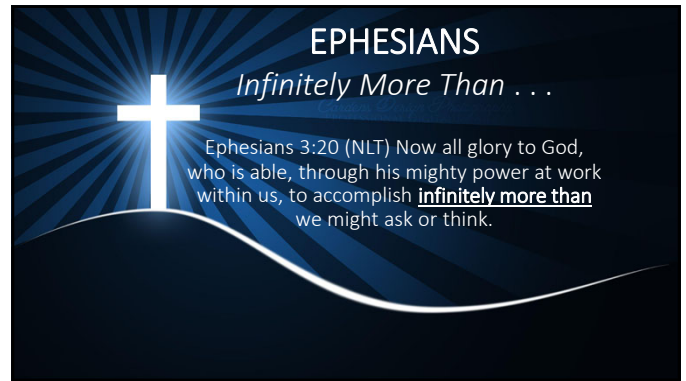
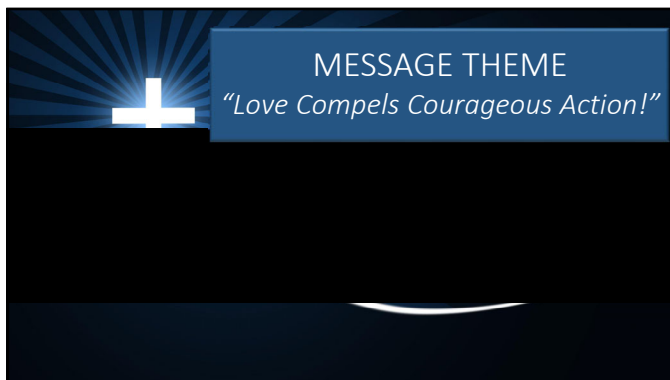


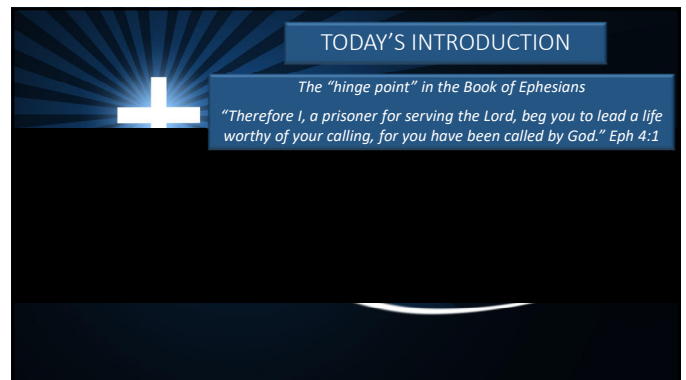
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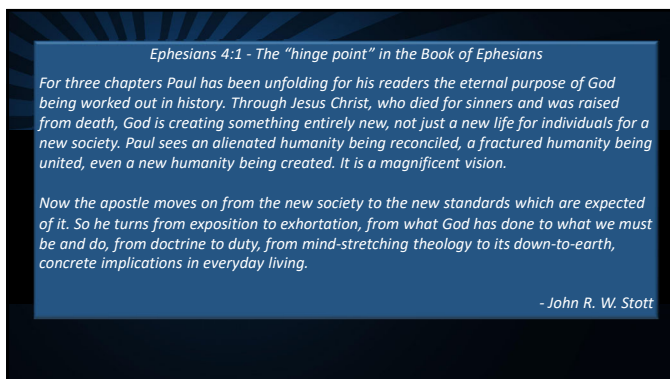
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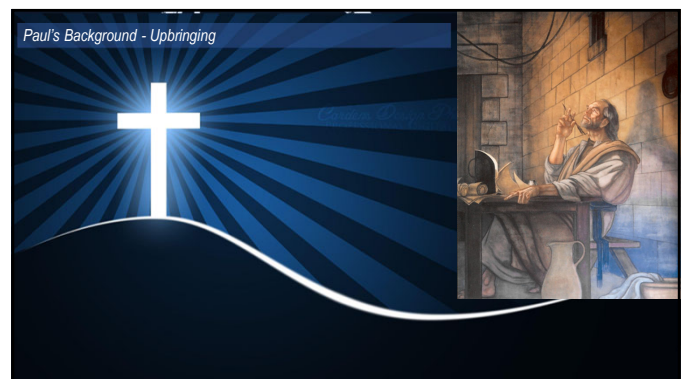
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6

