

Paul—Ephesians 1

In Christ

I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

- 01. 1:4... According as he hath chosen us**—“All people are called, but few are chosen (Mt 22:14; Rev 22:17). All Christians, both Jews and Gentiles, are now the elect ones of God (Rom 8:23-24; Mark 13:27; 1 Pet 1:1; 2:9; Rev 17:14). Before the foundation of the world God hath chosen us in him (Eph 1:4). Did he do it arbitrarily, picking out certain individuals? Or did he pick out certain kinds of individuals? If he picked certain individuals regardless of their character, then he is a respecter of persons (Acts 10:35). If he picked certain persons to be saved and abandoned the rest as the non-elect, he is not love (1 John 4:8). On the other hand, if he picked certain kinds of individuals, namely, those who work to be **holy and without blame before him in love**, (Eph 1:4), then he is no face-receiver, and he is love. It would appear, then, that his election is always of this character, not of an arbitrary selection. Each Christian must develop his own holiness and blamelessness and love (1 Pet 1:16; Phil 2:14-15; Heb 13:1). Lest he become a reprobate, he must prove himself according to the prescribed blueprint for elect people (2 Cor 13:5)” [Hugo McCord, “Expression of Praise of God,” in *The Book of Ephesians*, edited by Garland Elkins & Thomas B. Warren, p. 13, Emphasis mine, DRL]. ||||| “Before proceeding further in the study of this epistle, it is very important to get firmly fixed in the mind the use of the words *we* and *us*, and *ye* and *you*, as used in the first, second, and third chapters. *We* and *us* are used down to and through the twelfth verse, and refer to the Jewish Christians [*Paul himself being of that number*, DRL]; beginning with the thirteenth verse, *ye* and *you* are used, and refer to the Gentile Christians” [David Lipscomb, *A Commentary on the New Testament Epistles*, Vol IV, p. 17].
- 02. 1:5... Having predestinated us**—“Theologians have tried for ages to make something hard out of predestination; but the meaning is not difficult. God designed the whole creation to accomplish the fulfillment of the plan which existed before creation. That is a simple definition of it. It applies to human beings, planets, galaxies, everything God ever made. Regarding people, God's purpose in creating man was that he might become a Son of God through Jesus Christ. That is the destiny God intended for every man ever born on earth. Stars and galaxies may not oppose or thwart their intended destiny; but with people, there is another factor, the freedom of the human will, enabling people to hinder or even prevent the fulfillment of God's purposes in their lives” [Coffman].
- 03. 1:17... may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation**—“This prayer was primarily an intercession for the Ephesian Christians—a petition that God would give them such a 'spirit.' The question here that has occasioned some difficulty among commentators is whether this is a reference to the Holy Spirit or the human spirit or a spiritual attitude or endowment. ... a comparison with the very similar statement in Paul's prayer for the Colossians (1:9) is weighty evidence for the same meaning here. There Paul said, '*spiritual (pneumatike) wisdom and understanding*.' To have such 'spiritual' qualities one must have 'a spirit' that is characterized by the wisdom and revelation that come from God” [Gary Workman, *The Book of Ephesians*, p. 17].

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Church.

III. Summary. From: Roy C. Deaver, "The Church of Christ—And the Book of Ephesians," in *The Church of Christ—Essential, All-Sufficient, Indestructible, Perpetually Relevant*, edited by Thomas B. Warren, pp. 306ff].

Paul presents to us an abundantly comprehensive development of the nature of the Lord's church. FROM CHAPTER ONE: It is made up of the saints. It is composed of those who BELIEVE. It is the realm of GRACE and PEACE. It is the sphere in which is experienced EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING. It is the realization of God's foreordination. It is the realm of RIGHTEOUS LIVING. It is the realm of SONSHIP. It is the realm of BLESSED HOPE. It is the realm of being SEALED with the Spirit, the realm of BROTHERLY LOVE, the realm of sacred KNOWLEDGE, the realm of available divine power. It is that over which Christ is HEAD. It is the BODY OF CHRIST. It is that which completes the Christ.

IV. Outline. From: David Lipscomb, *A Commentary on the New Testament Epistles*, p. 7.

1. Apostolic address and greeting (Eph 1:1-2).
2. Praise to God for spiritual blessings in Christ (1:3-14).
3. Thanksgiving and supplication for the church as the body of Christ who is the Head (1:15-23).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Through grace Christians have been made accepted in the Beloved.
02. _____ There is a verse which stresses unity in Christ in this chapter.
03. _____ There is no mention of the word GOSPEL in this chapter.
04. _____ Paul had heard of some things about this church.
05. _____ This chapter tells us the church is the body of Christ.

