

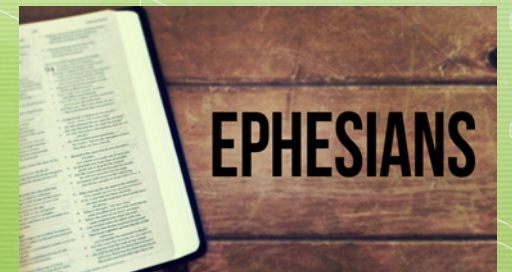
Adult Bible Study

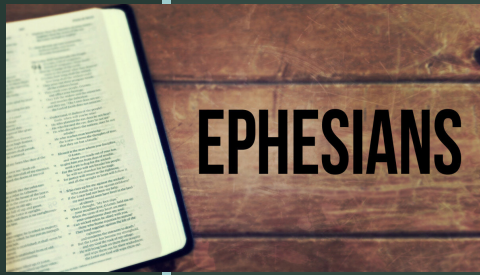


**Led by
Dan
Schuch**

**Sunday, Sept 20
6:30 pm**

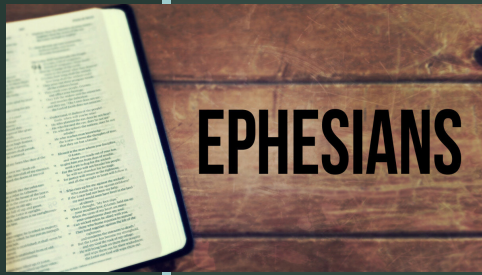
Prayer





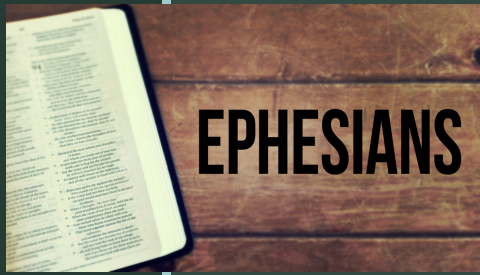
The study will be offered twice a week at the church.

- **Sunday evening.**
- **Wednesdays at 10:00 am – starting on Sept 30.**



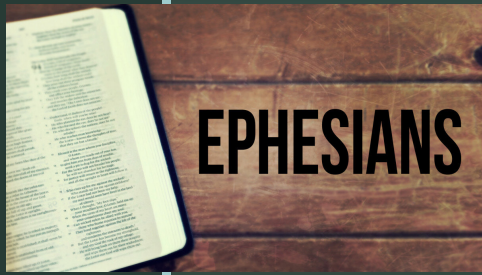
It has been my experience that conducting bible studies over complete books, chapters and verses reveals additional information and a greater depth.

I have found it surprising how many commentaries skip sections of chapters. We will not do this.



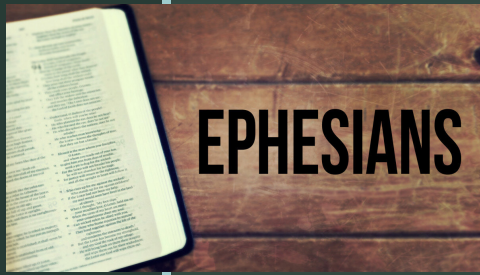
It is important to review multiple commentaries and not just one.

- **Not all commentaries cover all verses of a chapter.**
- **Looking at different commentaries and different authors helps eliminate bias that one author may bring.**



I like to include in my studies:

- **A song or hymn that relates to a point made in the study.**
- **A work of art that I like to include if it is relevant.**

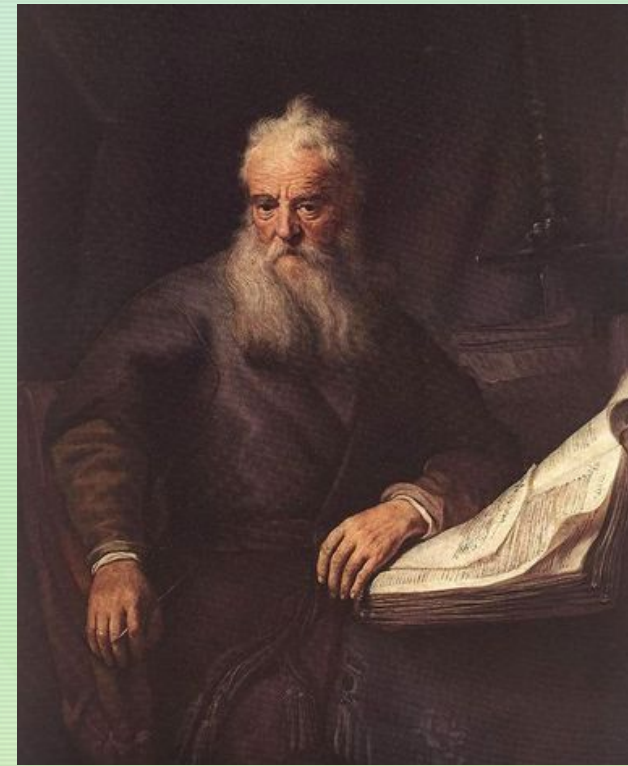


IMPORTANT

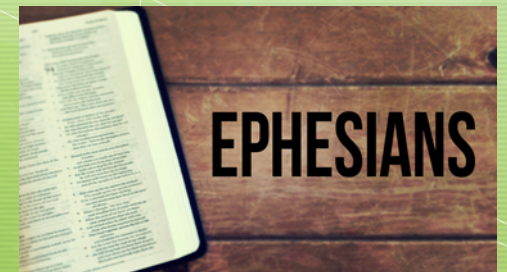
Life sometimes intervenes and someone in the class needs love and care.

If you do nothing more than pray and read scripture you have accomplished great things.

