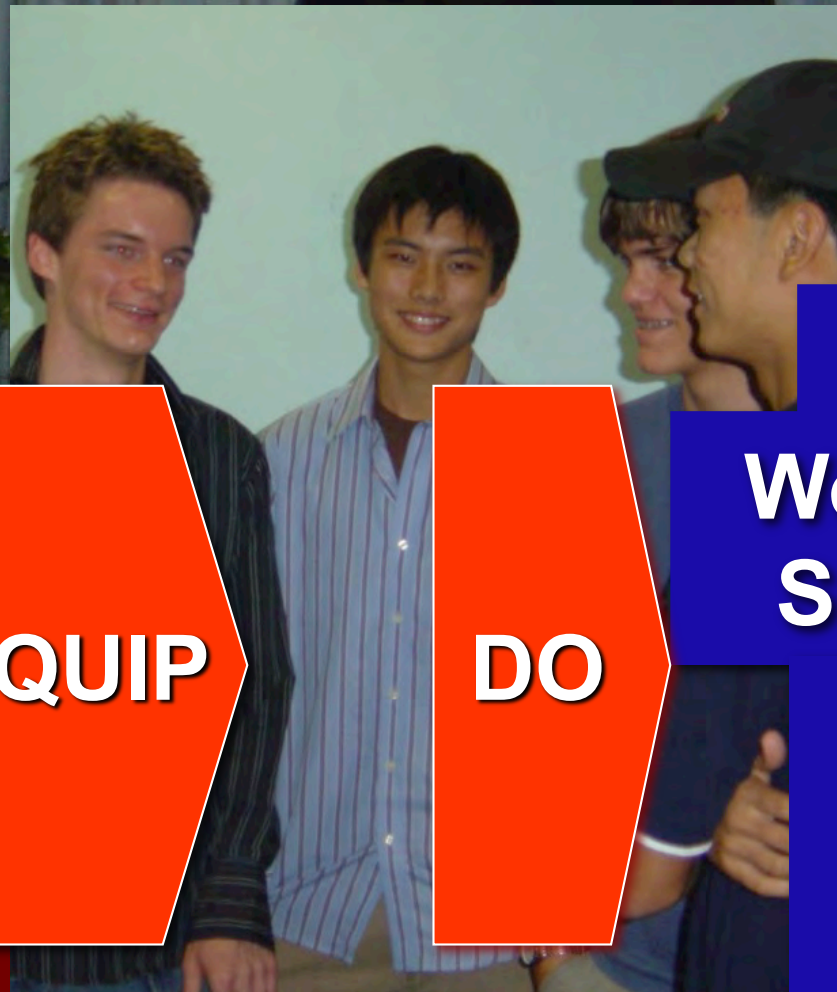
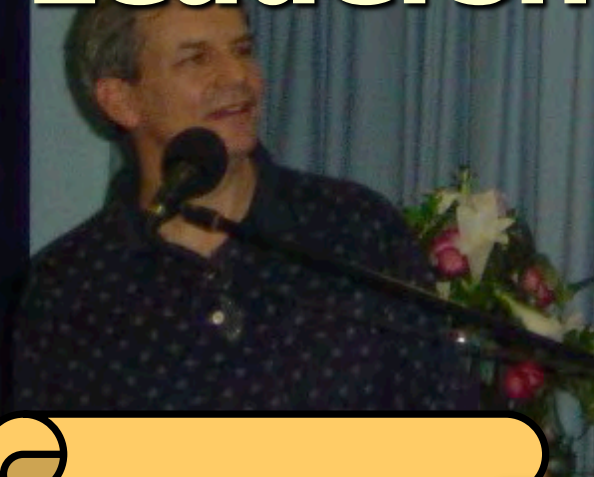
**Christ-
likeness
(13c)**





Why did
God bring you
here?

God's Design for Church Leadership



Pastor-Teachers

EQUIP

DO

Works of Service



—Main Idea—

**Christ called pastor-teachers to
equip you to be like Christ!**



So what?

Action Points

⊕ Your Role

- ⊕ **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: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: home _____ hp _____ office _____

- Usher**
- Set Up & Take Down**
- Administration**
- Deacon**
- Women's Ministry**
- Worship leader/Song leader**
- Musician: what instrument** _____
- Vocalist**
- A/V Tech**
- Evangelism/Outreach**
- Missions**
- Small group leader**
- Nursery worker**
- Children SS teacher**
- Food service**
- Prayer Ministry**
- Pastoral Care**
- Other** _____

Comments: _____

Action Points

Your Role

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

Your Goal

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



We Walk in Diversity

Ephesians 4:7-16

**Preached by Dr. Jim Harmeling
at Crossroads International Church Singapore • CICFamily.com
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この暗黒の地獄をクリアできるか？



1000

micro piece jigsaw puzzle
仕上りサイズ38×26cm

暗黒地獄

⚠ このジグソーパズルは組み上げる事が極めて難しい、難易度の高いパズルです。
初心者の挑戦は危険です。絶対に手を出さないでください。



JIGSAW



New People

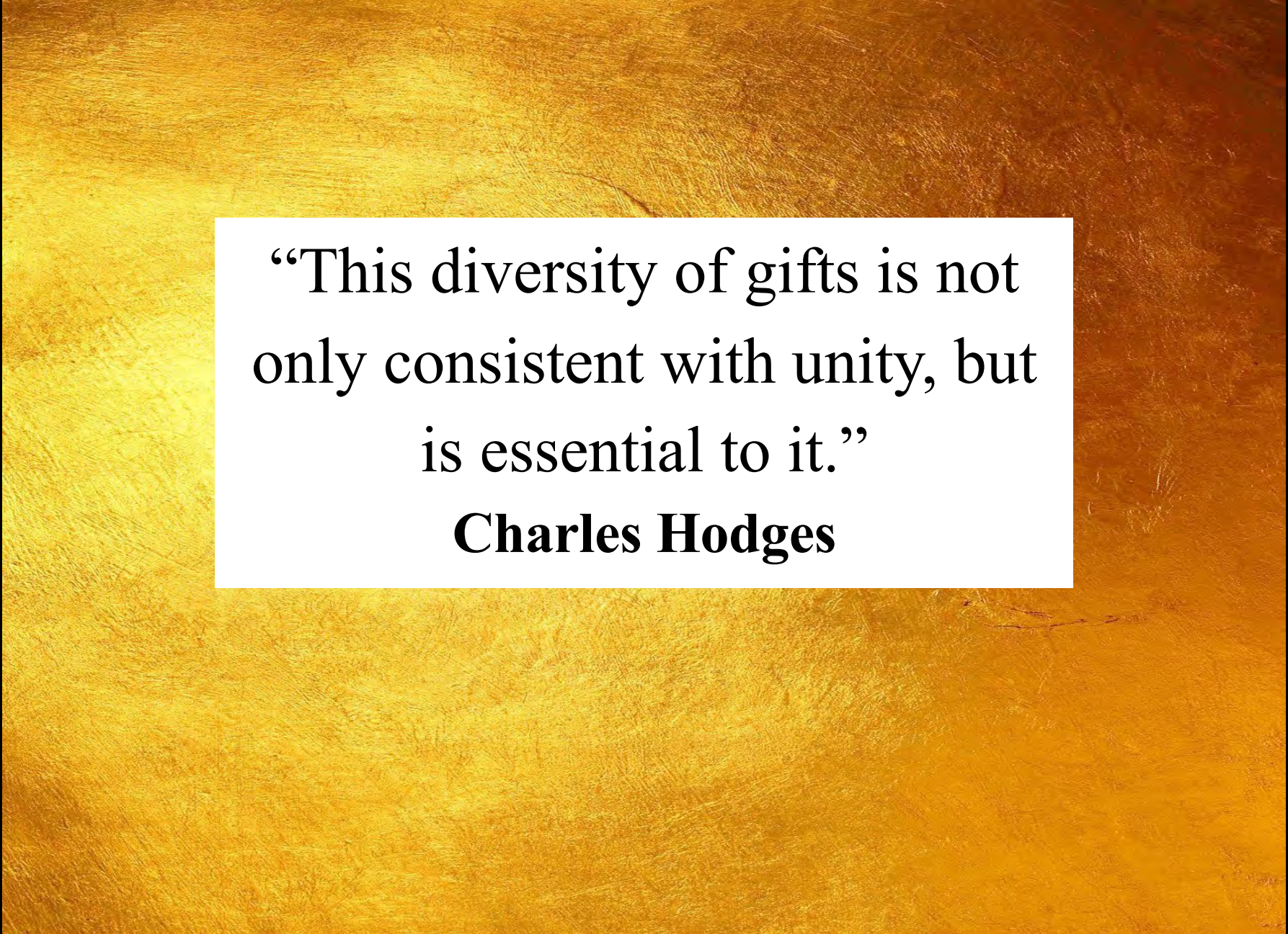
for the glory of God

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 elders of the church, 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 appoint elders in every town 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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New People

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 world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world 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 flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.



