

Ephesians 1:1
Summary Review

“Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus:” (NASB)

“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus:” (NKJV)

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|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|---------|-----------|--------|----------|----|
| “Παῦλος | ἀπόστολος | Χριστοῦ | Ἰησοῦ | διὰ | θελήματος | θεοῦ | | |
| “Paul, | apostle | of Christ | Jesus | through | will | of God | | |
| τοῖς | ἀγίοις | τοῖς | οὓσιν | ἐν | Ἐφέσῳ | καὶ | πιστοῖς | ἐν |
| (to) the | saints | the | being | in | Ephesus | and | faithful | in |
| Χριστῷ | Ἰησοῦ.” | (NA21) | | | | | | |
| Christ | Jesus;” | (KMT) | | | | | | |

Expanded Translation:

“**Paul**, an initiator, **commissioned one sent out with delegated authority to convey information on behalf of the one represented**, based on initiation, **of Christ** (Anointed Sacrifice), based on initiation, **Jesus**, an initiator, **through the source of volitional expression of an individual to carry out a specific course of action in order to accomplish a desired result, objective, or outcome**, being a tool or instrument used to accomplish something, **of God**, an initiator, **to the ones set apart for service to another as a result of having been cleansed**, based on initiation, **the ones performing the continuous type of action as a matter of principle to exist in the state of being based on their own initiation in the location of Ephesus**, based on response, **and, logically connected, characterized as being dependable to carry out that which has been entrusted**, based on initiation, **in the sphere of Christ** (Anointed Sacrifice), based on initiation, **Jesus**, an initiator;”

Principles:

1. Paul is the expressed writer of the letter to the believers in Ephesus.
2. His role in the body of Christ is that of an envoy of God's, bearing the full authority from God necessary to reveal truth of the spiritual life to those to whom he is sent.
3. He is an apostle of Christ Jesus by means of God's desire and direct decision to assign him to that office in the body of Christ.
4. Part of God's plan for Paul's life was that he conveys divine revelation under the Holy Spirit's control to the early church.
5. As the Holy Spirit carried Paul along He imparted through Paul the exact information God wanted revealed to the church in the church age.
6. Paul was a representative of God's, under the Holy Spirit's control in his role as an apostle, and had the delegated authority necessary to fulfill his role.
7. His role as an apostle was based on God's initiation, not his or another human's initiation.
8. As an apostle of God's he belonged to Christ, the Anointed Sacrifice who paid the debt for man's sins.

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9. Christ is one and the same as Jesus, the man born to the virgin and thus bypassing the seed of man and its consequential sinful nature.
10. In Jesus of Nazareth the fullness of the deity dwelled (cf. Col. 2:9) for Jesus of Nazareth is God the Son and the Son of God in the flesh (cf. John 1:1-5; Phil. 2:5-8).
11. Paul writes to the saints in Ephesus as those who have been cleansed from their impurity by the blood of Jesus Christ because of their reliance upon Him to have paid their personal debt for sin.
12. By having been cleansed by His blood, the Ephesian believers have been purified and dedicated for service to God as His vessels and tools.
13. The same is true of all those who believe in Jesus Christ as their personal savior and propitiation for sin.
14. Paul identifies the Ephesian believers as those who are dependable to carry out what God has entrusted them, thus they are obedient believers who seek to fulfill God's instruction in His plan for their lives.
15. The area in which the Ephesian believers are dependable is in the sphere of Christ Jesus.
16. Thus, the Ephesian believers are committed to obeying God as a result of what Christ Jesus accomplished on their behalf.

Conclusion:

Paul introduces his letter to the Ephesians by identifying his credentials: an apostle by means of God's choosing and designation. This sets the stage for his instruction of the Ephesian believers who have committed themselves to obeying God in the spiritual life.