

## ***Ephesians***

***The Church: Christ's Body to a Broken World***

***Ephesians 1:15-23***

### **Timeline of the Apostle Paul**

<b>33 AD</b>	<b>Death &amp; Resurrection of Jesus</b>
<b>34-35 AD</b>	<b>Conversion of Saul of Tarsus</b>
<b>46-47 AD</b>	<b>1st Missionary Journey</b>
<b>49-51 AD</b>	<b>2nd Missionary Journey</b>
<b>52-57 AD</b>	<b>3rd Missionary Journey</b>
<b>62 AD</b>	<b>Letter to Ephesus from Rome</b>
<b>64-65 AD</b>	<b>Death of Paul in Rome</b>

***Ephesians explains the Church's universal role as the body of Christ who is Lord over the universe.***

### **1. ENLIGHTENMENT illumines our spiritual BLESSINGS**

***Ephesians 1:15–18 (ESV) — For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know***

***what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,***

***Ephesians 1:3 (ESV) — Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places***

***1 Corinthians 1:20–21 (ESV) — Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.***

***1 Corinthians 2:6–7 (ESV) — Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.***

***Hebrews 5:12–14 (ESV) — For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.***

***Revelation - to cause something to be fully known— 'to reveal, to disclose, to make fully known, revelation.'***

➤ **INTERNAL blessing - INTIMACY**

**Ephesians 1:17 (ESV) — That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him**

**John 17:3 (ESV)**  
**And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.**

➤ **ETERNAL blessings – HOPE & RICHES**

**Ephesians 1:18 (ESV) — Having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints**

**1 Corinthians 2:9 (NLT) — 9 That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.”**

**1 Peter 1:3–4 (ESV) — Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you**

➤ **EXTERNAL blessing - POWER**

**Ephesians 1:19 (ESV) — And what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe**

**2. EMPOWERMENT establishes our spiritual AUTHORITY**

**Ephesians 1:19–21 (ESV) — And what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.**

**Ephesians 1:19–21 (ESV) — And what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.**

- **“Dunamis” – where we get the word dynamite**
  - **Used over 100 times in NT**
  - **Indicates raw power or strength**
- **“Energeia” – Where we derive the word, “energy”**
  - **Means, “inworking”**
  - **An inward propulsion of power**
- **“Kratos” – means “mighty”**
  - **“the power to conquer”**

➤ **“ischus” – usually translated “strength”**

- **Refers to physical force**

**1 John 4:4 (ESV) — Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.**

**1 John 5:4 (ESV) — For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.**

**Ephesians 2:6 (ESV) — And raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus**

**Ephesians 6:12 (ESV) — For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.**

**2 Corinthians 10:3–5 (ESV) — For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ**

### **3. EMPLOYMENT releases our spiritual VICTORY**

**Ephesians 1:22–23 (ESV) — And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.**

**Acts 1:8 (ESV)**

**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”**

**1 Corinthians 4:20 (ESV)**

**For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power.**

**2 Timothy 3:5 (ESV)**

**Having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.**

**1 Corinthians 15:24–26 (ESV) — Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.**

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**The Church: Christ's Body to a Broken World**  
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1. \_\_\_\_\_ *illuminates our spiritual*

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➤ \_\_\_\_\_ *blessing* - \_\_\_\_\_

➤ \_\_\_\_\_ *blessings* - \_\_\_\_\_

➤ \_\_\_\_\_ *blessing* - \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ *establishes our spiritual*

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3. \_\_\_\_\_ *releases our spiritual*

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