2 Corinthians 4:4

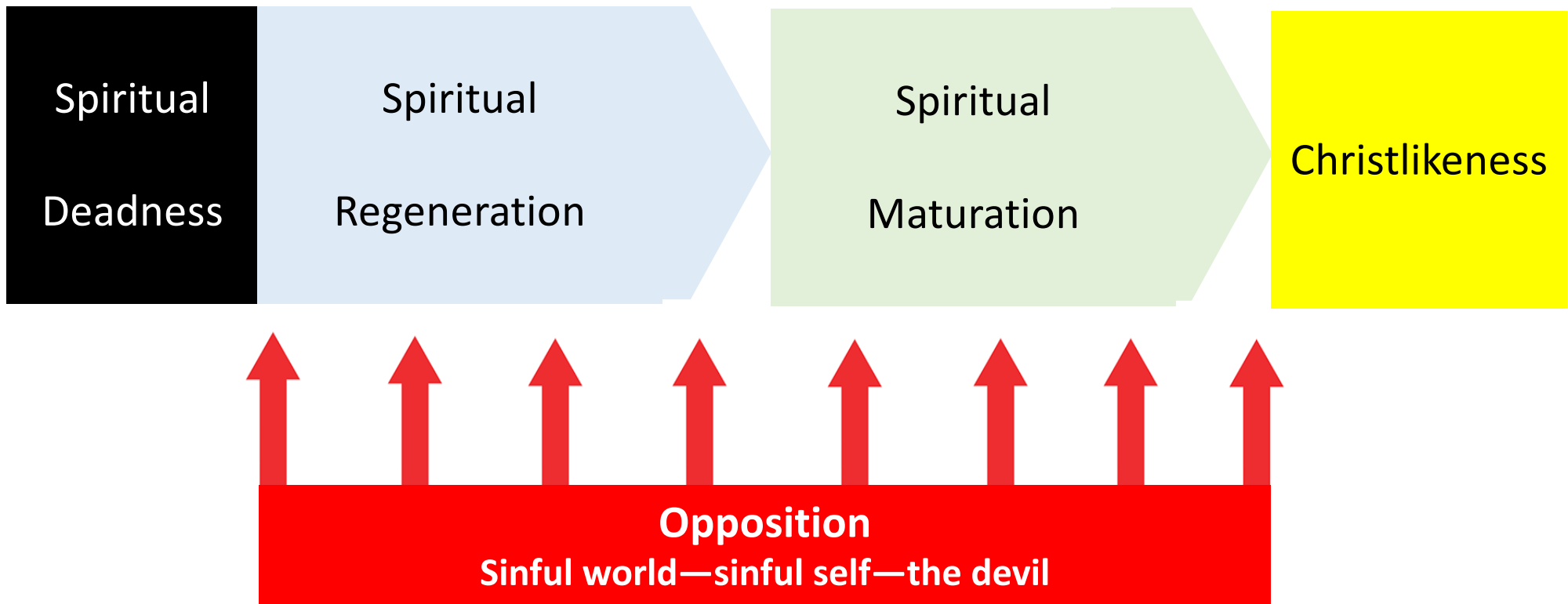
In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.



John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, 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)

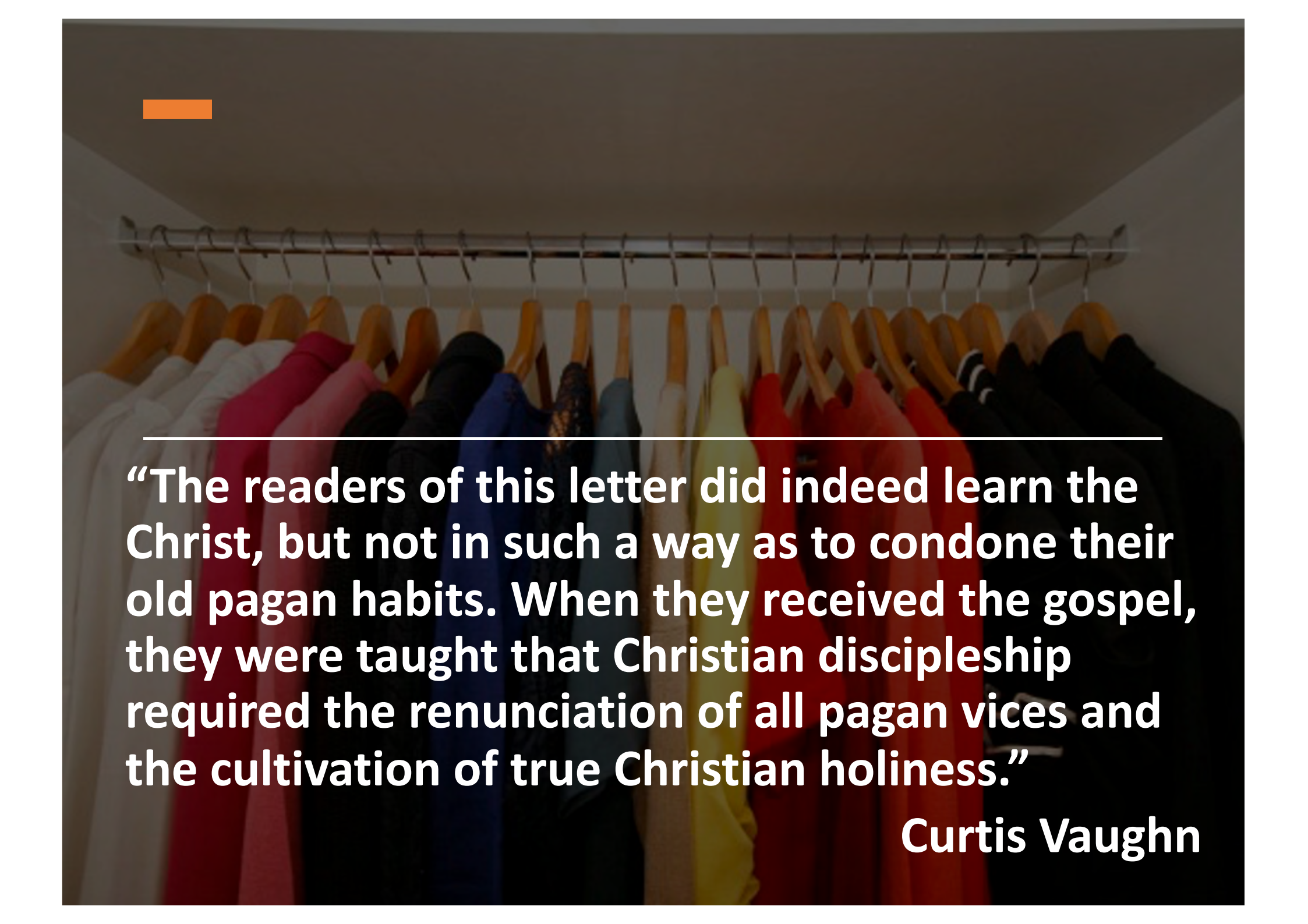
- Hard hearted towards God (4:18b)

- Callous in conscience towards impurity (4:19)



A woman with long, straight brown hair is seen from behind, looking into a closet. The closet is filled with various clothes hanging on hangers, including a white shirt, a colorful patterned shirt, and a dark polka-dot dress. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is contemplative.

