

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS

### I. INTRODUCTION (1:1-2)

#### A. The *writer*

1. His name was \_\_\_\_\_ which means \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ one. (v. 1a)
2. His authority was that of an \_\_\_\_\_ directly commissioned from \_\_\_\_\_ by the will of God. (v. 1a)

#### B. The *recipients*

1. Their group identification was that of \_\_\_\_\_ (Gr. *hagios*), i.e., the \_\_\_\_\_, set apart, \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 1b)
2. Their spiritual position was “\_\_\_\_\_.” (v. 1b)
3. Their geographical location was the city of \_\_\_\_\_ in Asia Minor. (v. 1b)

#### C. Paul’s *greeting* (v. 2)

1. The Gentile greeting: “\_\_\_\_\_ to you”
2. The Jewish greeting: “\_\_\_\_\_ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

- D. The **date** of this letter is approximately AD \_\_\_\_\_, and it was written while under house arrest (3:1; 6:20) during Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ imprisonment in \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. The **genre** of this composition is that of a letter; however, because there are no personal \_\_\_\_\_ or specific \_\_\_\_\_ addressed, it reads more like a \_\_\_\_\_ to the Universal Church.
- F. The **theme** of this epistle
1. The believer's \_\_\_\_\_ and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ are emphasized (1:3-14) as well as \_\_\_\_\_ in light of these incredible truths (3:16-21; 4:1-6:17).
  2. "The mystery," that being Jews and Gentiles \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ Body in Christ is a major theme in this letter (2:11-3:11).
  3. The Church, God's Masterpiece was \_\_\_\_\_ an after thought because the Jews had rejected their Messiah; the Church was just as much a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord's eternal \_\_\_\_\_ as the nation of Israel. (3:9-11)
  4. In light of what Jesus would say to the church of \_\_\_\_\_ in Revelation 2:4, it is fascinating that Paul underscored the virtue of \_\_\_\_\_ at least \_\_\_\_\_ times in this epistle. (1:4, 15; 2:4; 3:17, 19; 4:2, 15, 16; 5:2, 25, 28, 33; 6:23, 24)
  5. While Paul mentions all three of the Christian's enemies in 2:1-3, he takes more time to expand on \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_ and the believer's \_\_\_\_\_ against these real (yet metaphysical) enemies. (6:10-18).

\* Are you excited to study this incredible, God-inspired epistle of Ephesians?