General Thoughts on Ephesians



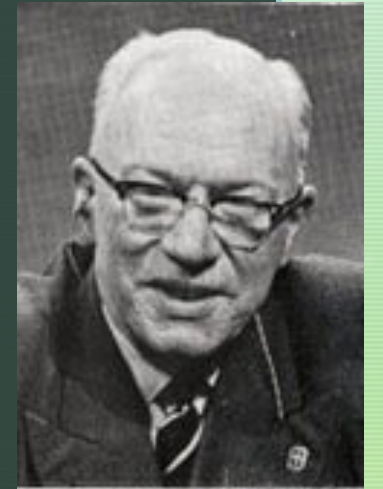
Apostle Paul
1635
Rembrandt Van Rijn



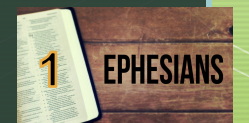
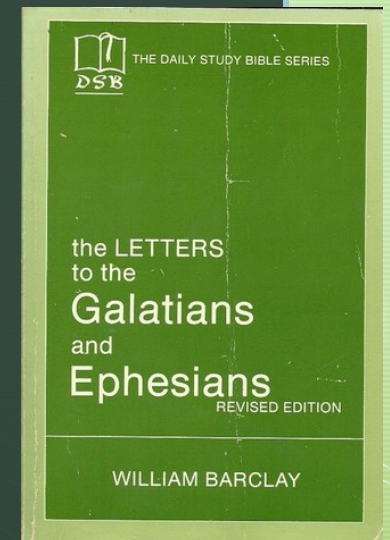
Highest level of New Testament thought

Written when Paul was in prison

Considered Paul's supreme letter



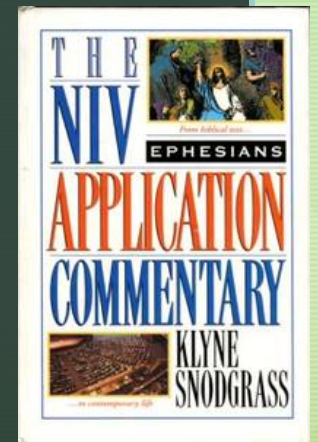
William Barclay



**Pound for pound Ephesians
may well be the most
influential document ever
written.**



**Klyne
Snodgrass**

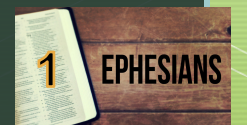
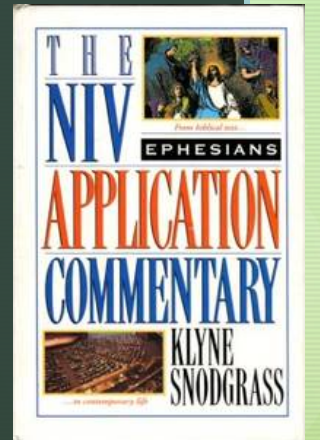


The explanation of the gospel and of life with Christ provided here is powerful and direct. If read receptive, it is a bombshell.

This letter is the most contemporary book in the Bible.

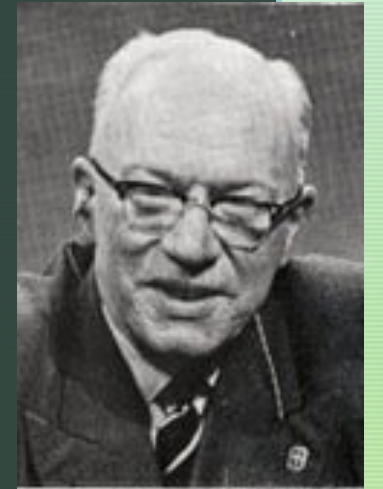


Klyne
Snodgrass

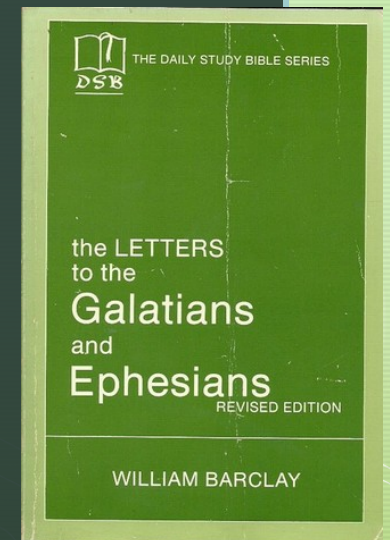


It is very similar to the book of Colossians. In the original Greek language, more than 55 verses are essentially the same.

It is the most impersonal of all of Paul's letters.

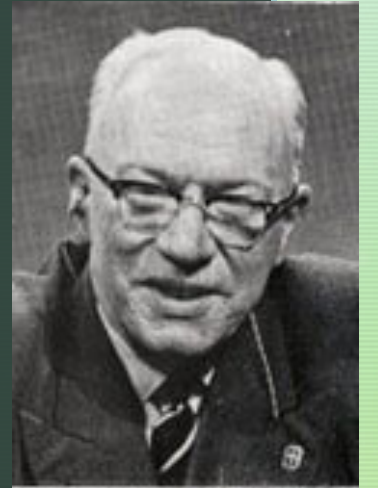


William Barclay

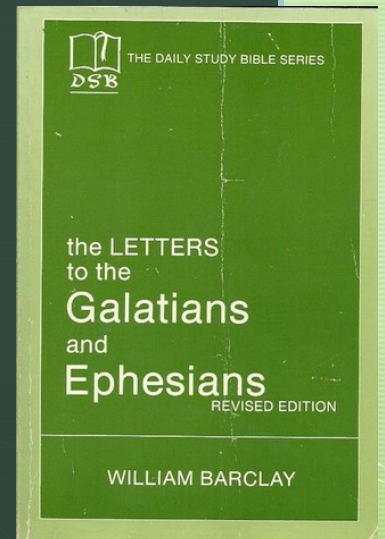


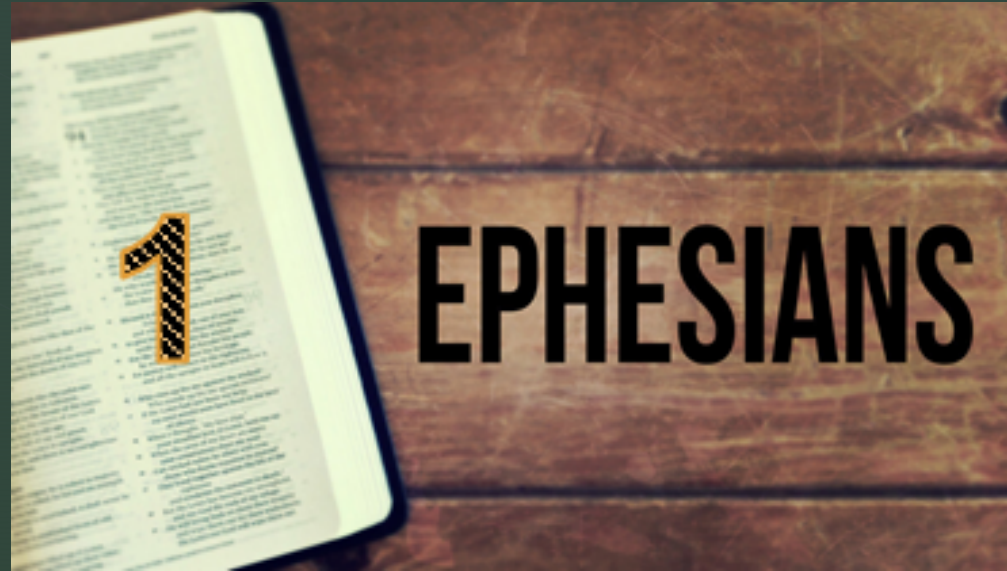
The book was written to Gentiles.