***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.”

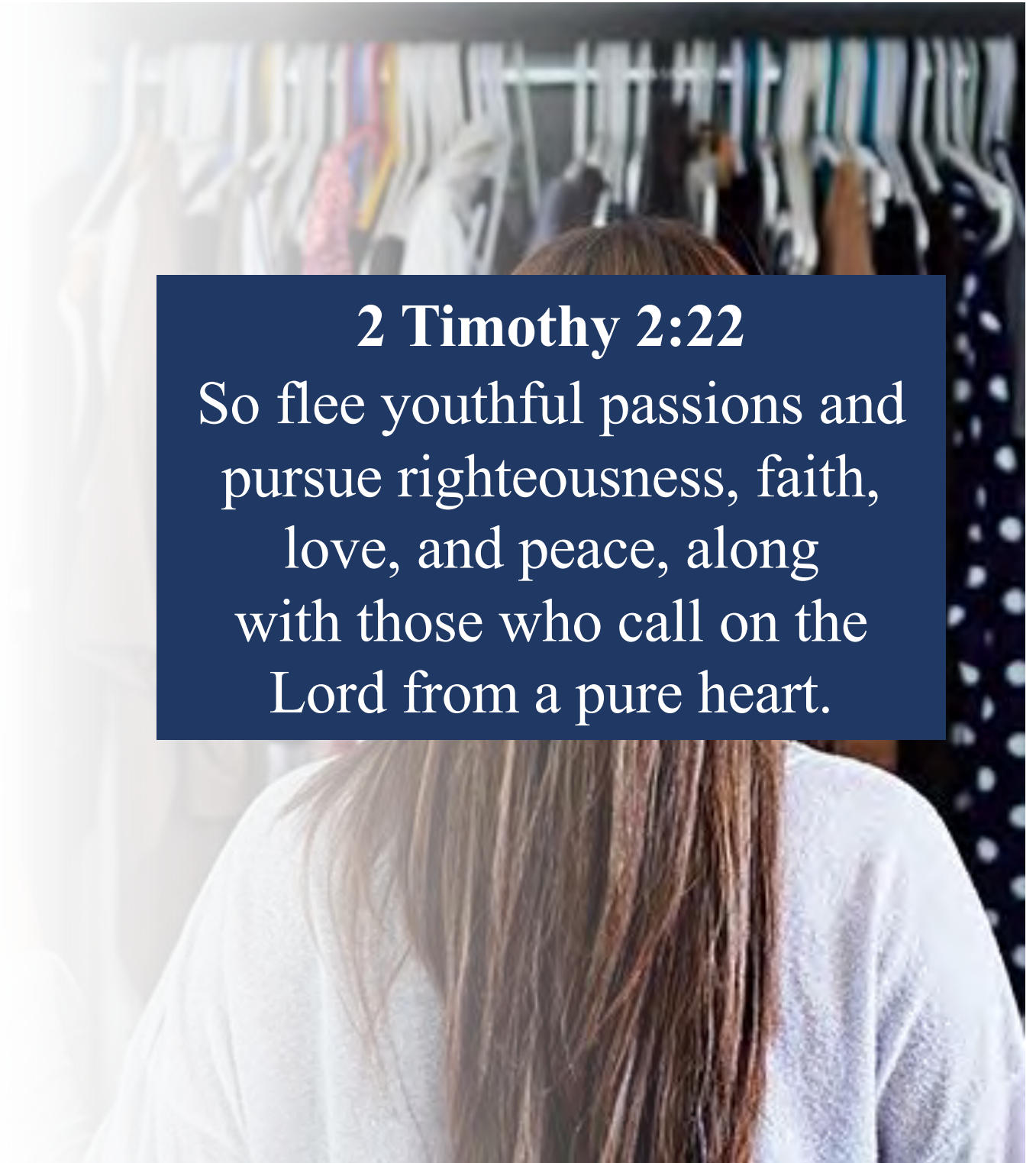
Curtis Vaughn



-
- *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.



Autobiography in 5 short chapters

P o r t i a N e l s o n

Chapter 1

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.



Autobiography in 5 short chapters

P o r t i a N e l s o n

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.



Autobiography in 5 short chapters

P o r t i a N e l s o n

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.



Autobiography in 5 short chapters

P o r t i a N e l s o n

Chapter 4

I walk down the same street.

There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.

I walk around it.



Autobiography in 5 short chapters

P o r t i a N e l s o n

Chapter 5

I walk down another street.



We Do Not Walk Like the World

Ephesians 4:25-32



Continued

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*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.

⁴ Be 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 un**wholesome**
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



MAIN MENU

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)

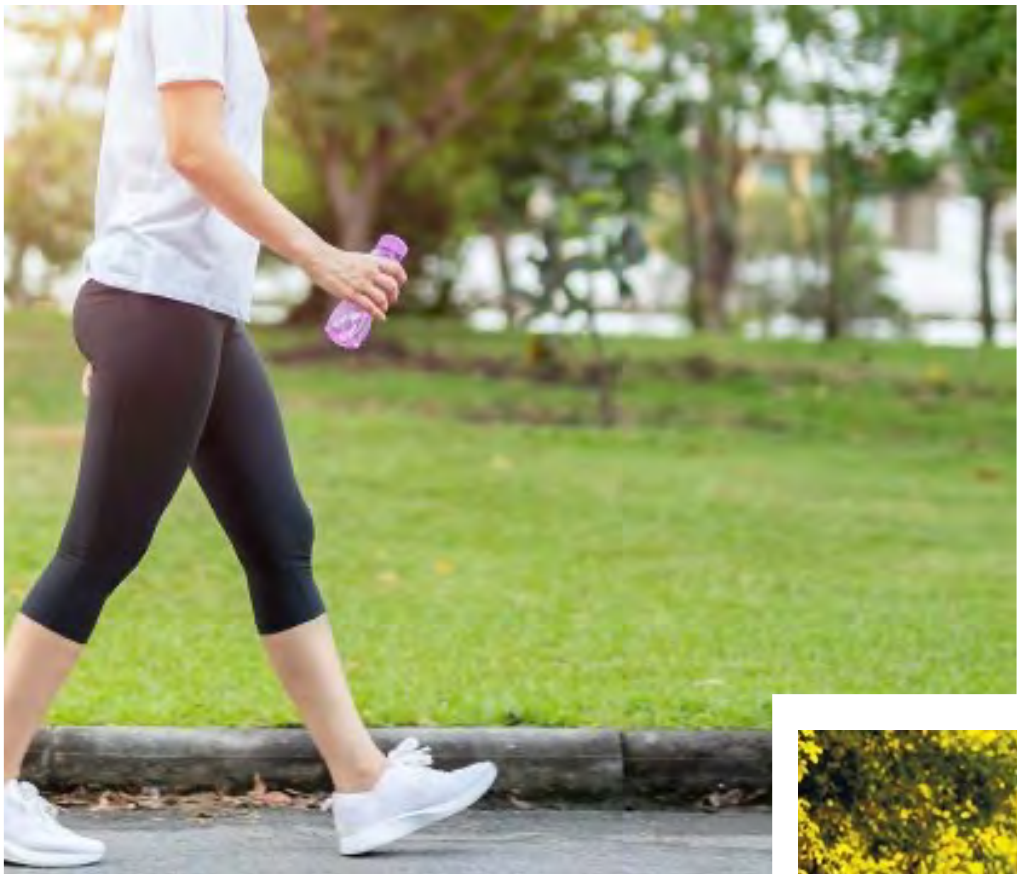
- Sexual immorality (5:3)
- Greed (5:3)
- Impurity (5:3)
- Obscenity (5:4)
- Foolish talk, coarse joking (5:4-5)
- Drunkenness (5:18)

EPHESIANS 5:1 – 14

♡ WALK IN LOVE.



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Walk



Run



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”

New People

for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

EPHESIANS 5:1 – 14

♡ WALK IN LOVE.





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 fragrance 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 fragrance 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)



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



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

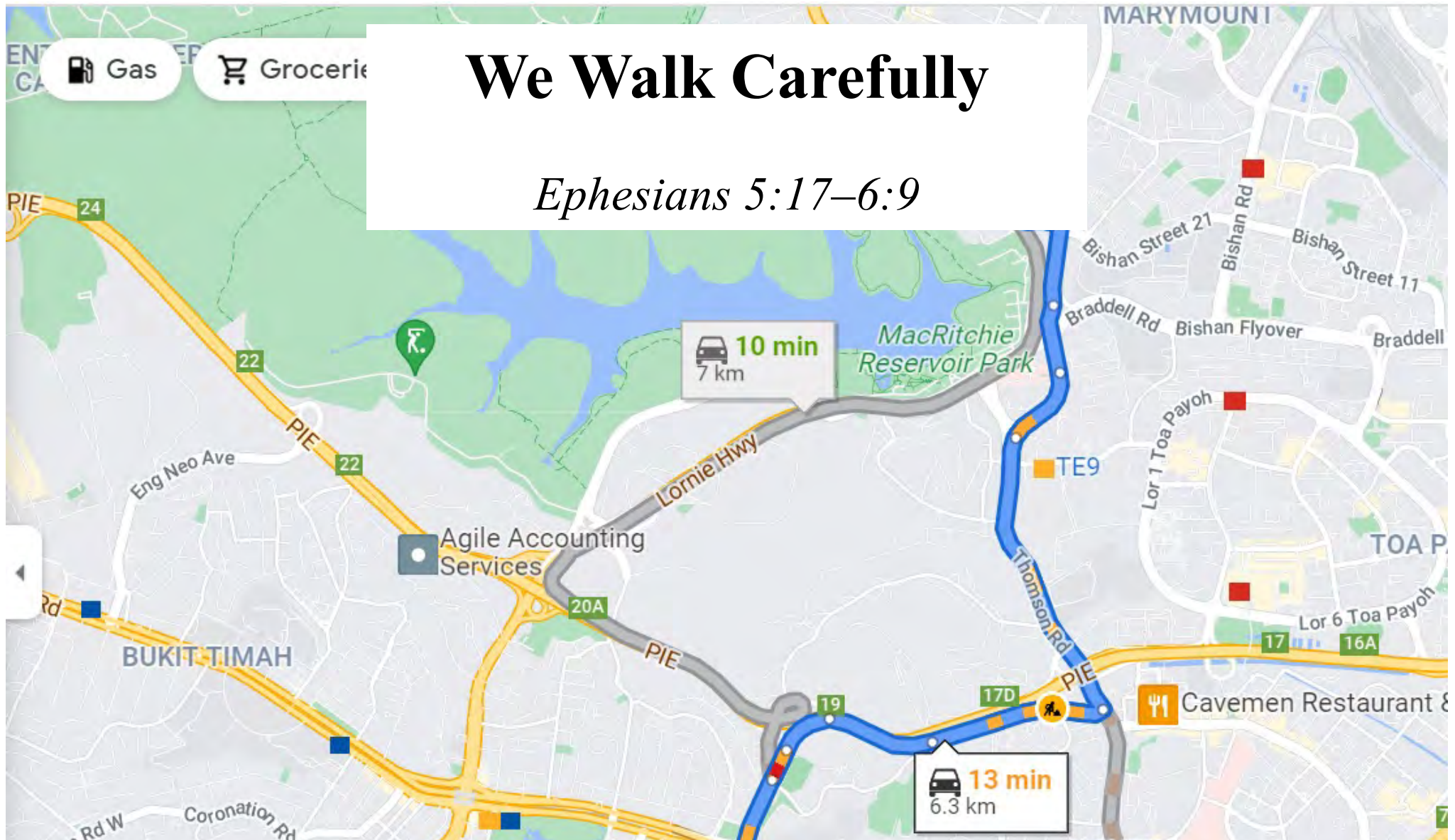
- **Remind yourself of your identity (5:8-9)**
- **Discern what is pleasing to God (5:10)**
- **Expose and transform darkness (5:11-14)**

