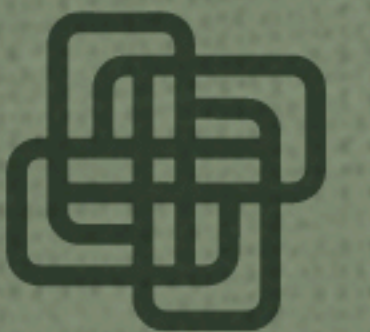




Ephesians

THE CHURCH IN *CHRIST*



Ephesians Recap

Authorship: The Apostle Paul

Date: 61-62 AD

-Wrote the letter from prison, likely in Rome (3:1, 4:1, 6:20).

-Ephesus was an affluent port city with pagan worship of Artemis

-Letter broken in 2 halves—chs. 1-3 “gospel doctrine/position” & ch. 4-6 “church practice”



2 Identities in which God views all Humanity:

“In Adam”

- Born into this
- Leads to death

“In Christ”

- Reborn into this
- Leads to life

21 For as by a man [Adam] came death, by a man [Jesus] has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. -1 Cor. 15:21-22

-Throughout the NT Paul writes about our identity being “in Christ” or “in Him” 216 times



We are planned for by the Father

3 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, 4 even as he chose

Goal of Election: Conformity to Christ (Rmns. 8:28-29)

us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and

Purpose of Election: Adoption into the Family

blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as

sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise

of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

-Other places election is tied to salvation: Rom. 9-11; Acts 13:48; Tit. 1:1; 1 Pet. 1:1; 2 Pet. 1:10

-Eph 1:13 clearly shows us the necessity of personal belief in the gospel

-“Salvation belongs to the Lord” -Jonah 2:9



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“Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God’s sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.”

-Baptist Faith & Message 2000



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“As God hath appointed the elect unto glory, so hath He, by the eternal and most free purpose of His will, foreordained all the means thereunto. Wherefore they who are elected being fallen in Adam are redeemed by Christ, are effectually called unto faith in Christ by His Spirit working in due season; are justified, adopted, sanctified, and kept by His power through faith unto salvation. Neither are any other redeemed by Christ, effectually called, justified, adopted, sanctified, and saved, but the elect only.”

-Westminster Confession of Faith, ch. 3, sec. 6



“God is not some metaphysical airport security screener, waving through the secretly pre-approved and sending the rest into a holding tank for questioning. God is not treating us like puppets made of meat, forcing us along by his capricious whim. Instead, the doctrine of election tells us that all of us who have come to know Christ are here on purpose.”

-Russell Moore, Adoption



We are purchased by the Son

*Means of Redemption: The Costly Sinless blood of Christ
(Col. 1:13-14; 1 Cor. 6:20; Gal. 3:3)*

*Fruit of Redemption: Forgiveness of
Sin & Unity w/ God*

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our

This echoes the Exodus & Passover Lamb (Ex. 12)

trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in

all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according

to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time,

to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

- *Gen. 3:15 (The protoevangelium—"first glimmer of the gospel")- "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring [singular in Hebrew]; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."*
- *Christ is much more powerful to save, than Adam was to destroy. -Calvin*



We are preserved by the Spirit

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according

Present inheritance: The Spirit with us | Future inheritance: Kingdom of God & Presence of God
to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his

glory. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your

A seal in the first century was a mark of ownership & protection
salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to

The Spirit is beautiful assurance of our salvation—new heart, new hungers, new desires (Ez. 36:26-27)
the praise of his glory.

- All of Eph 1:3-14 assurance for you believer. The irreversible election of the Father. The irreversible redemption of the Son and irreversible indwelling of the Holy Spirit. You are secure because you're secured in God himself.

