

I. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT OF THE BOOK

- A. Ephesians is one of the thirteen letters written by the Apostle Paul, widely regarded as his finest work and often called the “queen of the epistles.”
- B. The Book of Ephesians was very likely written between A.D. 60-63 by Paul from a Romans prison cell.
- C. The church in Ephesus was born out of a divine encounter described in Acts 19 where Paul met twelve men from Ephesus, re-baptized them, and saw them filled with the Holy Spirit, resulting in speaking in tongues and prophesy.
- D. Paul then remained in Ephesus for two years, reasoning with the Jews in the synagogue, strengthening new believers, and diligently teaching the Word. His ministry there was pivotal, helping the gospel spread throughout the region of modern-day Turkey.
 - 1. ***10 And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.-Acts 19:10***
- E. The primary purpose of this letter is to reveal God’s redemptive plan—how Christ stands at the center of it, how it defines the church’s identity, and how believers are called to live it out, even in the midst of spiritual warfare.

II. MYSTERIES IN THE LETTER

- A. Paul writes Ephesians to reveal some of the mysteries of God—truths once hidden, now made known by the Holy Spirit. The term “mystery” appears six times, highlighting themes like Christ in us, the unity of Jew and Gentile, God’s plan to unite all things in Christ, and the relationship between Christ and His Church.

III. BREAKDOWN OF THE BOOK

- A. The epistle can be simply outlined like this: chapters 1–3 reveal the believer’s wealth and identity in Christ; chapters 4–6:9 show how to walk it

out practically; and chapters 6:10–18 teach how to stand firm and engage in spiritual warfare against the forces that seek to oppose it.

1. Another way way to break it down is SEATED(chp 1-3)
WALKING,(chp 4-6:9) AND STANDING(6:10-18)

IV. THE TRINITY IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

1. **The book of Ephesians also reveals the work of The Trinity in the story of redemption.**

- a) God is one in essence and three in person—perfectly united, co-equal, co-eternal, and working together to fulfill God’s eternal pleasure.

B. THE FATHER PLANNED IT

1. The Father chose believers before the foundation of the world.
Predestined them for adoption

C. THE SON PURCHASED IT

1. Provided Redemption through His blood and Forgiveness of sins

D. THE SPIRIT GUARANTEES IT (vv. 13–14)

1. Seals believers and guarantees our inheritance

V. (VRS 1-2) PAUL’S SALUTATION

1. ***1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.***

B. Paul starts the letter by identifying God’s will over his life and calling to the church, to be an apostle.

C. You can put your name here. Rui, a shepherd of Jesus Christ by the will of God. We each have a specific calling and we must obey the calling God has put on our life and not something else.

D. TO THE SAINTS WHO ARE IN EPHESUS

1. SAINTS

- a) The word “saint” comes from a term meaning “holy ones”—those who are set apart to God.

2. FAITHFUL

- a) One of the characteristics of a true saint is that they are faithful.
- b) To be faithful not only implies to have faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord, but also a life that has a consistent responsiveness to that faith. *A life that demonstrates evidence of complete trust in Jesus.*

E. GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM OUR FATHER AND LORD JESUS CHRIST

1. Paul starts his letter with a declaration of the two primary benefits of being born again, *ongoing receiving of grace and a peace that is eternal.*
2. The order Paul puts these words are intentional. We can't have the peace of God apart from the grace of God. God's grace is what allowed us to have God's peace.
 - a) God the Father revealed His grace by sending His Son to secure our peace on the cross.

VI. THE BLESSED FATHER

1. ***3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ***

- a) *Our spiritual poverty is met with the riches of his grace*

- B. God is "blessed" because He "has blessed" us. We bless Him with our words, but God has blessed us with His deed.

1. God the Father is mostly blessed when we walk in the fullness of our blessings that Jesus secured on the cross.

a) **God is most glorified in us when we are most blessed in Him**

- C. All of our spiritual blessings are both found in a location (heavenly places) and in a Person. (in Christ)

VII. VRS 3-14 IS A CONSIDERED A BLESSING CALLED A BEREKAH

- A. Paul unfolds these spiritual blessings in what is known as a *Berakah*—a rich expression of praise and blessing. In many ways, these verses function like a prayer spoken over the church. A *Berakah* is a declaration that releases a priestly blessing, often spoken over God's people, invoking His favor, grace, and purpose.

1. ***"The Lord will command the blessing (berakhah) on you -Deut. 28:8***

- B. This section of Ephesians describes the blessing God the Father speaks over us because of the shed blood of Jesus.

1. The spiritual blessings in Ephesians 1 are not merely gifts God gives—they are realities that define who we are in Christ, shaping both our identity and our life together as His people. These blessings are not earthly but heavenly, pointing to their eternal, unchanging nature.

VIII. SEVEN KEY SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

1. CHOSEN US IN HIM (vrs 4)

(1) ***just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,***

- b) God chose us first, we did not choose Him. He chose us so that we would be transformed into the likeness of Jesus. (holy and without blame)

(1) 16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain-Jn 15:16

2. (vrs 5) PREDESTINED US TO BE ADOPTED

(1) having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will

b) To be adopted is not to just be saved but brought into an eternal family and given full rights and an inheritance.

(1) For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."-Rom 8:15

3. (vrs 6) ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED

(1) 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

4. (vrs 7) REDEEMED AND FORGIVEN

(1) In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins,

b) Redemption speaks of buying something back in order to be released from slavery.

(1) as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.-Ps 103:12

5. (vrs 9-10) REVELATION OF HIS WILL

(1) having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him

6. (vrs 11-12) AN INHERITANCE

(1) 11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

7. (vrs 13-14) THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

(1) 13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

IX. THE NEED TO SEE IN ORDER TO LIVE

A. We cannot live what we do not see. The greatest challenge in the Christian life is not knowing who we are. In the second half of this chapter, Paul prays that we would see what has already been given to us.

1. 18 the eyes of your ¹⁸understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling-Eph 1:17-19