Light in the Valley of the Kwai

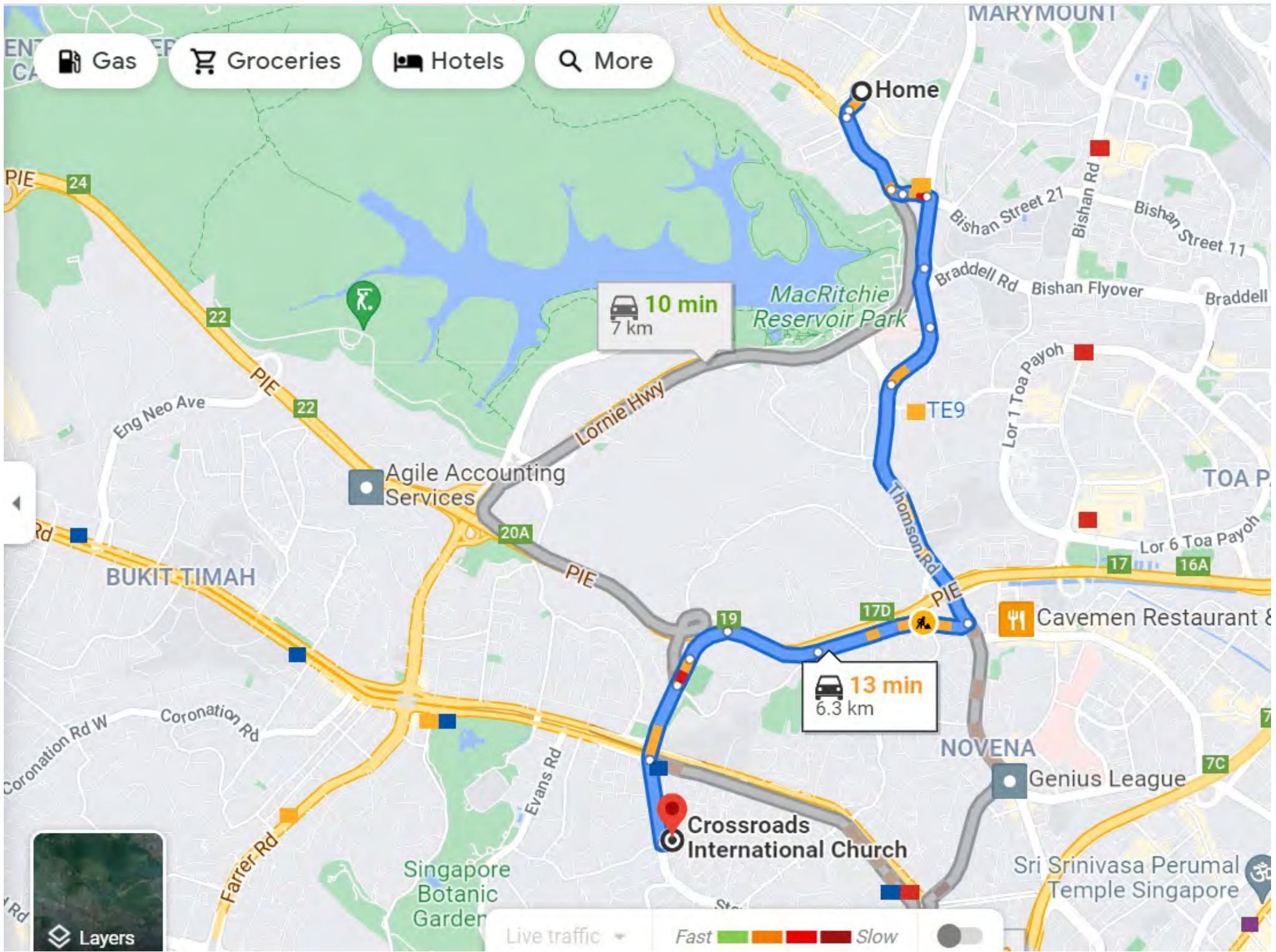


We Walk Carefully

Ephesians 5:17–6:9



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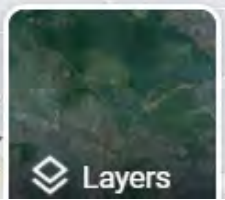


- Gas
- Groceries
- Hotels
- More

10 min
7 km

13 min
6.3 km

Live traffic Fast Slow



New People

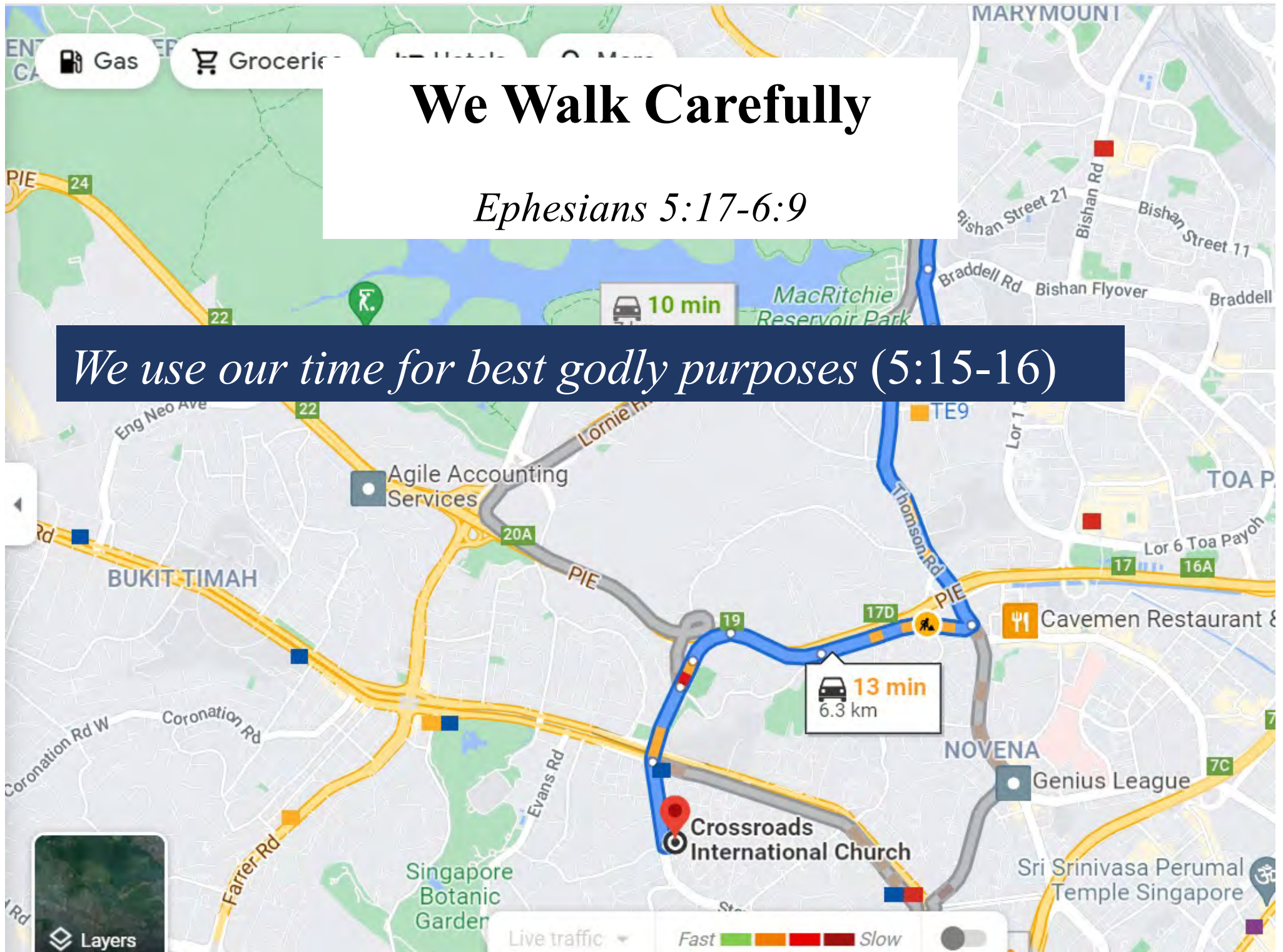
for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

We Walk Carefully

Ephesians 5:17-6:9

We use our time for best godly purposes (5:15-16)



"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

A Google Maps interface showing a route in Singapore. The map includes labels for 'Gas', 'Groceries', 'Hotels', and 'Mass' at the top. A white box in the upper center contains the title 'We Walk Carefully' and the Bible reference 'Ephesians 5:17-6:9'. Three dark blue boxes with white text are overlaid on the map, containing the phrases: 'We use our time for best godly purposes (5:15-16)', 'We act consistent in our faith (5:17)', and 'We are controlled by the Holy Spirit (5:18-6:9)'. The map shows a blue route starting near MacRitchie Reservoir Park (10 min drive) and ending at Crossroads International Church (13 min drive, 6.3 km). Other landmarks include Singapore Botanic Garden, Cavemen Restaurant, and Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple Singapore. The bottom of the map shows a 'Live traffic' indicator and a color-coded speed scale from 'Fast' (green) to 'Slow' (red).

