



Church is God's Wisdom


February 4-5, 2023

We have more to share. Text CONNECT to 888-644-4034

Doyle A. Jackson

I. Almost Unbelievable

Ephesians 3:8–11 (NASB) *Paul's leadership and teaching* **8** To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, **9** and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; **10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church** to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*. **11 This was** in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

 God's wisdom goes through the Church to the _____.

Ephesians 1:3 (NIV) **3** Praise 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.

1Corinthians 2:7 (NIV) **7** No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began.

Colossians 1:16 (NIV) **16** For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

1 Corinthians 15:3–5 (NIV) **3** For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Cephas, and the Twelve...

II. Seven Pictures in Ephesians

Ephesians 1:1–2 (NIV) **1** Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus: **2** Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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| 1. The assembly | Ephesians 1:22 |
| 2. The body | Ephesians 1:23 |
| 3. The workmanship | Ephesians 2:10 |
| 4. The family | Ephesians 2:18–19 |
| 5. The temple | Ephesians 2:20–22 |
| 6. The bride | Ephesians 5:25–32 |
| 7. The army | Ephesians 6:10–13 |

A. What do these images teach us about our participation?

B. How important is it that I work with others in unity?

C. Is there something we are missing?

William Booth, Founder of The Salvation Army:

In 1890 Booth published in *Darkest England and the Way Out*, a book that identified the nation's ills and proposed ambitious projects to help. In this text he says, ... "The chief danger of the 20th century will be religion without the Holy Spirit, Christianity without Christ, forgiveness without repentance, salvation without regeneration, politics without God, and heaven without hell."

III. Unveiled and Transformed

2 Corinthians 3:17–18 (ESV) **17** Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. **18** And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

 Are you willing to _____.

"The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men to Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose — C.S. Lewis

Prayer: Lord, I LOVE YOU! Jesus, I want to be transformed. Change me into a true reflection of You. Help me to live for your glory more and more. I want to be close to you and invite others into your presence. —Amen.

This Week's Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

- Sat. Feb. 4, Lev. 8-9 Sun. Feb. 5, Lev. 10-12 Mon. Feb. 6, Lev. 13 Tue. Feb. 7, Lev. 14-15 Wed. Feb. 7, Lev. 16–18 Thur. Feb. 8, Lev. 19–21 Fri. Feb. 9, Lev. 22–23 Sat. Feb. 10, Lev. 24–25 Sun. Feb. 11, Lev. 26-27

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