

# Lesson 1, EPHESIANS 1:1-10

We are beginning our study of Ephesians often called the crowning glory of Paul's writings, along with the book of Romans. We will see Paul emphasize the unfathomable riches of being a believer in Jesus Christ and how these "perks" should affect our lives. Some theologians believe this letter was a circular letter sent to all the churches that Paul had established in Asia Minor, ending up in Ephesus.

1. Read Acts 18 and 19 about the beginning of the church at Ephesus. What do you learn?

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2. Read Ephesians 1:1,2. How does Paul refer to himself?

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3. Read Ephesians 1:3-6, 9,10. What did God do for us?

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4. Read Ephesians 1:7-8. What did Jesus do for us?

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5. In verses 4 and 5, it seems God chose us in Jesus before the creation of the world and predestined us to be His. How do you reconcile this verse with “free will”? See Matthew 22:1-14.

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6. Read Ephesians 1:9-10. What is the “mystery”? See also Colossians 1:15-20,27 and Colossians 2:3.

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*Application:* In your Bible, underline those words from Ephesians 1:3-10 that touch your heart.

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*Prayer:* Most loving Father, you bless our lives lavishly with your undying love. The plan for your Son and your people has not changed since before the creation of the world. It blesses us to know that we have been in your heart for an eternity. Make us mindful of your grace and love every moment of every day. We pray this in the name that is above all names, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.