We Walk Carefully

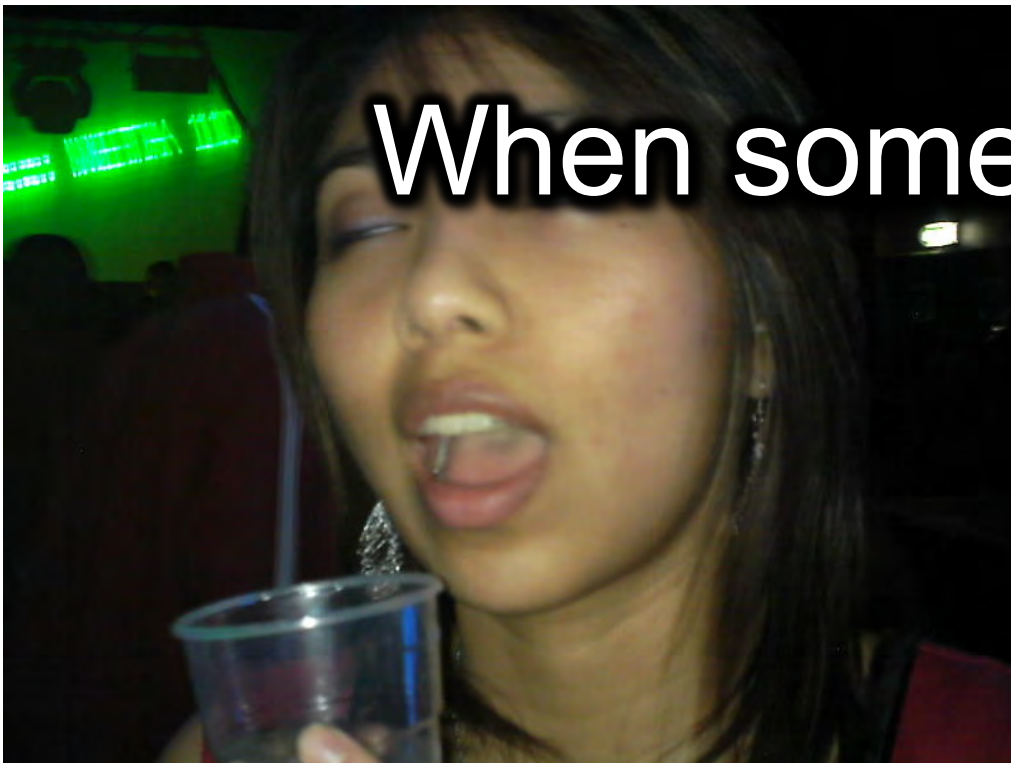
Ephesians 5:17-6:9

We use our time for best godly purposes (5:15-16)

We act consistent in our faith (5:17)

We are controlled by the Holy Spirit (5:18-6:9)

When someone is drunk...



Ephesians 5:18-20 NLT

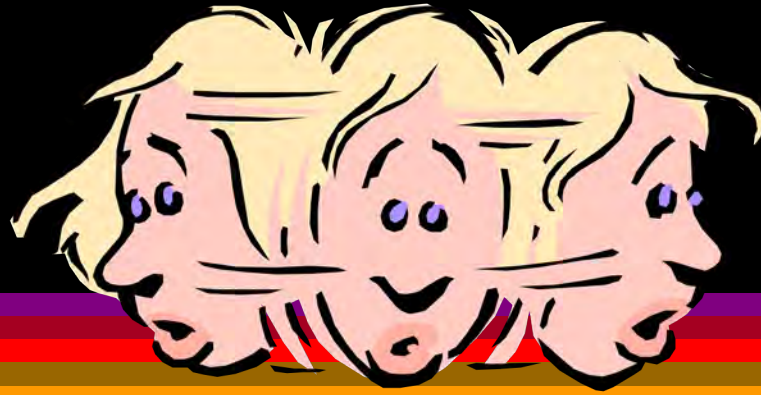
Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life.



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

Propheesied (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

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: “promise...is 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

xxii

	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?

No

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 Helper, 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, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, 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 Helper, 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.

Being Spirit Controlled

- Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)



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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Sim and Jacqui



September 6, 1986

New People

for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

We Walk Carefully

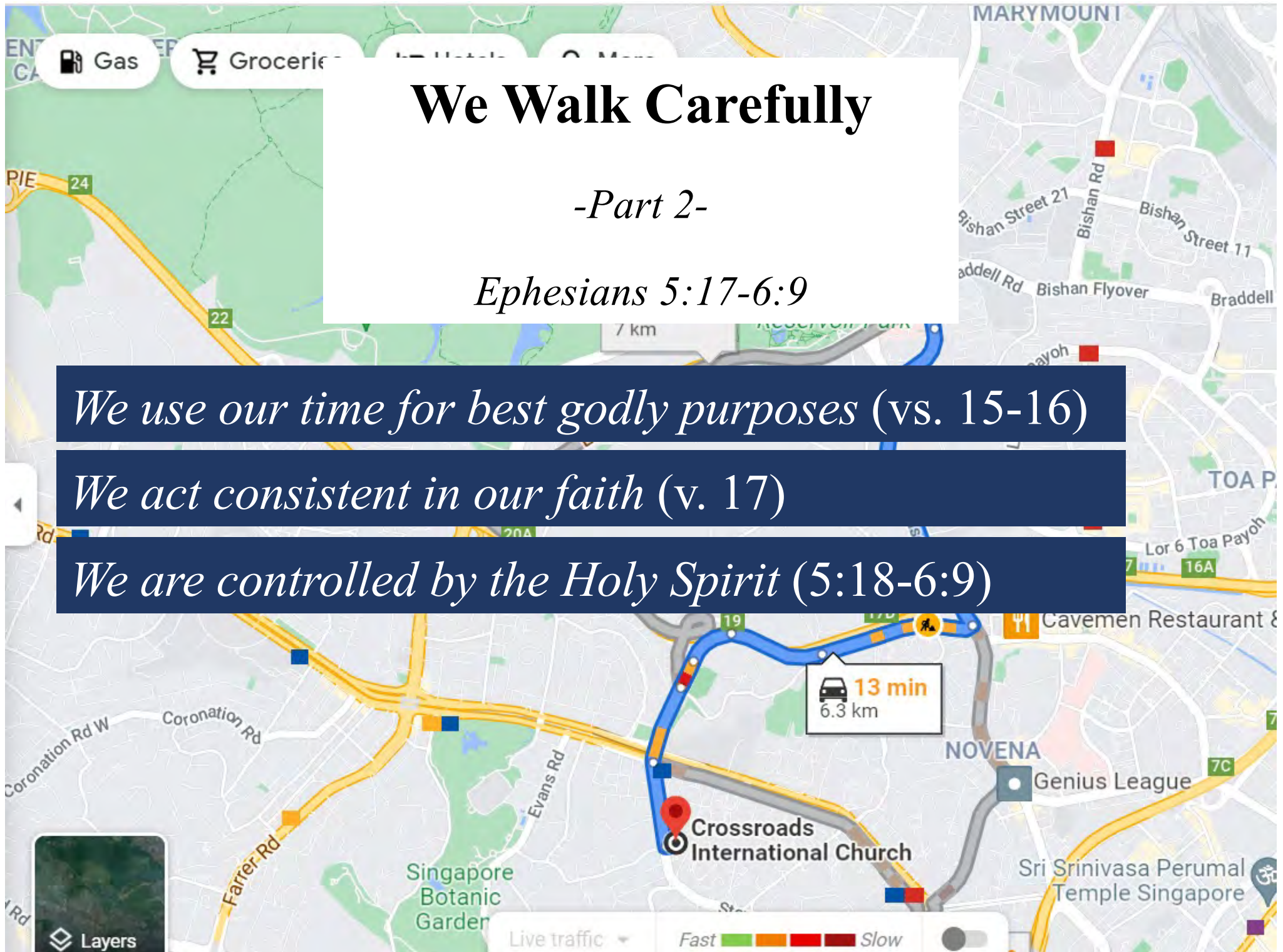
-Part 2-

Ephesians 5:17-6:9

We use our time for best godly purposes (vs. 15-16)

We act consistent in our faith (v. 17)

We are controlled by the Holy Spirit (5:18-6:9)



Being Spirit Controlled

- Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)
- 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)



