Seeing with Heavenly Eyes Ephesians: An Overview

<u>Theme:</u> God's glorious purpose for believers in the age of grace as seen in **the believer in Christ and Christ in the believer.**

<u>Key Verses:</u> 2:4-6 "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loves us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus."

<u>Key words</u>: love- 19x; In Him- 15x; Grace- 13x; Walk- 8x; body- 8x; truth- 7x; Heavenly places- 5x; Mystery- 5x; Administration- 3x

Outline:

Introduction (1:1-2)

- I. The believer in Christ (Chapters 1-3)- position, doctrine
 - **A.** The believer's position described (chapter 1)
 - **B.** The believer's position expounded (chapter 2)
 - **C.** The believer's position applied (chapter 3)

II. Christ in the believer (Chapters 4-6)- practice, duty

- **A.** The believer's practice built upon truth (chapter 4)
- **B.** The believer's practice marked by love (chapter 5:1-6:9)
- **C.** The believer's practice strengthened with power (chapter 6:10-20)

Questions for discussion/Application

- How is Ephesians different from Paul's other letters?
- Why is Ephesians sometimes called the Epistle of the Ascension?
- One author calls Ephesians "The grandest of all Pauline Epistles" Do you agree/disagree? Why?
- How does the background of the city of Ephesus give us great hope for today?
- How does the history of the church in Ephesus provide a great warning for us today?