

CALLED

Ephesians 1:1-2

From Pastor Mark

Welcome to Ephesians, a Book for an important church, for every church, and for all members of “Christ’s Body, the Church.” *Ekklesia* meant “called out assembly.” Church is not someplace you go but something you are. Every local church is to express the universal church. This “calling” provides the theme of Ephesians.

KEY VERSE: “Therefore... walk in a manner worthy of the CALLING to which you have been CALLED” (4:1)

EPHESIANS: THE CONDUCT AND CALLING OF THE CHURCH IN CHRIST	
Ephesians 1-3	Ephesians 4-6
CALLING	CONDUCT
DOCTRINE	DUTY
POSITION	PRACTICE (“walk”)
Explains the <i>Riches</i> of God’s Grace	Exhorts the <i>Recipients</i> of God’s Grace

I. THE WRITER’S CALL (1:1a)

- A. Person—*Paul*
- B. Position—*Apostle of Christ Jesus*
- C. Priority—*By the will of God*
- D. Implications/Applications—Do you appreciate what God has provided through the inspired writings? Do you have a sense of your personal call from God?

II. THE RECIPIENTS’ CALL (1:1b)

- A. Their Earthly Location
 1. The City of Ephesus
 - E-
 - P-
 - H-
 - E-
 - S-
 - U-
 - S-
 2. The Church at Ephesus
 - a. Acts 19-20
 - b. 1-2 Timothy, 1, 2, 3 John, Revelation 2-3
 - c. The Churches of Asia (Acts 19:10), An Encyclical Letter...
- B. Their Heavenly Position
 1. “*Saints*” = Set Apart (1:4)
 2. “*Faithful*” = *They can be trusted to trust God* (Heb. 11:11) in Christ even unto death (Rev. 2:12-13) (Piper)

3. "In Christ" = 1st of 30 verses describing our position in union with Christ

III. THE RESOURCES OF YOUR CALL (1:2)

- A. Supernatural Blessings
 1. Grace = undeserved favor, help in time of need (2:5, 8)
 2. Peace = what we have because of grace (2:14)
- B. Supernatural Source
 1. The Equality of the Godhead
 2. Their Relationship to Us
 - a. God our Father
 - b. Jesus Christ our Lord

Do you understand the wonder of your call as "in Christ," a member of His Church?

Are you "walking worthy" of your call (4:1)?

FOR NEXT TIME—Pray for Andy Geissman, TEEN WEEK Speaker, preaching on the Book of Daniel