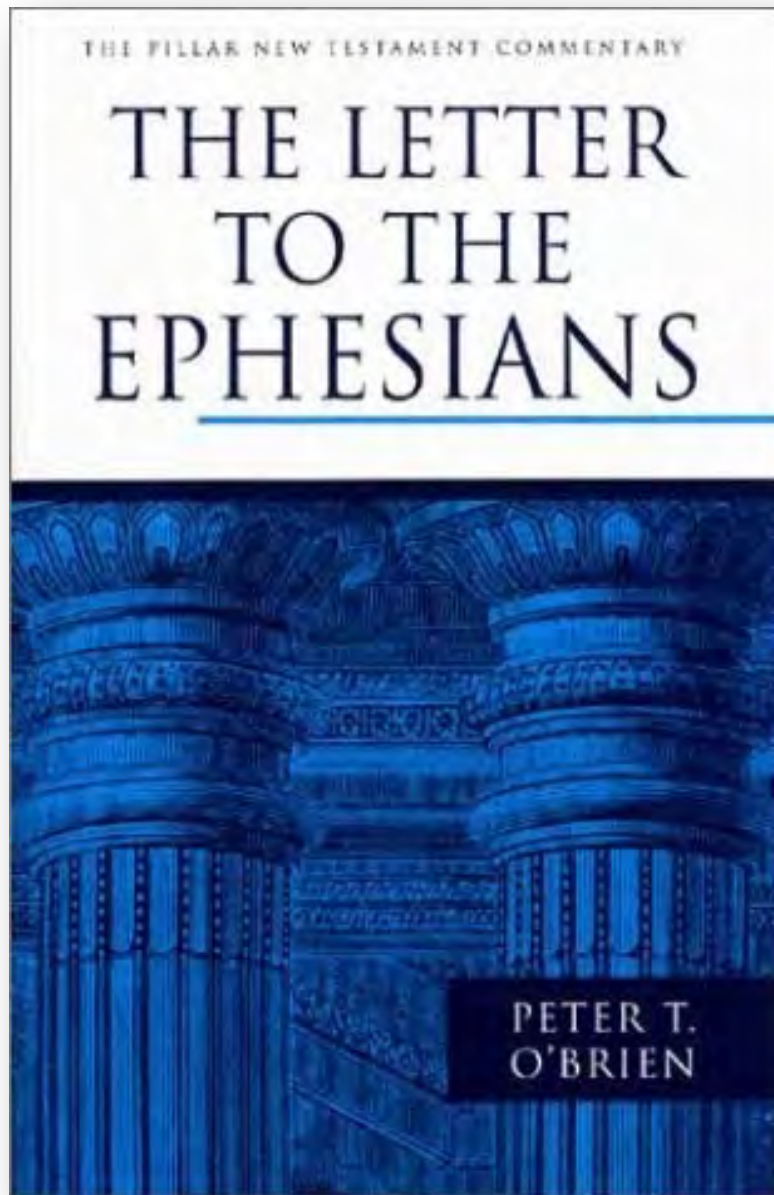
Being Spirit Controlled

- Spirit controlled words (5:19-20)
- 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.”

Know

Do





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—



Know

A photograph of a wedding cake topper featuring a groom and a bride. The groom is on the left, wearing a black suit and a white shirt. The bride is on the right, wearing a white wedding dress with a pink and green floral corsage. They are standing on a white circular base. The background is a light, neutral color.

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

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

A scenic landscape featuring a dirt road that winds through a lush green field. The road starts in the foreground, slightly to the right, and curves towards the left as it recedes into the distance. The field is filled with various green plants and small yellow flowers. In the background, a dense line of trees stretches across the horizon. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and blues, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

Christ's leading

Glorifier (v. 27)

Purifier (v. 26)

Savior (v. 23)



Nourish

Cherish



Do



Two gold wedding rings are shown on a wooden surface. The rings are positioned in the upper left quadrant of the image, with one ring slightly behind and to the right of the other. The wood grain is clearly visible, running horizontally across the frame. The lighting is soft, highlighting the metallic sheen of the rings.

Wives

- Speak with respect
- Pursue virtue

1 Peter 3:1-6

¹ Likewise, 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.

Two gold wedding rings are shown on a wooden surface. The rings are positioned in the upper left quadrant of the image, with one ring slightly behind and to the right of the other. The wood grain is clearly visible, running horizontally across the frame. The lighting is soft, highlighting the metallic sheen of the rings.

Wives

- Speak with respect
- Pursue virtue
- Promote godly leadership

Two gold wedding rings are positioned on a rustic wooden surface. The rings are simple, plain bands. One ring is slightly behind and to the right of the other, creating a sense of depth. The wood grain is clearly visible, adding texture to the background.

Husbands

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

Ephesians 6



We Walk Carefully

Ephesians 6:1-9

Spirit Controlled Family & Employment

**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**

New People

for the glory of God

Studies in Ephesians

We Walk Carefully

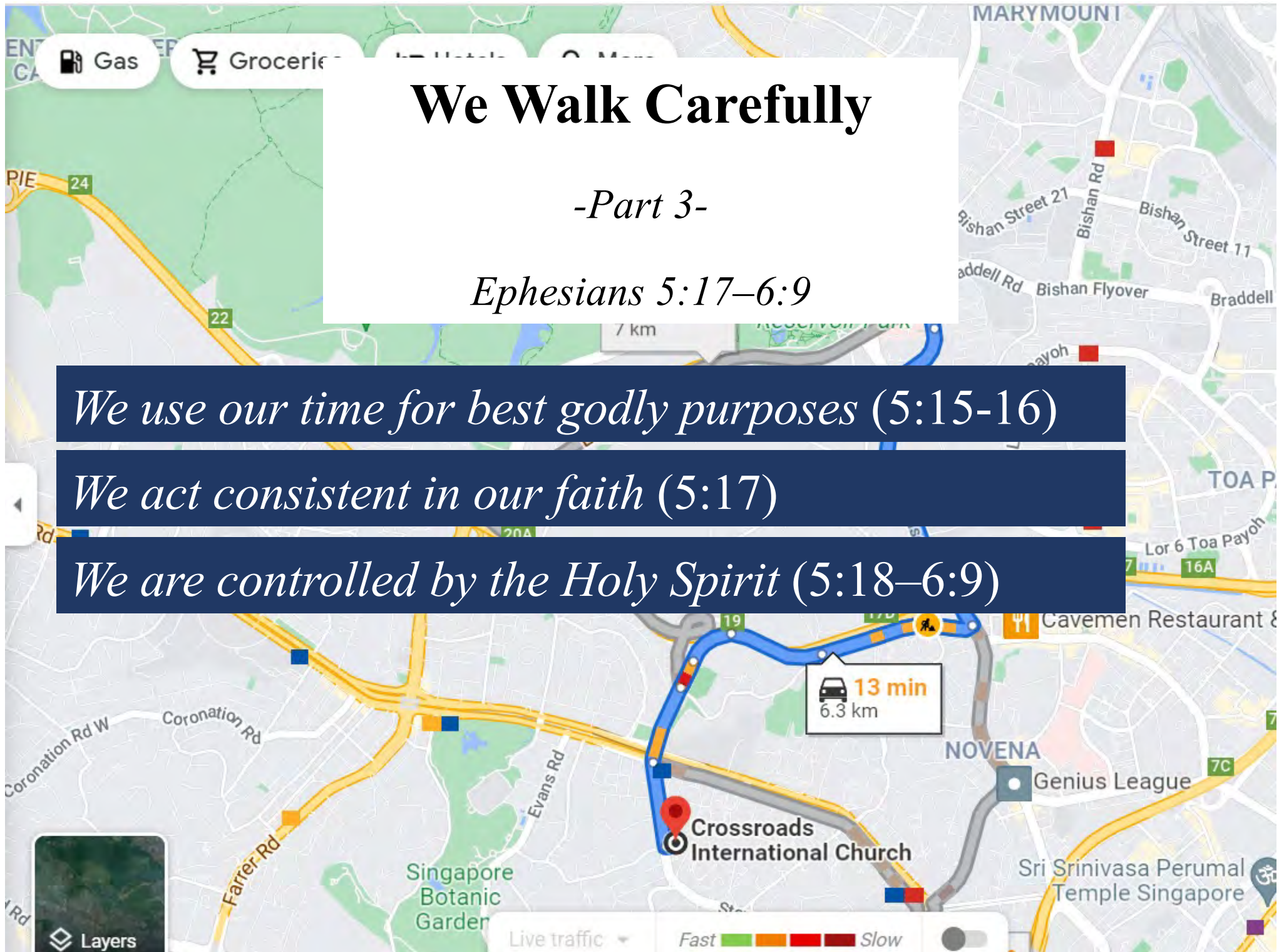
-Part 3-

Ephesians 5:17–6:9

We use our time for best godly purposes (5:15-16)

We act consistent in our faith (5:17)

We are controlled by the Holy Spirit (5:18–6:9)