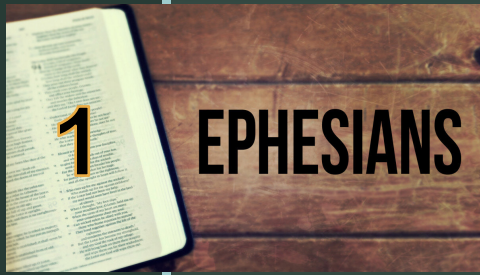
The length of the sentences is astonishing. In the Greek, 1:3-14, 1:15-23, 2:1-9, and 3:1-7 are all one sentences long.



William Barclay

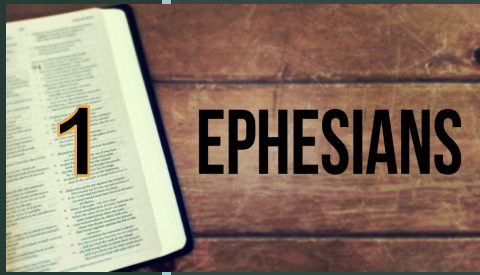






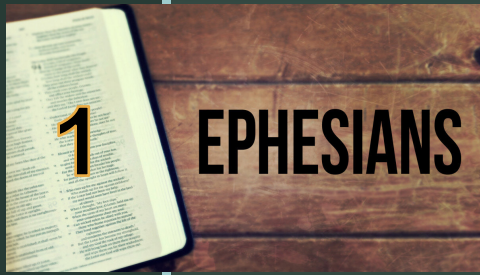
¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

²Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

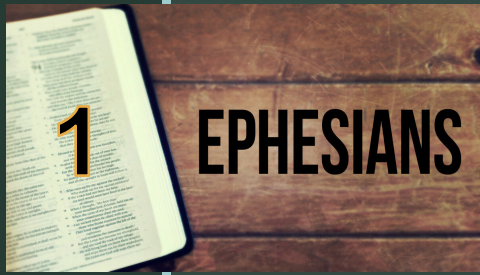


Praise for Spiritual Blessings in Christ

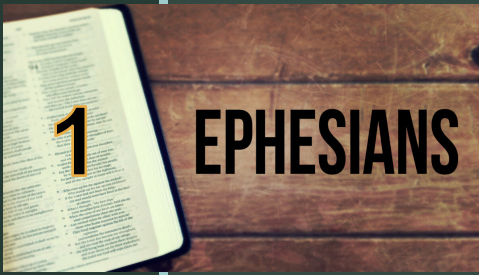
³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love



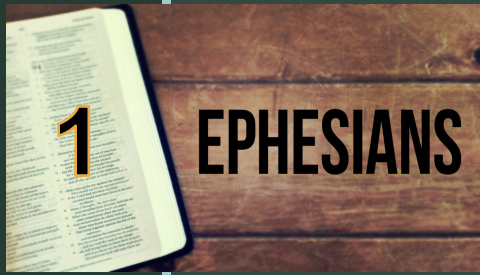
⁵he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.



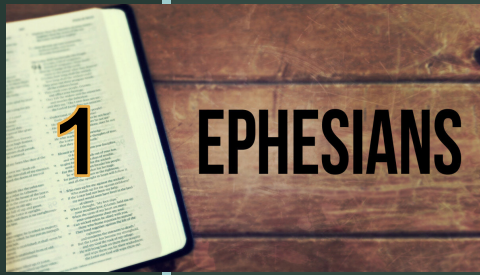
⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,



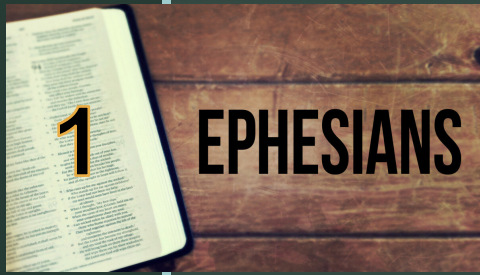
⁹he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.



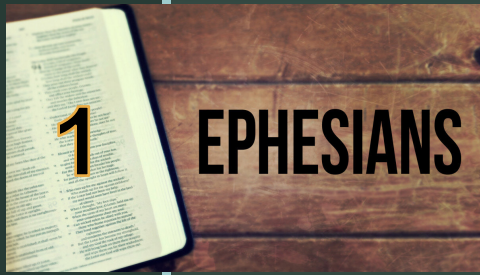
¹¹In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹²in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.



¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation,

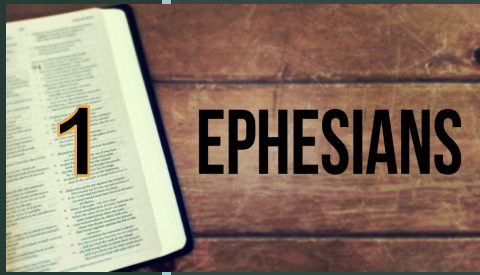


When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

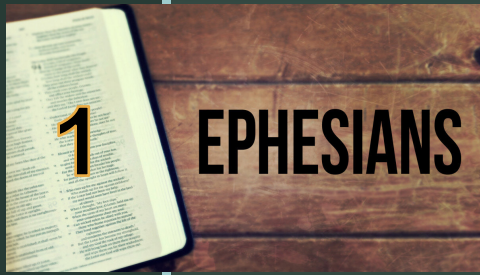


Thanksgiving and Prayer

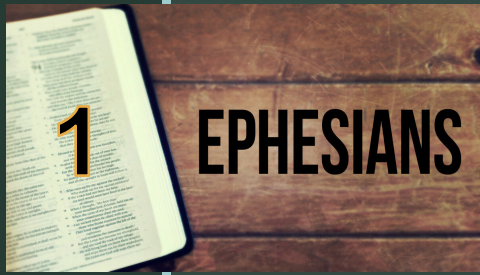
¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.



