

Sit, Walk, Stand

Overview of Ephesians

Observations

- The epistle (letter) has 2 sections, 1-3 and 4-6. Doctrine and application.
- This is like a doxology, or prayer. He breaks into prayer 2 times.
- There are no problems that Paul is addressing in this letter.
- The letter is not written like Romans like a legal argument.
- "In Christ" is mentioned about 35 times.
- There are no imperatives in chapters 1-3 and 35 in 4-6
- 1-3 Is what God has done in us and for us to save us and equip to do His purposes in the world.
- 4-6 Is the church living out being united in Christ to fulfill God's eternal purposes.

1. The purpose Statement is in 4:1 ***"I therefore...entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called"***
2. The key verse is in 1:3 ***"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ"***.

"I, THEREFORE ... ENTREAT YOU TO WALK IN A MANNER WORTHY OF THE CALLING WITH WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED" ... 4:1

Chapter I

- I.** Through Chapter I We see the Triune God at work.
- II.** Vs 3, We have been blessed with every Spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
- III.** Vs 4, God chose us in Him, (Christ) before the foundations of the world. Here we see the Eternal Plan of God unfolding.
- IV.** Vs 5, God predestined us to adoption as sons.
- V.** Vs 7, we have redemption through His blood.
- VI.** Vs 9, He has made known to us the mystery of His will.
- VII.** Vs 11, we have obtained an inheritance.

- VIII.** Vs 13, we were sealed in Him, (Christ) with the Holy Spirit as a pledge of our inheritance.
- IX.** Vs 14, We have redemption.
- X.** Vs 20, Christ is seated (**sit**) at His right hand in the heavenly places.

Next, we see God's heart in all this.

- I.** Vs 4, In love He chose us.
- II.** Vs 5, According to the kind intentions of His will He predestined us.
- III.** Vs 7-8 He lavished on us the riches of His grace.
- IV.** Vs 9, He made known His mysteries according to His kind intentions.

Next, let's see Paul's reaction to this.

- I.** Vs 3, Blessed be, Praise God!
- II.** Vs 6, to the praise of the Glory of His Grace
- III.** Vs 7, according to the riches of His grace
- IV.** Vs 12, to the praise of His Glory.
- V.** Vs 14, to the praise of His Glory.
- VI.** Vs 15-23, Paul's prayer that we can see and appreciate God's calling, ..."that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know, what is the hope of His calling"...

Chapter 2, section 1

- I.** Vs 1-3, You were dead in your sins and trespasses... by nature children of wrath.
- II.** Vs 4-5, **BUT GOD!** Nothing we can or could do for ourselves, God did!
- III.** Vs 6, He has seated (**SIT**) us with Christ in the heavenly places.
- IV.** Vs 7, for all eternity He will show us new depths of His Grace towards us in Christ.
- V.** Vs 8-9, He saved us by His grace alone, and not of ourselves.
- VI.** Vs 10, God has given us a mission in His eternal plan.

Chapter 2, section 2

- I.* Vs 11-12, Gentiles were separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, having no hope.
- II.* Vs 13-16, **But now in Christ Jesus!** Have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Making peace between the Jew and the gentile by making the two into a new man.
- III.* Vs 21-22, We, the church, the body of Christ, both Jew and Gentile, are fellow citizens, and we are growing into a holy temple, to be the dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Chapter 3

- I.* Vs 9, God will use the church to make known the manifold wisdom of God to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.
- II.* Vs 14-21, Paul's 2nd prayer, that we the church will be strengthened and understand our power and all that God has done in us, so we will fulfill our purpose, that God's glory will be seen in us and through us, the church.

CHAPTER 4

"I THEREFORE...ENTREAT YOU TO WALK IN A MANNER WORTHY OF THE CALLING WITH WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED"...

- I.* 2:2, you formerly **Walked** according to the course of this world,
- II.* 2:10 God has prepared Good Works beforehand that we should **walk** in them.
- III.* 4:17 We are to **walk** no longer as the gentiles walk, in the futility of their minds.
- IV.* 5:2 Instead, we are to **walk** in love as we are loved by Christ.
- V.* 5:8 **Walk** as children of light
- VI.* 5:15 be careful how we **walk** as being wise
- VII.* Our new walk of 4-6 is based on new truth we learn in 1-3. God acts, then we respond.

- VIII.* If God's love is so great, If His salvation is so powerful, if God has granted us reconciliation, believers then should (THEREFORE) **walk** accordingly. We should value what God has done for us so much that we allow it to direct our walk.
- IX.* Our calling is so profound and important that we should all feel the weight of the responsibility that comes with it.

4:2-3, The proper attitude required in a worthy walk, Humility, gentleness, patience, showing forbearance to one another in love, **being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**

- X.* We see the NOW AND NOT YET, character of Christianity, that we have unity in Christ, and that we are to preserve, and that we are to attain the unity of the faith.
- XI.* Why we should be so diligent to preserve the unity, "There is One body, One Spirit, we were called in One hope, One lord, One faith, One baptism, One God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.
- XII.* Vs 11-16, Even united, being one in the body of Christ, there is great diversity within the body through every individual. Each one of us, as a member of the body of Christ is a steward of a God given gift for the COMMON GOOD of the body. The entire body is to be trained and equipped to do God's purposes in the world. "He gave some as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service.
- XIII.* What is measured or apportioned to each one is needed to make the full measure of the body of Christ.
- XIV.* 17 Remember who you are. Don't **walk** like the gentiles
- XV.* Vs 20 BUT, you did not learn Christ in the way of the Gentile. This is not about discipleship, but what you were taught as a non-Christian, "in reference to your former manner of life". That you lay aside the old Self, the Old man, Be renewed in

the Spirit of your mind, and put on the New Self, the New man..

- XVI.** Vs 25-32 is how we as Christians can overcome our old ways, Do not lie...but speak truth since you laid aside the old self, and have put on the new man.

Chapter 5

- I.** We are instructed to **Walk** in Love, and **Walk** in Light, being filled with the Spirit.
- II.** Vs 21 We are to be subject to one another, not to think more highly of himself than he ought. Regard one another as more important than himself.
- III.** Vs 22-33 A worthy walk is demonstrated in your home.
- IV.** Vs 32 says that this mystery, the relationship between husband and wife, is great, but I am speaking about Christ and the church. The husband and wife relationship is a picture of the relationship between Christ and the church. That is why it is so sacred.

Chapter 6

- I.** Vs 1-9 The worthy walk is demonstrated in the relationship between Children and parents, and parents and children. Between slaves and masters and masters and slaves.
- II.** Vs 10-20 Be strong in the Lord in His might! Put on the full armor of God!
- III.** Vs 11 **Stand** firm against the schemes of the devil, rulers, powers, world forces, darkness, spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenlies.
- IV.** Vs 13 take up the full armor of God, resist, and **Stand** firm.
- V.** 4:17 walk no longer as the gentiles walk, in the futility of their minds
- VI.** Vs 14 **Stand** firm wearing the full armor of God.
- VII.** Vs 23-24 The closing blessing, Peace, Love, Faith, Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ...