

Study of Ephesians

Lesson #1 Eph 1:1-2

March 4, 2012

I. Background:

A. New Testament Survey

(See **Expanded Note # 1** for a look at "NT Survey of the Bible" on Ephesians).

B. Paul's ministry at Ephesus

1. Acts 18:18-21 Paul's first journey to Ephesus.
This is at the end of his second missionary trip.
2. Acts 19:1-7 Paul's second journey to Ephesus
This results in their receiving the Baptism of the Spirit.
3. Acts 19:8-20 Paul stays in Ephesus and teaches for 2 years.
Extraordinary miracles of healing and deliverance take place by the hands of Paul.
4. Acts 19:23-20:1 Many people are set free from witchcraft and magic, burning their books in renouncing Satan and following Christ. A man by the name of Demetrius organized a riotous protest against Paul and the Christians, for their business was being destroyed. They saw themselves as guardians and protectors of Artemis (Acts 19:35).
5. Acts 20:17-38 Paul's last visit to Ephesus before his prison ministry. Paul gives his farewell message to these elders.

C. Themes in Ephesians: (see **Expanded Note # 2** for expanded notes)

1. Unity is seen in the following words.
 - One (Eph 2:14, 15, 16, 18, 4:4-6; 5:31)
 - Us (Eph 1:3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 2:4, 5, 6, 7, 20, 4:7; 5:2)
 - We (Eph 1:4, 11, 12, 2:3, 5, 10, 18, 3:12, 20, 4:13, 14, 25, 5:30)
 - Our (Eph 1:2, 3, 7, 14, 17, 2:3, 14; 3:11; 5:20; 6:12, 24)
 - You (Eph 1:2, 16, 17; 2:1, 17, 3:1, 13, 16; 4:1, 31, 32; 5:3, 6, 33; 6:13)
 - All (Eph 2:3; 3:18; 4:6, 13; 6:18, 24)
 - Together (Eph 2:5, 21, 22; 4:16)
 - One another (Eph 4:2, 25, 32; 5:21)
2. Our Identity in Christ (Eph 1:3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 20; 2:5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 3:6, 11, 12; 4:15, 21; 5:8; 6:10, 21)
3. Heavenly places (Eph 1:3, 20; 2:6; 3:10; 6:12)
4. Riches of:
 - Grace (Eph 1:7; 2:7);
 - Glory (Eph 1:18; 3:16);
 - Christ (Eph 3:8)

D. Outline:

- I. Doctrinal: Our wealth in Christ; Heavenly calling Ch. 1-3
 - A. Salutations 1:1-2
 - B. Our possession in Christ 1:3-14
 - C. Prayer for revelation of our possession 1:15-19
 - D. Christ, the victor of our possession 1:20-23
 - E. Our new condition in Christ 2:1-12

- F. Our unity in Christ 2:13-18
- G. Our identity in Christ 2:19-22
- H. Revealing of God's mystery 3:1-12
- I. Revealing of God's fullness 3:13-21

II. Practical: Earthly conduct; Our walk in Christ Ch. 4-6

- A. As regards the church corporately 4:1-16
 - 1. Walk in a worthy manner 4:1-6
 - 2. The five-fold ministry 4:7-16
- B. As regards believers individually 4:17-5:21
 - 1. Walk not as Gentiles but put on the new self 4:17-24
 - 2. Instructions on our personal lives 4:25-5:21
- C. As regards to relationships 5:22-6:9
 - 1. Husband and Wife 5:22-33
 - 2. Parent and Child 6:1-4
 - 3. Employer and Employee 6:5-9
- D. As regards our spiritual warfare 6:10-18
- E. Conclusion 6:19-24

II. Study on Ephesians 1:1-2

From the Outline:

- I. Doctrinal: Our wealth in Christ; Heavenly calling Ch. 1-3
 - A. Salutations 1:1-2