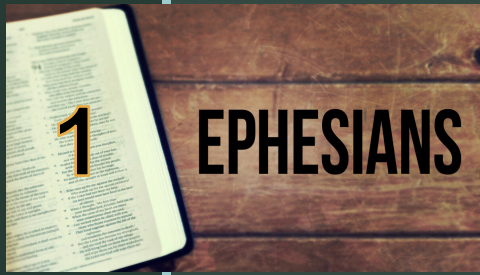
¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.



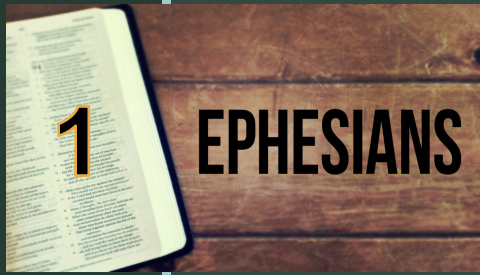
¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,



¹⁹and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,



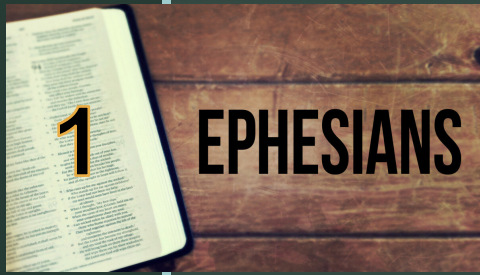
**²¹far above all rule and authority,
power and dominion, and every
name that is invoked, not only in
the present age but also in the one
to come.**



²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.



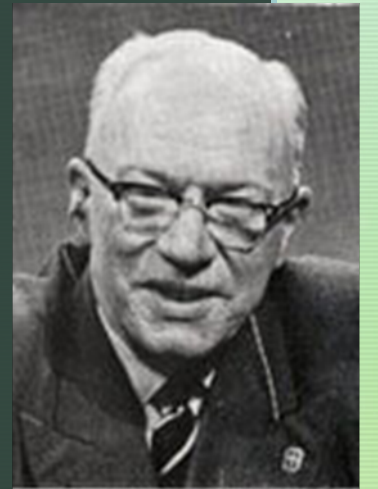
WOW!



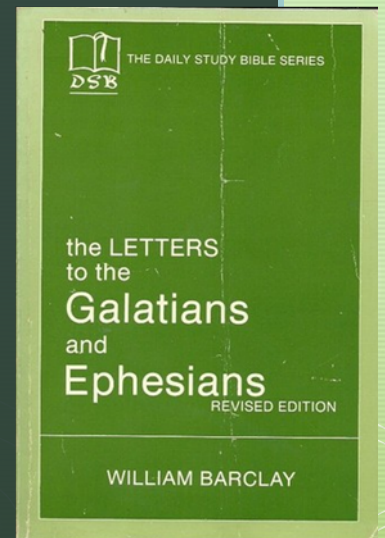
**¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus
by the will of God, To God's holy
people in Ephesus, the faithful in
Christ Jesus:**

“Apostle” – belonged to Christ, possession of Christ, sent out by Christ

Apostle is a person sent out with a special task to do

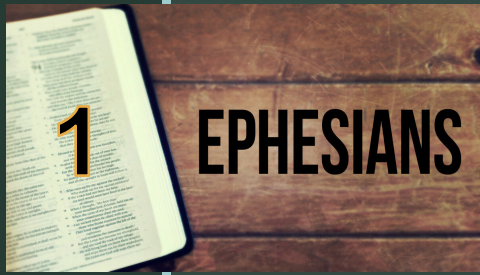


William Barclay



**The book of
Ephesians was written
to Christians and not
non-believers**

**What makes someone
“holy”**



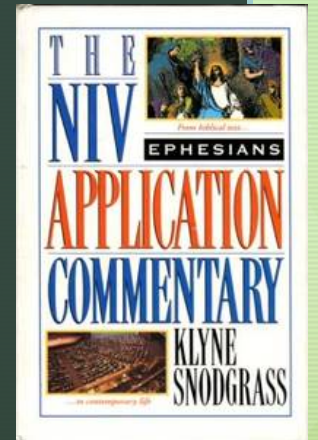
**²Grace and peace to you from
God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.**

Ancient letters usually had an introduction followed by a prayer.

The prayer in Ephesians contained a long doxology (3-14); a thanksgiving (15-16), and an intercessory prayer (17-20). No other NT letter had this.



**Klyne
Snodgrass**



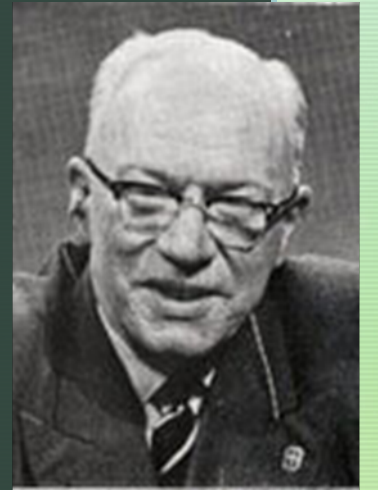
He wishes them grace, first, and peace afterwards, which is the right and natural order. There is no lasting peace without grace. There is no peace worth having which does not spring from a work of grace in the soul.

“Grace be to you, and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.”

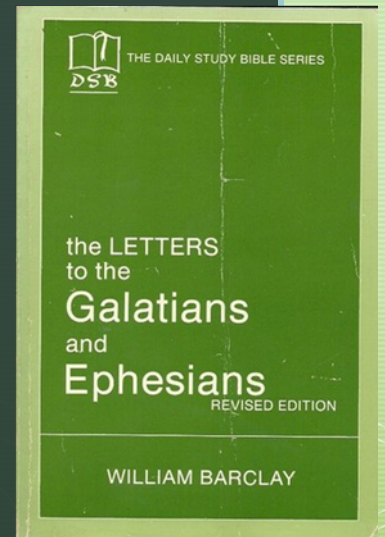


**Charles
Spurgeon
(1834-1892)**

Grace has always two main ideas in it. The Greek word is charis which could mean charm. There must be a certain loveliness in the Christian life. A Christianity which is unattractive is no real Christianity.