**Paul's Background - UPBRINGING**  
 Acts 22:3 - "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city [Jerusalem]. I studied under Gamaliel and was thoroughly trained in the law of our ancestors..."  
 Tarsus - knowledge of Greek culture and philosophy  
 Jewish Parents - Acts 23:6



7


**Paul's Background**  
 UPBRINGING  
 EDUCATION - "Although Tarsus was an outstanding center of Greek culture, ranking next to Athens and Alexandria, and "no mean city" in other respects (Acts 21:39), it was not to its schools of philosophy or rhetoric that Paul was sent for his education. Instead, he went to Jerusalem and became a pupil of the elder Gamaliel, leader of the school of sacred learning. Paul's parents were themselves adherents of the party of the Pharisees (Acts 23:6)... [and] their son was naturally entrusted to the tuition of the most illustrious Pharisee of his day." - F. F. Bruce

8

**Paul's Background**  
 UPBRINGING  
 EDUCATION  
 PHARISEE - The way of acceptance with God was obedience to the law - not only the written law with its 613 precepts but the oral tradition, transmitted by generations of rabbis and preserved by the School of Hillel, which interpreted those precepts and applied them in detail to every department of contemporary life. "As to righteousness under the law," according to his later, Christian assessment of this earlier stage of his life, Paul was "blameless" (Phil. 3:6), living "before God in all good conscience" (Acts 23:1). But for his conversion he might well have made his name as the greatest Pharisee of all time.

9

**Paul's Background**  
 UPBRINGING  
 EDUCATION  
 PHARISEE  
 CONVERT




10

**Paul's Background**  
 CONVERT - Acts 9:3-5 - Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."  
 Gal 1:11-12 - ... the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

11

**Paul's Background**  
 UPBRINGING  
 EDUCATION  
 PHARISEE  
 CONVERT  
 APOSTLE



12


*Paul's Background*  
**APOSTLE** - Acts 26:16-18 – [Paul Quoting Jesus]: "...I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Me."  
 NOTE: Of the 27 books of the New Testament, 13 or 14 books are attributed to Apostle Paul ("Pauline Epistles")

13

*Paul's Background*  
 UPBRINGING  
 EDUCATION  
 PHARISEE  
 CONVERT  
 APOSTLE  
 ROMAN CITIZEN

14

*Paul's Background*  
**ROMAN CITIZEN** – Acts 29:9,12 - ... "Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, said to Paul, "Do you wish to go up to Jerusalem and there be tried on these charges before me?" But Paul said, "I am standing before Caesar's tribunal, where I ought to be tried...I appeal to Caesar." ....Festus ...answered, "To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you shall go."



15

*Paul's Background*  
*Paul's Perspective*  
 Ephesians 4:1 - Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord...  
 Galatians 2:20 - My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.  
 Romans 1:1 - Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God...

16

*Paul's Background*  
*Paul's Perspective*  
*Paul's Motivation*  
 Ephesians 4:1 - Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord...  
 The Motivation of Love and Trust – True Conversion – True Commitment

17

*Paul's Motivation* - A Personal **RELATIONSHIP** with the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ  
 Motivated by the Love of the Lord...  
 Eph 3:17b - "...and I pray that you, being rooted and established in love..."  
 2 Corinthians 5:14a – "For Christ's love compels us..."  
 Apostle John: 1 John 4:19 – "We love because he first loved us."  
**A Love Relationship Compels Courageous Action**

18

**Paul's Motivation**  
*A love-motivated personal relationship with the Father through Jesus Christ*

Religion	Relationship
Hope	Love
Fear	Trust
What I Get	What He Gave
What I Avoid	What He Endured
Is it worth the cost (to me)?	It was worth the cost (to Him)
Self-centered	Christ-centered

19

**Paul's Background**  
**Paul's Perspective**  
**Paul's Motivation**  
**Paul's Exhortation - Ephesians 4:1 - I... beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.**  
*Emotionally connected by experiencing His love, therefore willing to endure suffering & sacrifice*  
**John 1:14 - Jesus: "You are my friends if you do what I command you."**

20

**APPLICATION**

1. Live a love-inspired, love-based relationship with Jesus
2. Trust Him - He is absolutely Loving and Trustworthy
3. Obey - out of a heart of Love, not duty
4. Act as dual citizens - of God's Kingdom and the Nation
5. Live courageously: true love always demonstrates courageous action

21

**Ephesians 4:1**  
*"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."*

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