MATCHING

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 06. _____ All spiritual blessings | A. through His blood |
| 07. _____ In whom we have redemption | B. in heavenly places in Christ |
| 08. _____ The gospel | C. being enlightened |
| 09. _____ The eyes of your understanding | D. under His feet |
| 10. _____ And hath put all things | E. of your salvation |

Fill in the Blanks

11. Far _____ all principality, and power, and might, and _____, and every _____ that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.
12. To the _____ of the glory of his _____, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.
13. Paul wrote this letter to the _____ which are at _____.
14. IN CHRIST, Christians have obtained _____.
15. Paul did not _____ to give _____ for these Christians in Ephesus.

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week's handout

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. God in Ephesians 1.
 - 1) Sovereign (1, 2, 5).
 - 2) A Father (2, 3, 17).
 - 3) A Blessor (3).
 - 4) Eternal and Non-Related to the Material (4).
 - 5) A God of Care (6).
2. Christ in Ephesians 1.
 - 1) Christ (1).
 - 2) Jesus (1).
 - 3) The Lord (1, 2).
 - 4) The Beloved (6).
3. The Holy Spirit in Ephesians 1.
 - 1) The Spirit of promise (13).
 - 2) A Sealer (13).
 - 3) An Earnest (14).
4. Christians in Ephesians 1.
 - 1) Saints (1).
 - 2) The faithful ones (1).
 - 3) The IN CHRIST ones (1).
 - 4) Members of His body (22, 23).
5. The Church in Ephesians 1.
 - 1) A purchased institution (14).
 - 2) The body of Christ (22, 23).
 - 3) The fullness of Christ (23).
6. The Scheme of Redemption in Ephesians 1.
 - 1) According to a plan (4, 5).
 - 2) Involved a people (1, 3, 4, 5).
 - 3) Involved a place—IN CHRIST (3, 22, 23).
7. Appellations of the word of God (Eph 1:13).
 - 1) The Word.
 - 2) The Word of Truth.
 - 3) The Gospel.
8. Preaching should result in producing faith, rather than destroying it (Eph 1:13).
9. Headquarters of the church of Christ (1:3, 22, 23). It is where the Head resides (1 Pet 3:22).

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

A A W F H R I E A C C E P T E D J L C M
 B V B H X J U T H E F A I T H F U L B R
 I D O O L B S I H H G U O R H T T M E S
 A T E P H E S U S V T S H E I O A D H M
 G W I S D O M V H H M D W H T Y E U O Z
 M T X V A D D N E D A P A H G M U Q L U
 S S O F R P Y G A M Q Z E I P G R H Y C
 U I M W N O O E O Y R S V T I A S Z U T
 M R F D X S H H U P A E I W R H C N Q H
 I H W E P E W H O I Y O E E G E O O M H
 H C E E H N P T N T N C B B C U U I J P
 D N L T I L T T M I V V D C B B F T D R
 E I F O G J S V I I R R X I M H T A E T
 S O S K O P W R C M K C B O R C X L D V
 I R Y H S T M R E F Y J D Z H B C E N W
 A E C A R G S I H F O S E H C I R V U O
 R S C R T O T H E P R A I S E A I E O X
 N E C N A T I R E H N I N A I L X R B J
 J M B W T E X M O F H I S G L O R Y A D
 X K F U P C Q Y O I L F E R Z Q R D R L

[The words (or word locaters) listed below are to be found in the text of our lesson. They also are found in the puzzle above. This is just one more way to reinforce what you have studied from the text. Why not read the whole verse where the word is found one more time as you do the puzzle? Thank you for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. Let's desire the sincere milk of the word that we may grow (1 Pet 2:2). DRL]

Ephesians 1

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| to the saints, 1 | In whom, 11 |
| at Ephesus, 1 | an inheritance, 11 |
| the faithful, 1 | to the praise, 12 |
| in Christ, 1 | of his glory, 12 |
| be holy, 4 | the gospel, 13 |
| accepted, 6 | may give, 17 |
| redemption, 7 | wisdom, 17 |
| through his blood, 7 | revelation, 17 |
| riches of his grace, 7 | raised him, 20 |
| abounded, 8 | the head, 22 |

I have a page of Crossword Puzzles, including this chapter at...

<http://lemmonsaid.wordpress.com/bible-crossword-puzzles/>