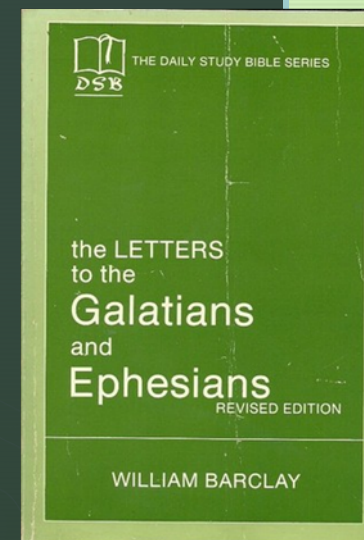
William Barclay



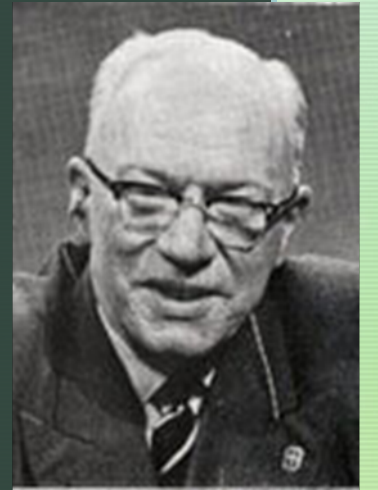
**Grace always describes a gift;
and a gift which it would have
been impossible for a man to
procure for himself, and which he
never earned and in no way
deserved.**



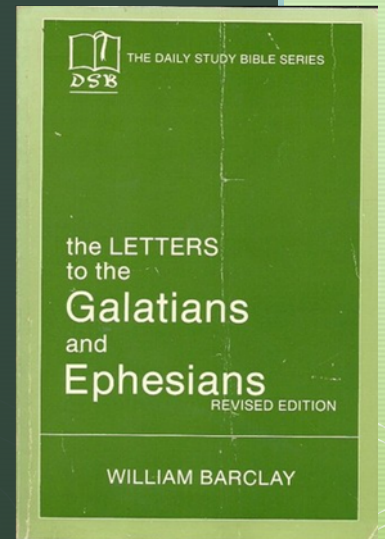
William Barclay



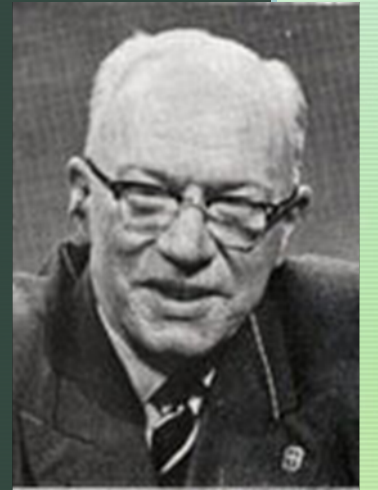
Whenever we mention the word grace, we must think of the sheer loveliness of the Christian life and the sheer undeserved generosity of the heart of God.



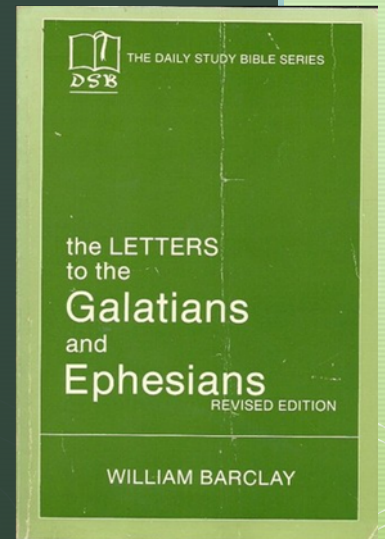
William Barclay



Christian peace is something quite independent of outward circumstances. A man might live in ease and luxury and on the fat of the land, he might have the finest of houses and the biggest of bank accounts, and yet not have peace; on the other hand, a man might be starving in prison, or dying at the stake, or living a life from which all comfort had fled, and be at perfect peace.

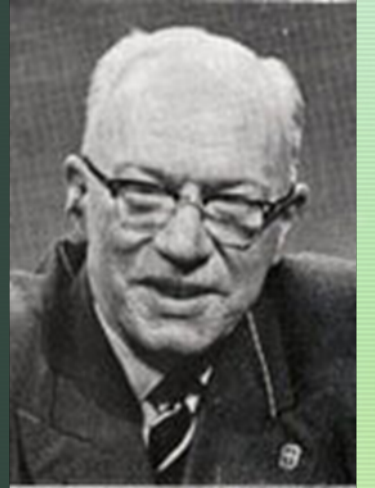


William Barclay

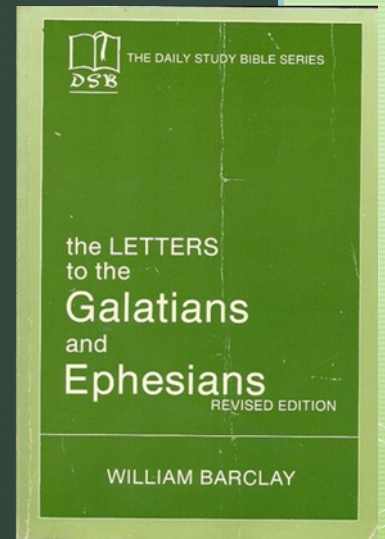


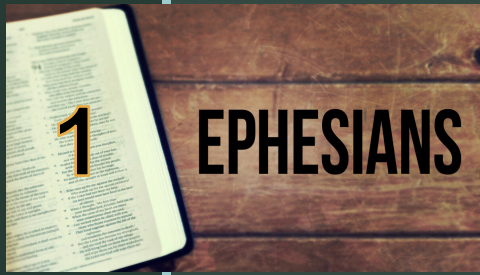
**The very first thing
Paul said to them was
grace and peace to
you. Maybe this is a
hint about how we
should respond with
each other**

The explanation is that there is only one source of peace in all the world, and that is doing the will of God.



William Barclay

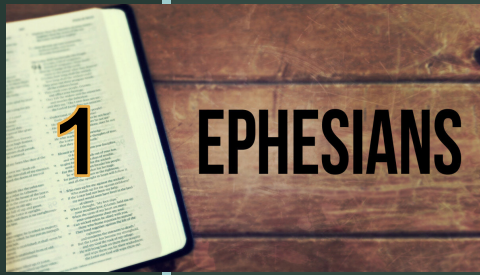




Praise for Spiritual Blessings in Christ

³Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love

**The very second thing
Paul said to them
praise God**



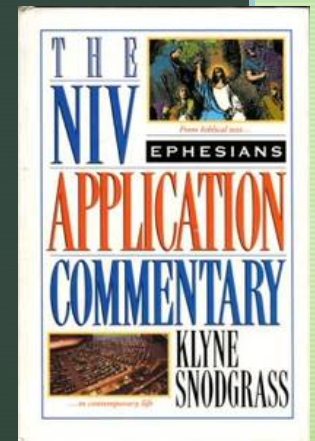
⁵he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

**What does
predestined mean**

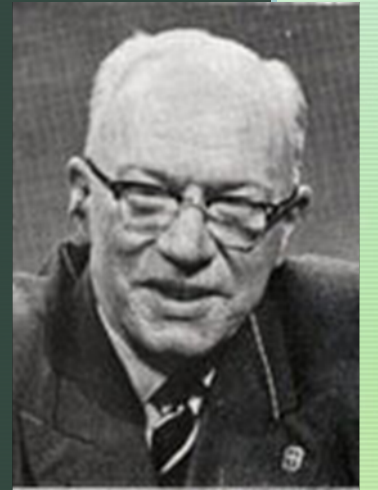
Individuals are not elected and then put in Christ. They are in Christ and therefore elect.



