# The Book of EPHESIANS

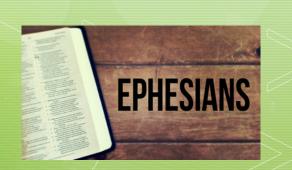
### Adult Bible Study



Led by Dan Schuch

Sunday, Oct 4 6:30 pm







### Who is Julia H. Johnston?

Chaleen and I support a missionary with Campus **Crusade for Christ (now called** CRU). We often get information from them. Recently they sent us some findings from a survey conducted by the Barna Group.

### Here are some stats they sent out:

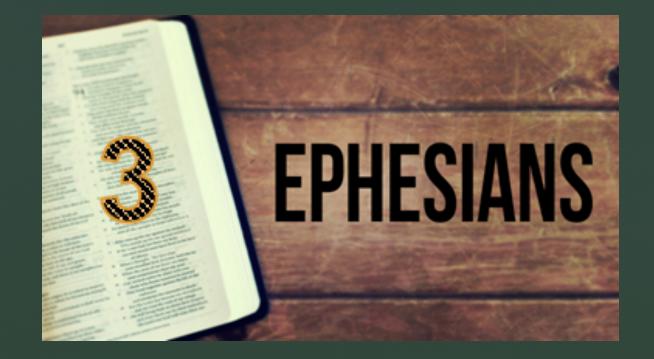
### 7 in 10 say they are not on a quest for spiritual truth

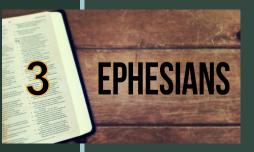
### Here are some stats they sent out:

 About ½ of non-Christians who belong to another religion think of themselves on a spiritual quest

### Here are some stats they sent out:

 Nearly ½ of millennials practicing Christians say it is wrong to evangelize.

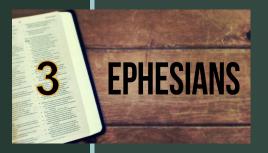




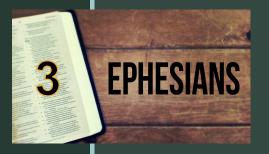
### God's Marvelous Plan for the Gentiles

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

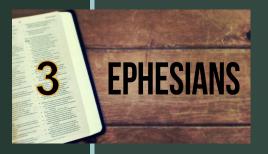
<sup>2</sup>Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly.



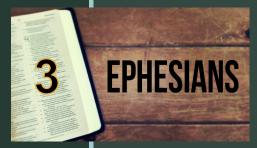
<sup>4</sup>In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.



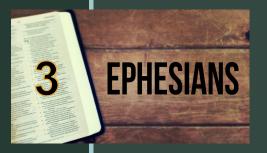
<sup>6</sup>This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.



<sup>7</sup>I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ,



<sup>9</sup>and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. <sup>10</sup>His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,

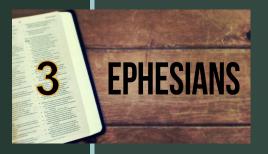


<sup>11</sup>according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup>In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. <sup>13</sup>I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.

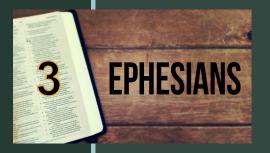


### A Prayer for the Ephesians

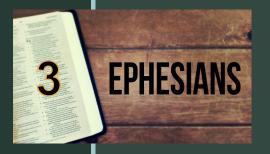
<sup>14</sup>For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being



<sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup>may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,



### <sup>19</sup>and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.



<sup>20</sup>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, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

### Let's dig in!

## Chapter 3 is divided into two sections:

- God's Marvelous Plan for the Gentiles (vs 1-13)
- A Prayer for the Ephesians (vs 14-21)



# God's Marvelous Plan for the Gentiles (vs 1-13)



John Wesley was a Church of **England cleric and Christian** theologian. Wesley is largely credited, along with his brother Charles Wesley, as founding the Methodist movement. His Notes on the New Testament (1755) are enlightening. Both the Sermons (about 140) and the Notes are doctrinal standards.



John Wesley



<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles

## This it was which so enraged the Jews against him.

John Wesley



3.1

Into (Paul's) life had come the revelation of the great secret of God. That secret was that the love and mercy and grace of God were meant not for the Jews alone but for all mankind.



William Barclay

the LETTERS to the Galatians and Ephesians REVISED E

WILLIAM BARCLAY



If ever we are privileged to preach or to teach the message of the love of God or to do anything for Jesus Christ, we must always remember that our greatness lies not in ourselves but in our task and in our message.

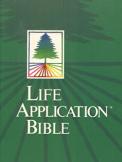


William Barclay

the LETTERS to the Galatians and Ephesians REVISED EI

WILLIAM BARCLAY





HE LIVING BIBLE

### Paul believed that God wanted him to preach and teach to the gentiles.

#### What does God want you to do?





# A Prayer for the Ephesians (vs 14-21)



"he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being"

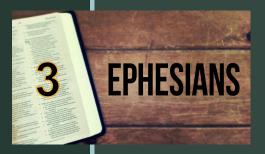
What does this mean?



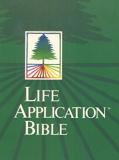


### 3 Powerful Thoughts from 3 Powerful Verses





### <sup>12</sup>In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.



THE LIVING BIBLE

### Don't be afraid of God. Talk to him about everything. He is waiting to hear from you.

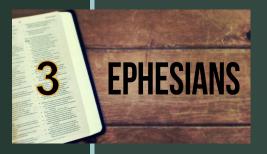




Why do you think that people are reluctant to talk to God?

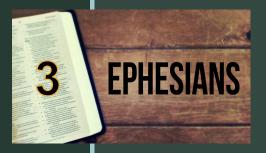
How about you?





And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup>may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

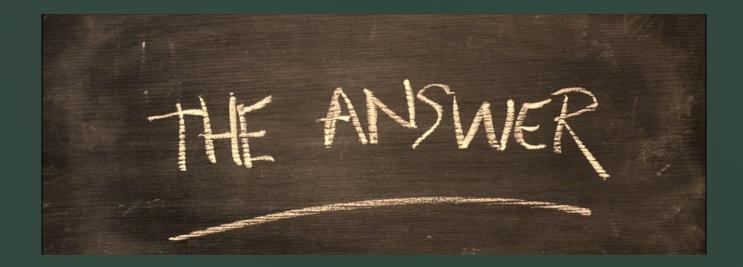
#### How wide and long and high and deep do you think is the love of Christ?



### <sup>20</sup>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,

## Have you asked God for something big?

Are we guilty of not asking God for anything most of the time?







#### Who is Julia H. Johnston?





Julia Harriette Johnston was born in 1849 in Salineville, Ohio. Her father was a pastor and her mother and grandmother were poets.

She authored over 500 hymns. She worked as a Sunday school superintendent and teacher for over forty years and served as president of the Presbyterian Missionary Society.



### Julia H. Johnston (1849-1919) wrote the lyrics to the song, Grace Greater Than All Our Sin.







