

L100 | Ephesians | "Christ Gave Gifts Till" | Eph. 4:7-16

I. Intro/Review:

- Walking worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called
 1. With all
 - Lowliness and meekness, longsuffering
 2. How
 - Forbearing one another in love
 - Endeavoring to keep - in the bond of peace
 - The unity of the Spirit
- The Seven "One"-ders of the Spirit
- Everyone is given grace
 1. According to the measure of the gift of Christ
 2. Quote Psalm 68
 3. Led captivity captive - gave gifts to men
 4. Christ's descent and ascent
- That He might fill all things

II. Preview:

1. **Christ - Doing the Will of the Father (Eph. 1:11)**
 1. **The Origin of the Will**
 2. **The Working of the Will**
2. **Tracking Through Ephesians**
3. **The Purpose of Ephesians 4:11-16**
4. **An Overview of Christ's Work from the Right Hand of the Father**
 1. **Christ Gave Grace**
 2. **Christ Gave Grace For**
 3. **Christ Gave Grace Till**
 4. **Christ Gave Grace Unto**

III. Sermon:

1. **Christ - Doing the Will of the Father (Eph. 1:11)**
 1. **The Origin of the Will - reflected in the "according"**
 1. Eternally existent in Himself
 2. The Counsel of his own will
 3. Eph. 1:4 - "according as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world"
 4. Eph. 1:5 - "having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will"

5. Eph. 1:9 - "according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself:"

2. **The Working of the Will After His Own Counsel**

- Worked by Christ - Eph. 3:9

1. Eph. 1:4 - "in Him"

2. Eph. 1:5 - "by Jesus Christ"

3. Eph. 1:9 - "in Himself" - Eph. 3:11 - "according to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:"

4. Eph. 1:19-20 - "exceeding greatness of His power...which He wrought in Christ"

- **Summary** - Twofold perspective of the one counsel and will of God.

- Ephesians 5:5 - "...hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." (1 Cor. 15:24 - "even the Father")

- Colossians 1:13 - "who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son:"

- Ephesians 2:21-22 - "holy temple in the Lord", "habitation of God through the Spirit"

2. **Tracking Through Ephesians**

- Ephesians 1 - the Father of glory, His counsel, good pleasure, and that which He works - Paul's prayer to know the power by which He works all things after the counsel of His own will is in Christ.

- Ephesians 2-3 - describes that power individually and dispensationally

- Ephesians 4 - walk worthy of the calling from that power wrought in Christ

- Ephesians 4:7ff - the impact of that power, gift, and love upon the church post Christ's descension and ascension.

1. Involves His and our enemies

2. Gave gifts to men has direct connection and bearing upon future activity with us and His/our enemies

3. **Purpose of Ephesians 4:11-16**

1. To detail the Father working all things after the counsel of His own will, according to His power He wrought in Christ

2. Christ faithfully fulfilling the will of His Father in His ascension which involves His activity with the church, and His enemies

- Not a foreign concept - Matt. 16:13-18 - "build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"

4. **An Overview of Christ's Work from the Right Hand of the Father**

- The Father's work by the faith of Christ working to build and grow the church
 - Already believers - Eph. 2 - quickened, already His workmanship
 - He has called us out, unto that which He signified in death, burial, resurrection, and ascension

1. Christ Gave Grace

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
{Ephesians 4:11}

2. Christ Gave Grace For

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
{Ephesians 4:12}

3. Christ Gave Grace Till

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
{Ephesians 4:13}

4. Christ Gave Grace Unto

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
{Ephesians 4:13}

1. No More Children - the opposite of "a perfect man", the opposite of growing up

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;
{Ephesians 4:14}

2. Grow Up into Christ

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:
{Ephesians 4:15}

3. The Body Edifying Itself in Love

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.
{Ephesians 4:16}

IV. Conclusion:

- Christ's giving gifts, albeit, "till", was to work in the interim the perfecting of the saints, the work of the ministry, and the edifying of the body of Christ.

- In other words, to build His church in which those whom Christ triumphed over will succeed.
- To prepare and equip His church against that which impedes upon the increase of His church.
- To prepare and equip His church by the fruit of the grace He would give to be able to edify itself in love and to grow up into Christ in all things.