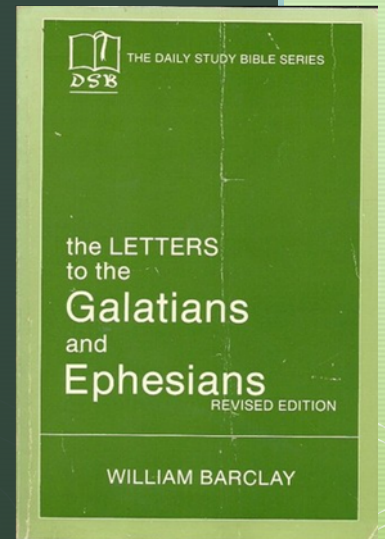
**Klyne
Snodgrass**



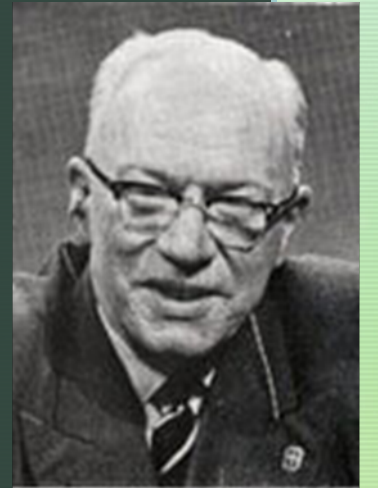
The ritual of adoption must have been very impressive. It was carried out by a symbolic sale in which copper and scales were used. Twice the real father sold his son, and twice he symbolically bought him back; finally he sold him a third time, and at the third sale he did not buy him back.



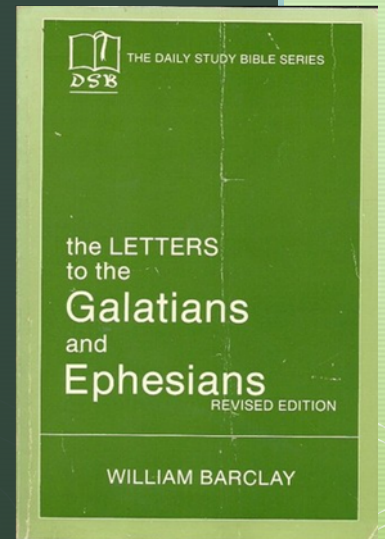
William Barclay



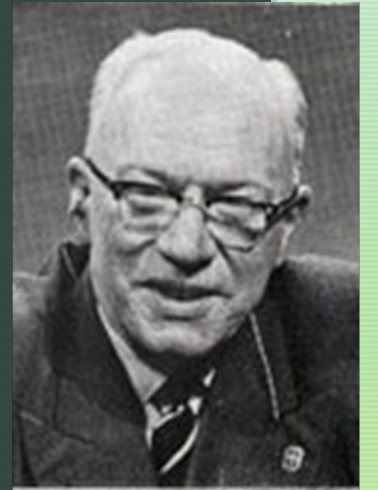
After this the adopting father had to go to the praetor, one of the principal Roman magistrates, and plead the case for the adoption. Only after all this had been gone through was the adoption complete.



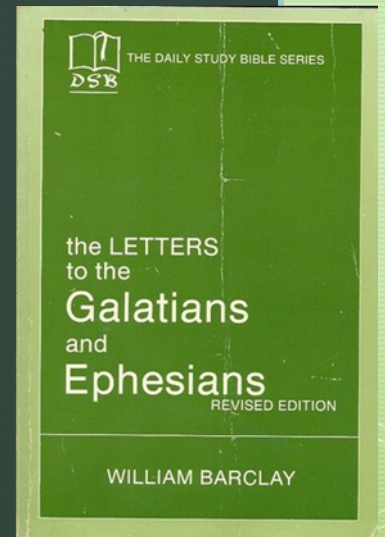
William Barclay



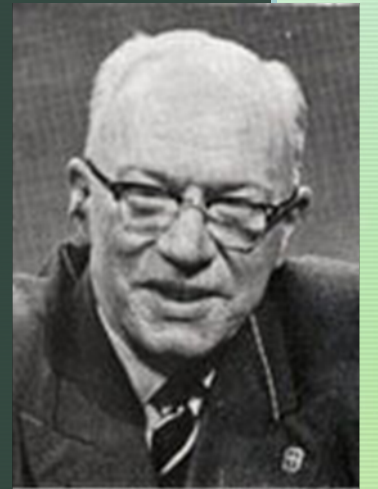
When the adoption was complete it was complete indeed. The person who had been adopted had all the rights of a legitimate son in his new family and completely lost all rights in his old family.



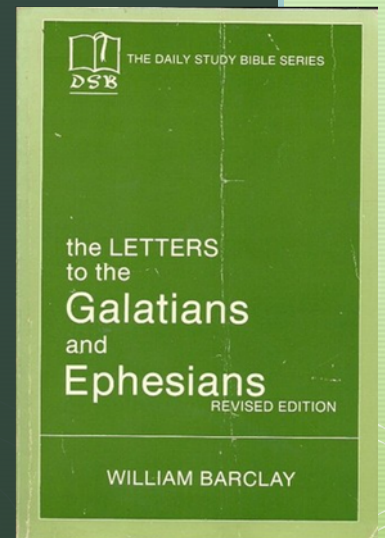
William Barclay



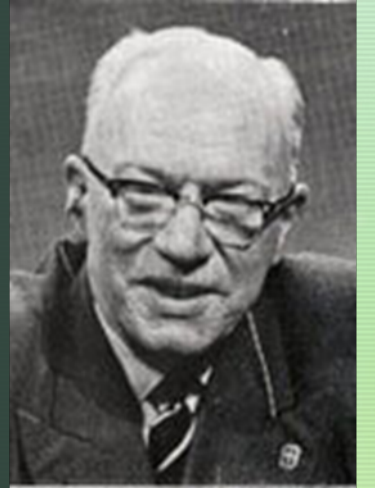
That is what Paul says that God has done for us. We were absolutely in the power of sin and of the world; God, through Jesus, took us out of that power into his; and that adoption wipes out the past and makes us new.