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





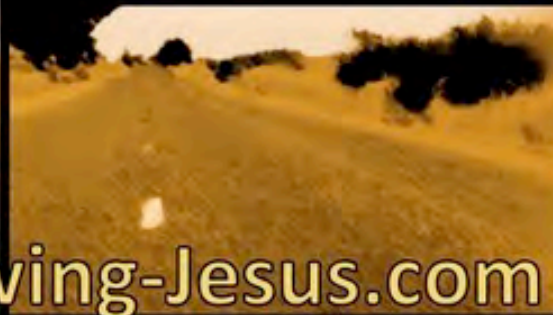
EPHESIANS 6:1

CHILDREN



OBEY YOUR PARENTS IN THE LORD

FOR THIS IS RIGHT



Knowing-Jesus.com

➤ Children obey and honor parents

“in the Lord” *“right”*



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

Deuteronomy

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**



**Did not enter the
Promised Land**

**2nd Generation
Israelites**



**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

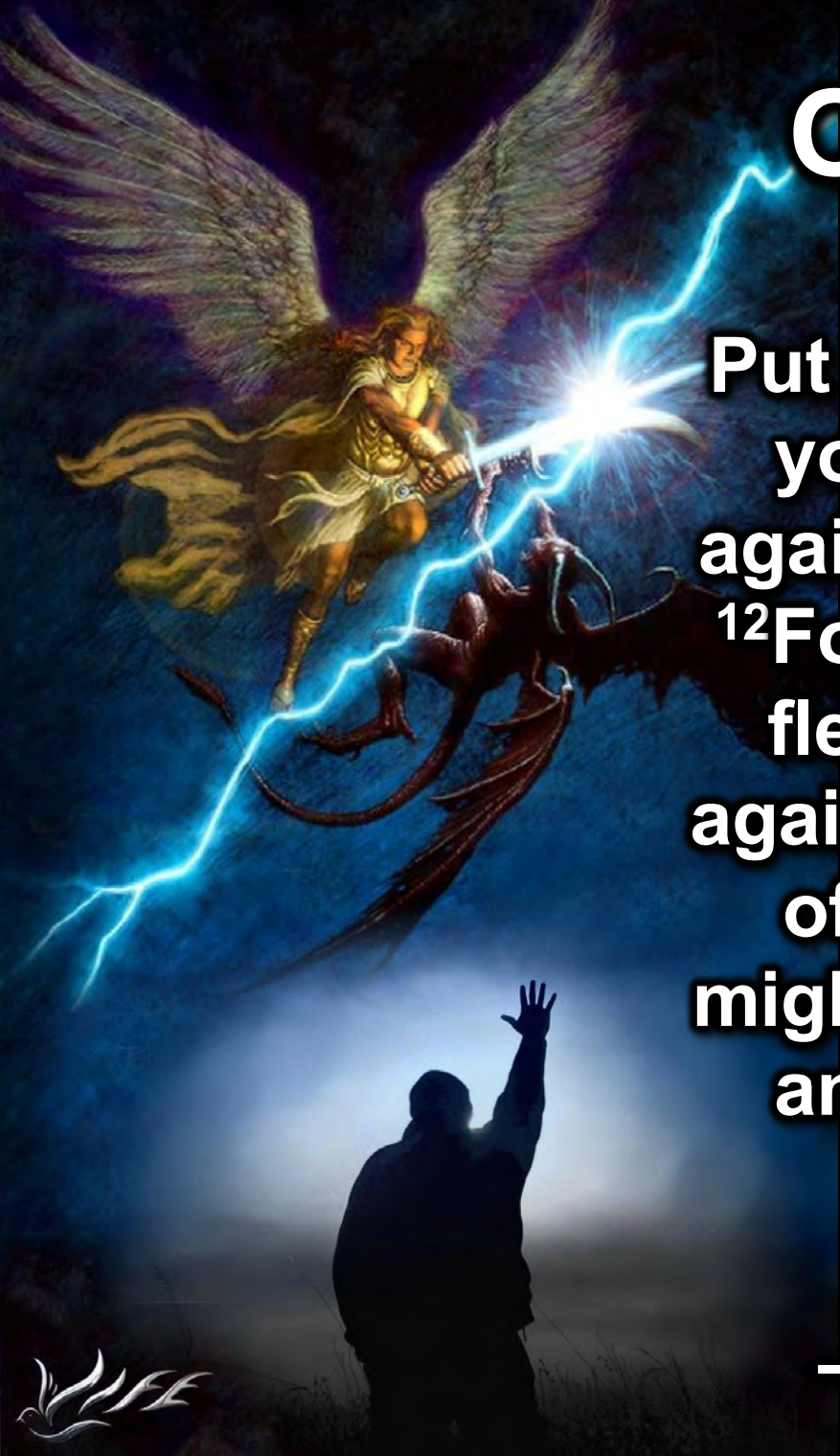
“do the same to them”





**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—



180h



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).**





+



+



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CONTRIBUTION



Ephesians 6:10-20

THE CHRISTIAN'S ARMOUR

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**Paul
compared
us to a
Roman
soldier**



**Belt of
truth**

**Held up
flowing
robe and
sword**

= *integrity*



**Breastplate of
righteousness**



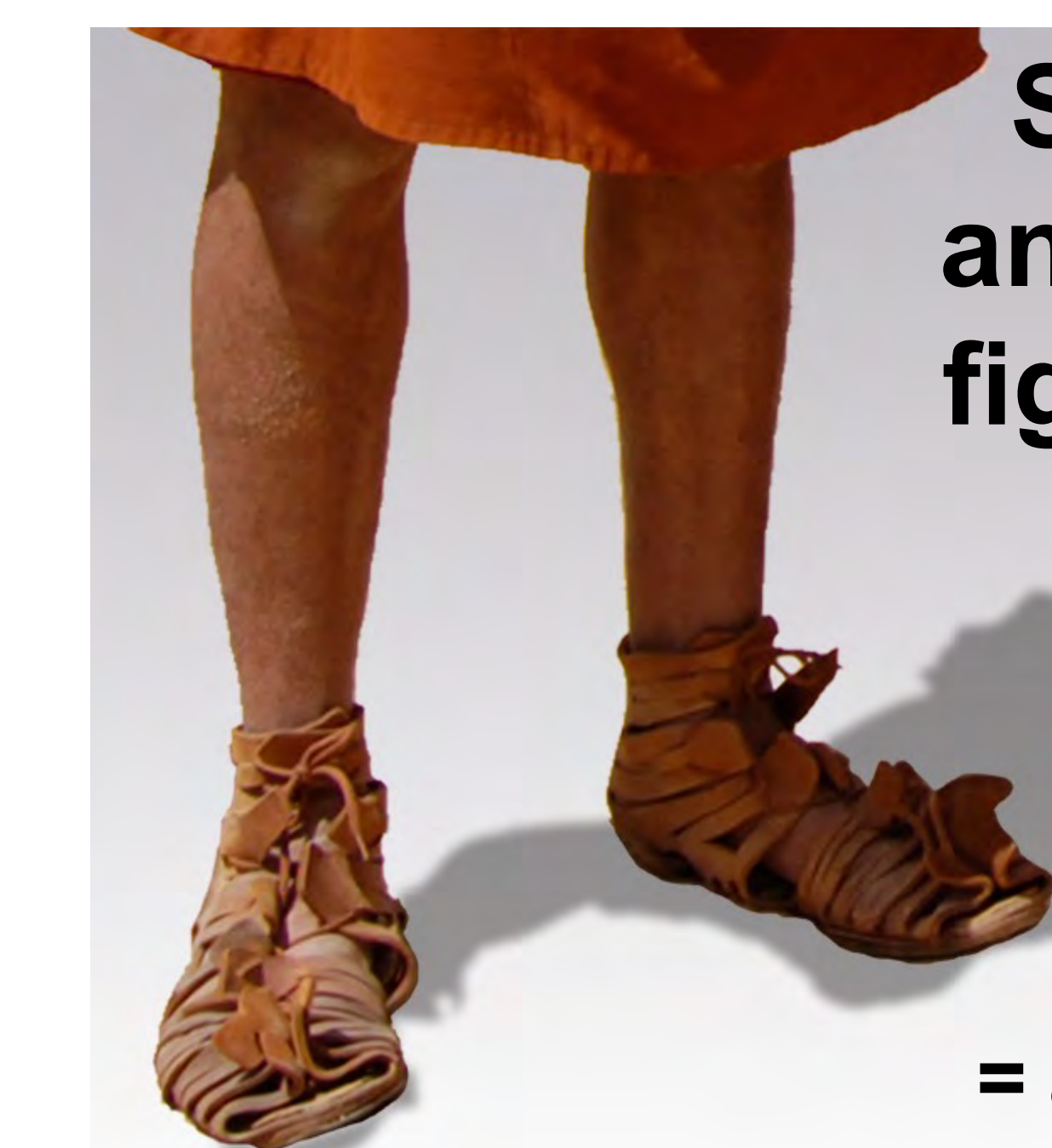


**Protected
vital organs**

**= *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***





**Helmet of
salvation**



**Protected from
head injury**

**= *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





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Roman Soldier



Pieces of the Armor



Breastplate (14b)