Eph 1:1-2 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

A. Authorship = Paul

B. Paul' credentials

1. He is an apostle of Jesus Christ.
 - a. Apostle = (apo = from; stello = to send) lit. one who is sent forth.
 - b. Paul calls himself an apostle in the following books:
Rom1:1; 1 Cor 1:1; Gal 1:1; Col 1:1; 1 Thes 2:6; 1 Tim 1:1; 2 Tim 1:1; Titus 1:1
 - c. Eph 2:20 the church is built on foundations of apostles
 - d. Eph 3:5 God reveals mystery of Christ to the apostles
 - e. Eph 4:11 apostles are a ministry that builds the church
 - f. 1 Cor 12:28 apostles are appointed by God in church
 - g. Luke 6:13 Jesus choose 12 disciples to be His apostles
 - h. Acts 1:24-26 the place of Judas' apostleship is filled
 - i. Acts 2:42 the church devoted themselves to the apostles teaching
 - j. Acts 2:43 apostles perform miracles (3:13; 5:12)

- k. Acts 2:34-37 believers lay money at the apostles' feet
- l. Acts 15:2, 4, 6, 22, 23; 16:4 elders can have an apostolic ministry
- m. 2 Cor 12:11-12 the signs of apostolic ministry

2. He is an apostle by the will of God

- a. At his conversion, God shows Paul how much he was going to suffer (Acts 9:15-16).
(Compare Acts 9:15-16 with Acts 20:18-25; 21:10-14)
- b. Paul received his message and revelation directly from God (Gal 1:11-12).

C. Written to:

1. The saints at Ephesus

Definition: "Saint" means "a holy person, someone set apart to the Lord."

It is from the NT Greek noun "HAGIOS," which means, a person, place or thing that is set apart to the Lord.

"HAGIOS" is used 15 times in Ephesians (see **Expanded Note # 3**).

My thoughts:

- a. It is written to the reader – YOU!
 - b. All believers are saints.
(see Ac 9:13, 32, 41, 26:10; Rom 12:13; 15:25, 26, 31; 16:15; 1 Cor 6:1; 14:33; 2 Cor 1:1)
 - c. Our call is to live holy(saintly) in Christ (see Rom 1:7; 1 Cor 1:2).
 - d. Saints (YOU) are God's household
Eph 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,
 - e. All ministers (leaders) Job Description should read "to equip saints" Eph 4:12.
 - f. We are qualified as saints because we are in Jesus (see Phil 1:1; Col 1:2).
 - g. Salvation is given to the saints (Jude 3).
2. Those that are faithful (also see **Expanded Note # 4**).
The Greek word is pistos, it is used 66 times in the Greek NT; 33 times Paul uses this word.

Definition:

- ✓ Thayer's Greek Lexicon
 - 1. trusty, faithful; used of persons who show themselves faithful in the transaction of business, the execution of commands, or the discharge of official duties: Mt 24:45
 - 2. easily persuaded; believing, confiding, trusting Gal 3:9
- ✓ Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words
 - 1. In the active sense means "believing, trusting"
 - 2. In the passive sense, "trusty, faithful, trustworthy."

Commentaries:

✓ Wycliffe Bible Commentary

1. The faithful. Believing ones (cf. Gal 3:9).

2. The absence of the article before the word faithful in the original indicates that the saints are the believers.

✓ Adam Clarke's Commentary; The Greek word pistos is used for the believer: who has received Christ as the promised Messiah, and the Savior of the world; and continued in the grace which they have received.

3. Those who are "in Christ."

We are saints and faithful only because we are in Christ.

Eph 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. (see Eph 2:5; Ro 11:6)

D. Those that hear and/or read this letter are to:

Receive grace and peace;

From both God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Expanded Notes of Eph 1:1-2

Note # 1

New Testament Survey (This section is from Kevin Connors and Ken Malmin's excellent book "New Testament Survey." Their 10 point outline (of each NT Book) is to help the student see and understand the main.)

Introduction (to New Testament Survey)

It is of the utmost importance that the Bible student obtains a good grasp of the Bible as a whole. However, in order to do so he must first gain an understanding of each book that makes up The Book. This text has been designed to be of help in the process of understanding the parts in relating them to the whole.