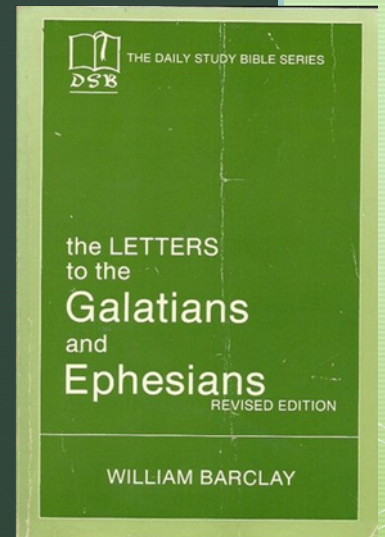
William Barclay



In the eyes of the law he was a new person. So new was he that even all debts and obligations connected with his previous family were abolished as if they had never existed.



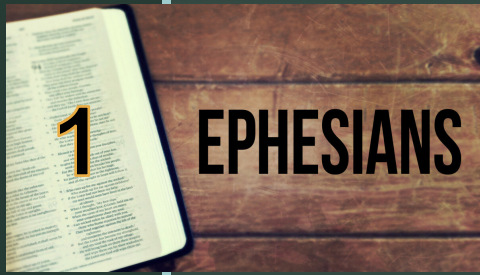
William Barclay



Christ is so acceptable to God that that acceptance is sufficient to spread over all those who are in him. And tonight every believer here is accepted before God, but it is through Jesus Christ. Do notice that. Nothing comes but by that silver pipe. “He hath made us accepted in the Beloved.”

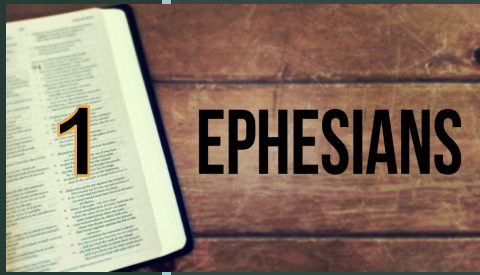


**Charles
Spurgeon
(1834-1892)**

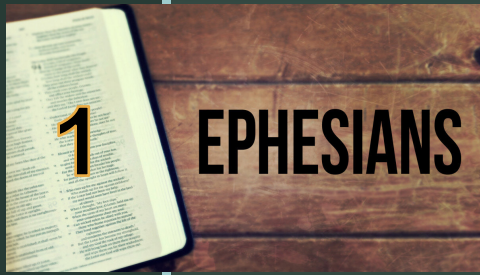


⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,

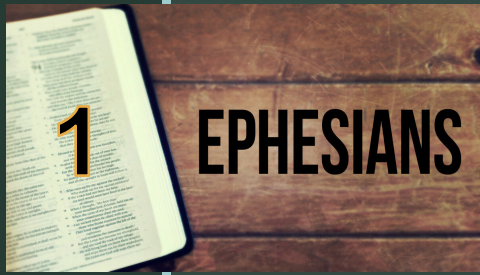
**What is the
significance of grace,
redemption through
his blood, forgiveness
of sin**



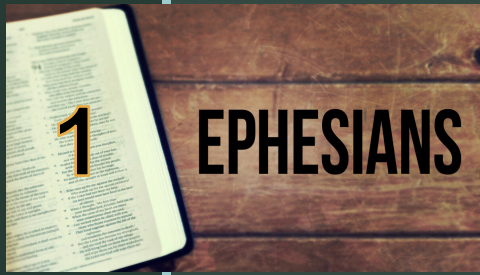
⁹he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.



¹¹In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹²in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.



¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation,



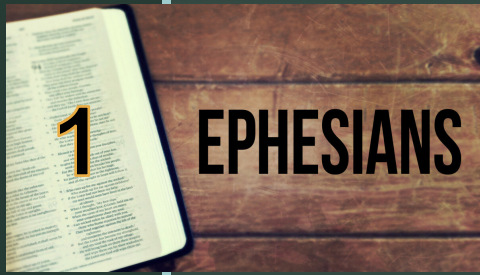
When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

**What is marked with a
seal the Holy Spirit**

There is no end to the blessing which God gives to his chosen. He is always blessing us with blessings upon blessings, grace upon grace, and then there will be glory to crown it all. Blessed be his holy name forever and ever.



**Charles
Spurgeon
(1834-1892)**

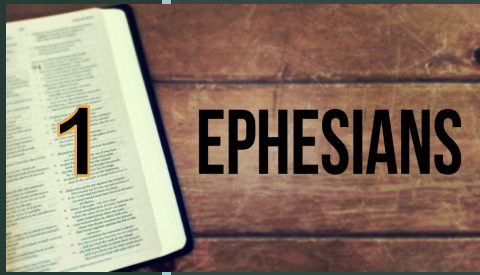


Thanksgiving and Prayer

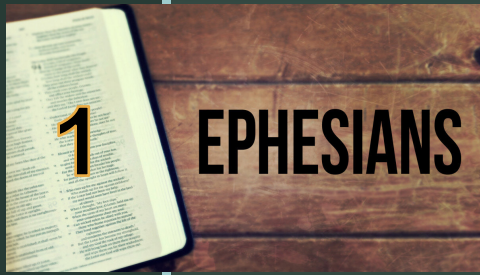
¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.

**When Paul heard
about their faith, he
gave thanks and did
not stop praying for
them**

**Is there a lesson there
for us**



¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

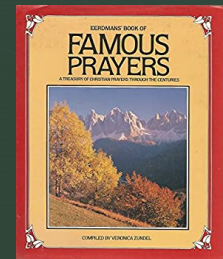


¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,



Prayer of an African girl

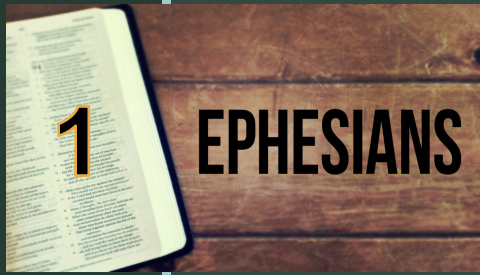
O great Chief, light a candle within my heart that I may see what is therein and sweep the rubbish from your dwelling place.