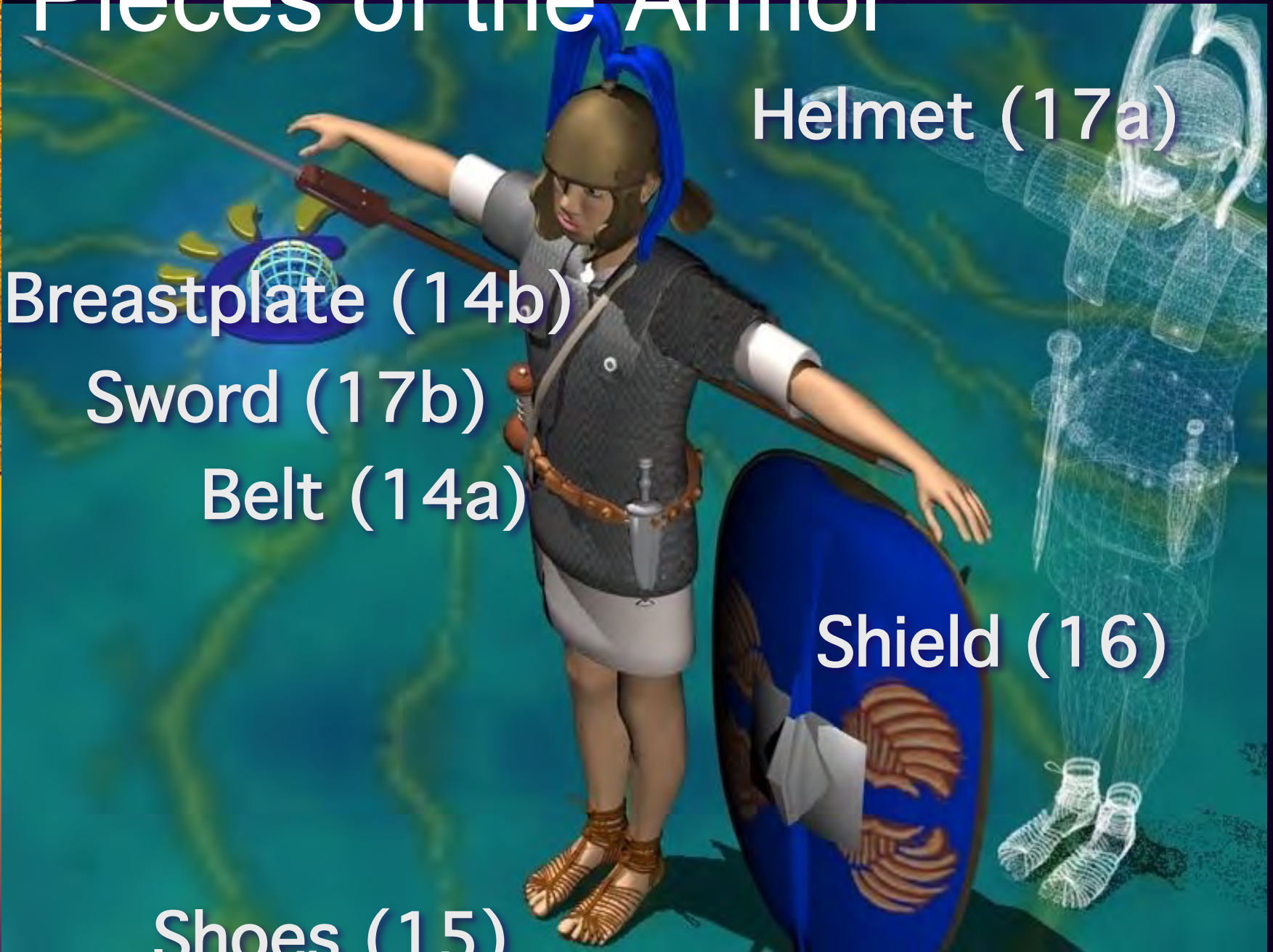
Sword (17b)

Belt (14a)

Helmet (17a)

Shield (16)

Shoes (15)



180i Weapons

Weapons	Roman Function	Spiritual Meaning	Defends Against Accusations of...	Practical Applications
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Use Your Weapons!



MAIN MENU

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

Love the Nations

"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

Love the Nations

**"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).**

Love the Nations

"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).

Love the Nations

**"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).**

Love the Nations

**"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).**

Love the Nations

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

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).

Love the Nations

"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.?**

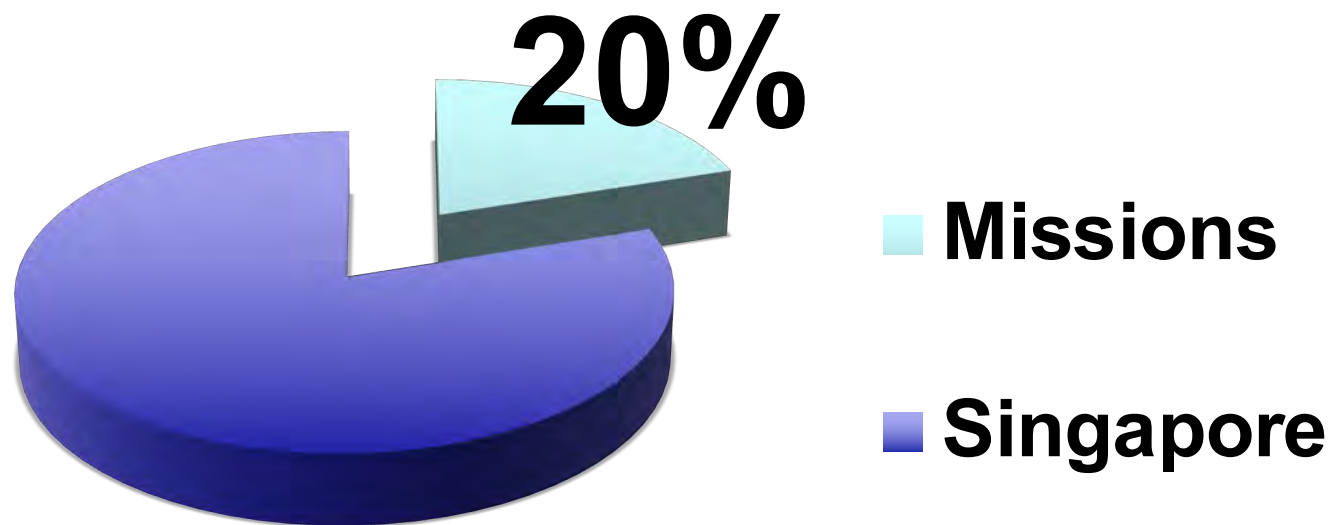
How do you show your unity with believers different from you?

Crossroads in Missions





Missions Giving



Our Vision

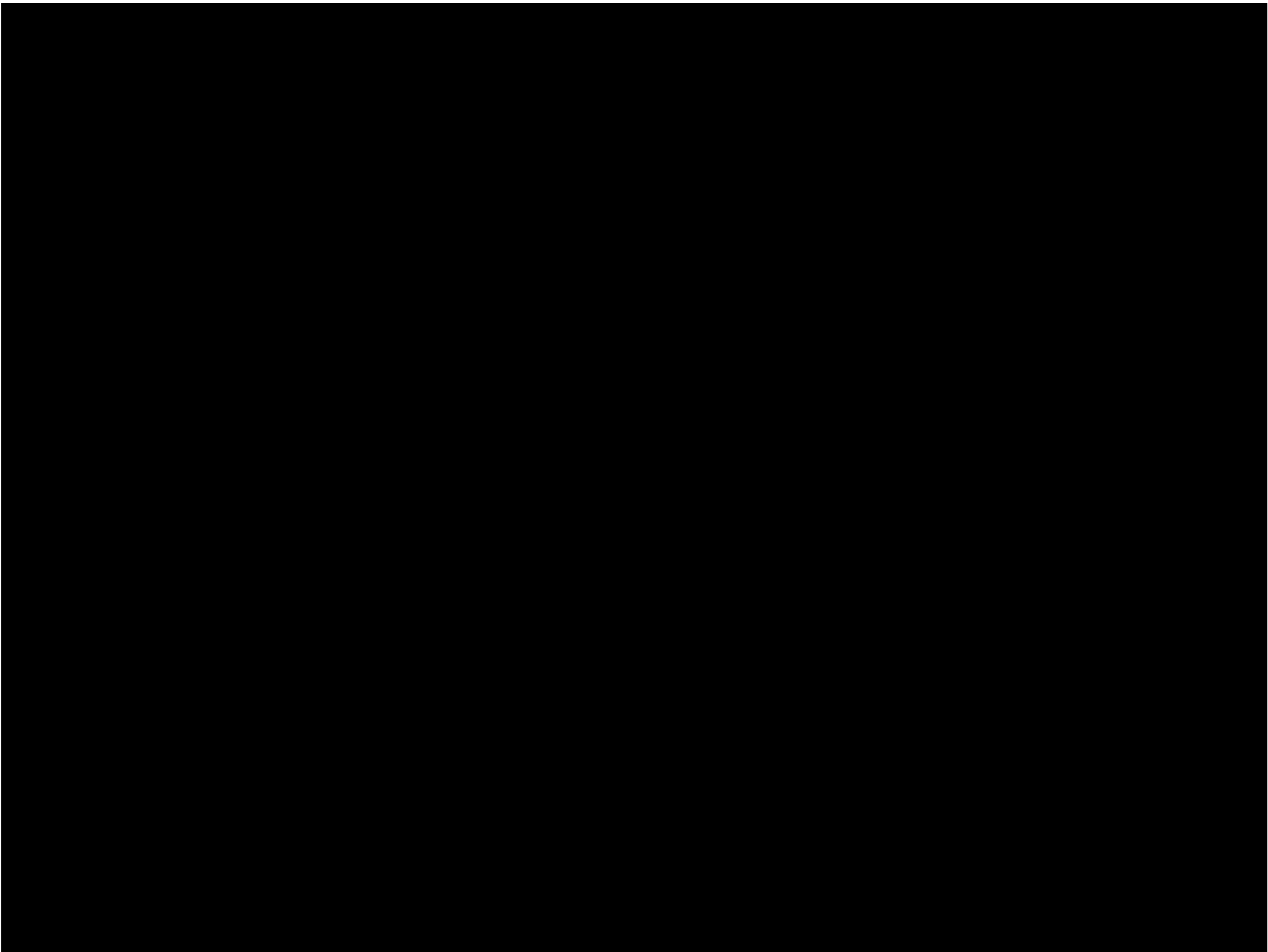
Love the Nations

Love the Church

**Love
God**



Unity in Diversity Brings Joy!



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