The format of this study is quite simple. It is designed to give a patterned glimpse of each book of the New Testament.

This has been done by applying these 10 points to each book:

(1) Titles	(6) Purpose
(2) Author	(7) Message
(3) Date	(8) Outline
(4) Key Words and Phrases	(9) Summary
(5) Key Verses	(10) Christ Seen

The following is an explanation of each of the ten parts.

1. Titles:

Under this heading you will find basically three things: First, the meaning of the title of the book is given (e.g. Matthew means "gift of God"). Next, alternate titles are listed when significant. Last, a distinct title has been suggested for each book. This title is meant to both describe the content of the book and to distinguish it from the other books of the Bible (eg. Matthew is called The Book of the King because it presents Jesus as the Kingly Messiah and deals with the things pertaining to the Kingdom of heaven, a key word).

2. Author:

Under this heading is listed the author of the book. In cases where the book does not name its author, the most probable author from our point of view has been given. You will also find a brief point or two distinguishing the author and pointing out any other books written by him

3. Date:

Under this heading you find under the historical books first a reference to the number of years that pass during the accounts given in the book. Then for every book an approximate date has been given as to when the book was written. Also on the Pauline Epistles information has been given to relate those epistles to the book of Acts. (There are many differences of opinion concerning the dates when the New Testament books were written. Thus, the dates listed in this text are conservative estimates.)

4. Keywords and phrases:

Under this heading you will find words and phrases that are keys to understand the book at hand. These have been chosen on the basis of frequency of usage in relation to usage and other books of the Bible. These tabulations are based upon the King James Version unless otherwise noted. These words can be used for good word/theme studies in their respective books.

5. **Key Verses:**
Under this heading you will find verses that express the main subject, theme, or message of the book.
6. **Purpose:**
Under this heading you will find the statements that answer the question, "why was his book written?". These lend insight into the importance of each book. It must be considered that there are many different types of reasons why a book is written (e.g. for historical, instructional, prophetic, etc. reasons). Those thoughts most important have been included.
7. **Message:**
Under this heading you will find, with some exceptions, the statements of principal that are taught by each book as a whole or at least by a major portion of it. Of these sorts of statements there could be no end but once again only those felt most significant have been included.
8. **Outline:**
Under this heading you will find a brief, condensed outline of each book showing its structure and arrangement.
9. **Summary:**
Under this heading you find a paragraph description of the book, pointing out its subject and its relation to other books of the Bible, as well as other facts of interest concerning the book or its author.
10. **Christ Seen:**
Under this heading you'll find a brief description of some ways in which Christ can be seen in the book, sometimes accompanied by Scripture references supporting them.

These 10 points applied to EPHESIANS

1. **TITLES:**
 - A. The Epistle to the Ephesians
 - B. The Book of the Body of Christ
 - C. The Book of the Church
2. **AUTHOR:**
Written by Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles
3. **DATE:**
It is written between 57 and 62 A.D. during Paul's first imprisonment at Rome (Acts 28).
4. **KEY WORDS:**
 - A Love (d. eth) 19
 - B Grace 12
 - C Faith, Believe 10
 - D Body (dies) 10
 - E Heaven (ly, s) 8
 - F Walk (ed) 8
 - G Mystery 6
 - H Will (of God) 6
5. **KEY VERSES:** 1:22-23; 2:6; 4:1
Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Eph 2:6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

Eph 4:1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,

6. PURPOSE:

- A. To strengthen the believers in their love and faith in Christ.
- B. To encourage the believers to put off the old man and put on the new man.
- C. To show the unity of both Jew and Gentile in the one body of Christ.
- D. To set forth the purpose of the mystery of Christ and the church.

7. MESSAGE:

- A. The believer as a member of the body of Christ is seated in the heavenly places in Christ, but yet is to walk in practical love on earth.
- B. The church is a time manifestation of God's eternal purpose in Christ.