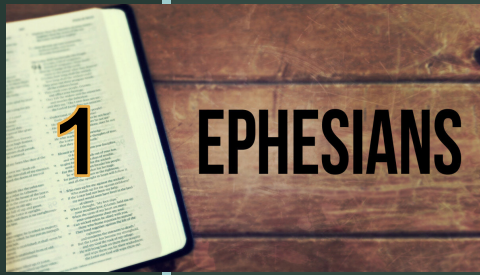
Paul prayed that the Ephesians

- 1) Give them wisdom and revelation**
- 2) Eyes of their heart would be opened**

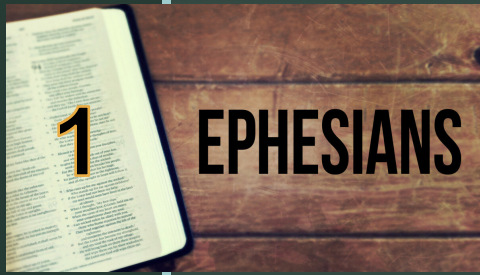
Is there a lesson here for us



¹⁹and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,



**²¹far above all rule and authority,
power and dominion, and every
name that is invoked, not only in
the present age but also in the one
to come.**



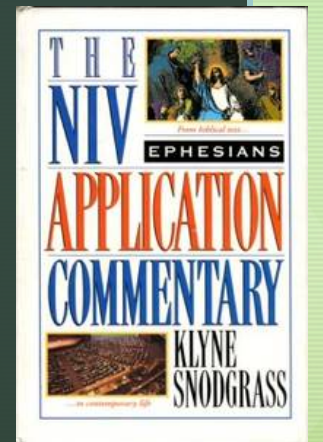
²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**Verses 22 and 23 give
us truth about the
relationship of God
and Jesus**

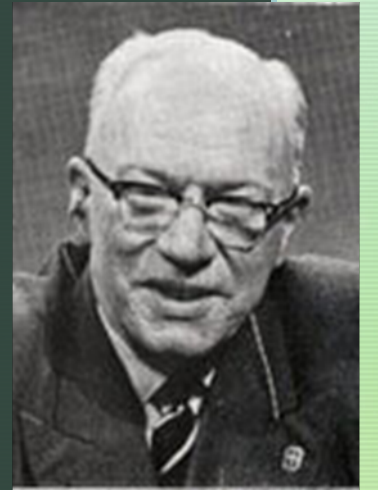
Prayer is our humble answer to
the inconceivable surprise of
living



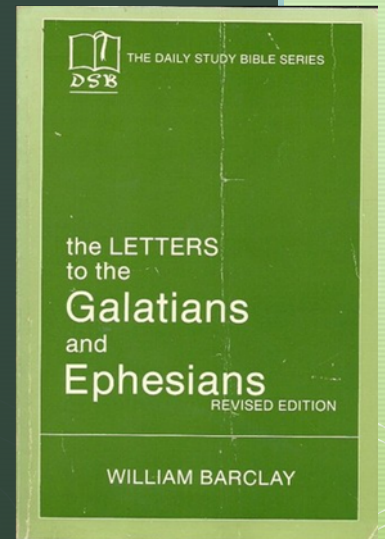
Klyne
Snodgrass



A Christian must never be filled with pride in any task that God gives him to do; he must be filled with wonder that God thought him worthy of a share in his work.



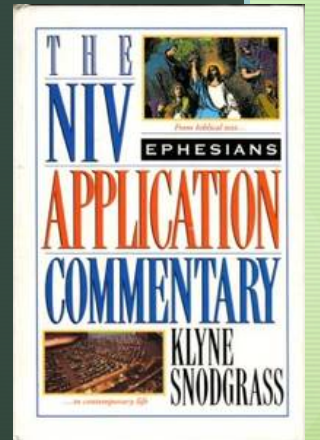
William Barclay



God is the God of past, present, and future, and in all three He is at work for us. Our security rests on what he did before the foundation of the world, on what he did and continues to do in Christ and in the spirit, and on what he is promised for the future.



Klyne
Snodgrass



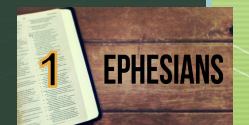
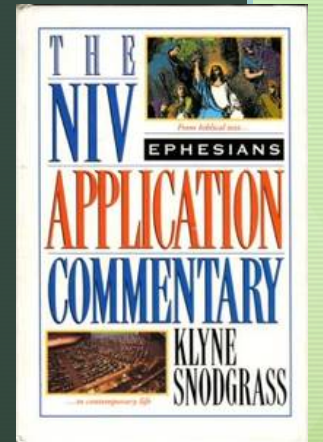
Gospel and Culture

All too often we confuse our cultural expression of Christianity with the Gospel itself.

Will the use of religious language help or hinder a conversation?



Klyne
Snodgrass



Open the Eyes of My Heart

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:18*





Did You
KNOW?

There are
dozens of
songs written
over the years
inspired by
Ephesians
chapter 1?



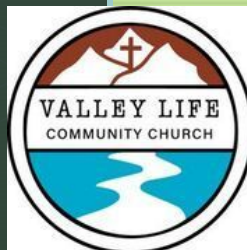
Amazing Grace

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:13-14*

**FUN
FACT!**



Lyrics written
by John
Newton in
1772





Grace and Peace



*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:2*

**FUN
FACT!**



Written by
Fernando
Ortega in
2006.





When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:6-8*

**FUN
FACT!**



Lyrics by
Isaac Watts
in 1707.





The Church's One Foundation

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:15-23*

**FUN
FACT!**



Lyrics by J.J.
Stone in
1866.





Fairest Lord Jesus

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:15-23*

**FUN
FACT!**



Lyrics are
anonymous
song first
around in
1677.





All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:20*

**FUN
FACT!**



Lyrics by
Edward
Perronet in
1780.





Blessed Assurance

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:14*

**FUN
FACT!**



Lyrics by
Fanny
Crosby in
1873. Fanny
was blind
since she
was a little
girl.





And Can it Be

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:13*

**FUN
FACT!**



Lyrics by
Charles Wesley
in 1738. He
wrote this
immediately
upon becoming
a Christian





Good Christian Friends Rejoice

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:3-12*

**FUN
FACT!**



Dates back to
the 14th
century. Author
unknown
(except to God)





Be Thou My Vision

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:15-23*

**FUN
FACT!**



Based on Irish
tune from 6th
century.
Eleanor Hull
translated it in
1912.





Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*Inspired by
Ephesians 1:3*

**FUN
FACT!**



Written by
Thomas Ken
in 1674.





That's all Folks!