8. OUTLINE:

- I. Doctrinal: Heavenly Calling Ch. 1-3
- II. Practical: Earthly Conduct Ch. 4-6

9. SUMMARY:

During Paul's third missionary journey he spent at least three years at Ephesus establishing the church. It soon became the center for the evangelization of Asia Minor. Then while imprisoned at Rome, Paul wrote this epistle. In chapter 1 he sets forth the eternal purpose of God in Christ and shows the heavenly calling and position of the church. Chapter 3 unfolds the mystery of Christ and the church. Chapter 4 - deals with the unity of the members of the body; chapter 5 - deals with the unity of the body with Christ under the figure of marriage. Then in chapter 6 Paul outlines the church's spiritual warfare. If the church had heeded Paul's admonition to walk in love they would not have received the rebuke of Christ found in Rev 2:1-7.

10. CHRIST SEEN:

Christ is seen as the Fullness of God, the Head of the Church, the Bridegroom, the Giver of Ministries, the Grace of God, and our Peace.

Note # 2

1. Unity is seen in the following words.

- One

Eph 2:14 He Himself ...made both groups (Jew and Gentiles) into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall ...

Eph 2:15 ...so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man

Eph 2:16 and might reconcile them both in one body to God ...

Eph 2:18 for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

Eph 4:4-6 there is one:

- 1) body, 2) Spirit, 3) hope of your calling, 4) Lord,
- 5) faith, 6) baptism, 7) God and Father

Eph 5:31 husband and wife are one flesh in marriage (in the image of God).

- Us

- Eph 1:3 He has blessed us ...
- Eph 1:4 He chose us ...
- Eph 1:5 He predestined us ...
- Eph 1:6 His grace is freely bestowed upon us ...
- Eph 1:8 He lavished us ...
- Eph 1:9 He made known to us ...
- Eph 2:4 He loved us ...
- Eph 2:5 He made us alive ...
- Eph 2:6 He raised us up with Jesus...
- Eph 2:7 in kindness towards us
- Eph 3:20 the power that works within us
- Eph 4:7 to each one of us...
- Eph 5:2 He gave Himself up for us.

- We

- Eph 1:4 that we should be ...
- Eph 1:11 we have obtained ...
- Eph 1:12 we who were the first to hope ...
- Eph 2:3 among them we too all lived ...
- Eph 2:5 even when we were dead ...
- Eph 2:10 we are His workmanship ...
- Eph 2:18 we both have our access ...
- Eph 3:12 we have boldness ...
- Eph 3:20 that we ask or think
- Eph 4:13 until we all attain ...
- Eph 4:14 we are no longer to be ...
- Eph 4:25 for we are members of one another
- Eph 5:30 we are members of His body

- Our

- Eph 1:2 from our Father
- Eph 1:3 our Lord Jesus Christ
- Eph 1:7 the forgiveness of our trespasses
- Eph 1:14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance
- Eph 1:17 God of our Lord Jesus Christ
- Eph 2:3 the lusts of our flesh
- Eph 2:14 He Himself is our peace
- Eph 3:11 Christ Jesus our Lord
- Eph 5:20 our Lord Jesus Christ
- Eph 6:12 our struggle
- Eph 6:24 our Lord Jesus Christ

- You

- Eph 1:2 Grace to you
- Eph 1:16 do not cease giving thanks for you
- Eph 1:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you
- Eph 2:1 And you were dead
- Eph 2:17 peace to you
- Eph 3:1 for the sake of you Gentiles
- Eph 3:13 I ask you
- Eph 3:16 He would grant you
- Eph 4:1 entreat you to walk
- Eph 4:31 be put away from you
- Eph 4:32 forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.
- Eph 5:3 be named among you

Eph 5:6 let no one deceive you
Eph 5:33 let each individual among you
Eph 6:13 so that you will be able to resist in the evil day

- All

Eph 2:3 among them we too all formerly lived
Eph 3:18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints
Eph 4:6 one God and Father of all
Eph 4:13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith,
Eph 6:18 pray at all times
Eph 6:24 Grace be with all those who love our Lord

- Together

Eph 2:5 He made us alive together with Christ
Eph 2:21 whole building is being fitted together
Eph 2:22 you are being built together into a dwelling of God
Eph 4:16 the whole body is fitted and held together by what every joint supplies

- One another

Eph 4:2 showing tolerance for one another in love,
Eph 4:25 laying aside falsehood ...for we are members of one another.
Eph 4:32 be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving
Eph 5:21 be subject to one another

2. Our Identity in Christ

Eph 1:3 we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
Eph 1:4 we have been in Him before the foundation of the world,
Eph 1:6 grace was freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
Eph 1:7 In Him we have redemption
Eph 1:9 He made known to us the mystery of His will ... which He purposed in Him
Eph 1:10 all things will be summed up in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.
Eph 1:12 we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.
Eph 1:13 In Him, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,
Eph 1:20 which He brought about in Christ
Eph 2:5 God made us alive together with Christ
Eph 2:6 we are seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
Eph 2:7 He shows the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
Eph 2:13 in Christ Jesus, you who formerly were far off have been brought near
Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace,
Eph 2:15 in Himself He might make the two into one new man,
Eph 2:21 in whom the whole building is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,
Eph 2:22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God
Eph 3:6 we are fellow heirs, members, & partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus
Eph 3:11 the eternal purpose carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,
Eph 3:12 in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.
Eph 4:15 we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,
Eph 4:21 we have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,
Eph 5:8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord
Eph 6:10 be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.
Eph 6:21 Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord

3. Heavenly places

Eph 1:3 we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
Eph 1:20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

Eph 2:6 we are seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

Eph 3:10 God's wisdom will be made known to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

Eph 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

4. Riches of:

Grace

Eph 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.

Eph 2:7 in the ages to come He will show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Glory

Eph 1:18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Eph 3:16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,

Christ

Eph 3:8 this grace was given to me, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,

Note # 3 Use of saint (Greek word HAGIOS) in Ephesians.

Eph 1:1 This Epistle is written to the saints

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus, and who are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Eph 1:4 relationship with Jesus leads to a holy (separated) life, lived for Jesus.

just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.

Eph 1:13 the Spirit of God is called the Holy Spirit.

In 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,

Eph 1:15 saints love fellow believers in Christ.

For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you, and your love for all the saints,

Eph 1:18 God has an inheritance (an investment) in saints.

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Eph 2:19 you are fellow citizens with all other saints

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,

Eph 2:21 together, we are growing into a holy temple.

in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

Eph 3:5 leaders (apostles) are holy in their calling.

which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;

Eph 3:8 Paul feels least of all the saints.

To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,

Eph 3:18 we only can understand the vast love of God with other saints (believers).

may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,

Eph 4:12 leadership giftings are given to equip all believers.

for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

Eph 4:30 the Holy Spirit

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Eph 5:3 saints have an ambition to conquer all sin.

But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

Eph 5:27 Jesus is coming for a be holy and blameless bride.

that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless.

Eph 6:18 we are to pray for (and not to) all saints (believers).

With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

Note # 4 faithful in Christ Jesus:

A. Those that are called faithful in the Bible:

1. Moses Heb 3:5
2. Timothy 1 Cor 4:17
3. Tychicus Eph 6:21-22; Col 4:7-9
4. Epaphras Col 1:7-8
5. Silvanus 1 Pt 5:12
6. Antipas Rev 2:13

B. The Lord's value on faithfulness:

1. The importance of being faithful at all time (Mt 24:44-47; Lk 12:41-44).
2. The importance of being faithful according to our ability (Mt 25:19-23)
3. The importance of being faithful in small things (Lk 16:10-12)
4. The importance of being faithful until the Lord returns (Lk 19:17)
5. The importance of being faithful before beginning ministry (1 Tim 1:12)
6. The importance of training faithful people (2 Tim 2:2)