

A workbook aid for studying

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE  
**EPHESIANS**

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# PREFACE

This study book is intended to aid a Bible class in the study of Paul's epistle to the Ephesians. The material herein will not take the student on a verse-by-verse analysis of the text, but is intended to bring attention to significant portions of the text. Rather than providing textual insight from the writer, the booklet has been designed with questions to provoke thought and further study on the student's part, so that principles and lessons applicable for the Christian's life can be learned.

The usefulness of the material, and the success of the Bible class is primarily dependent upon the preparation which is given by each participant. Verse references from Ephesians are provided with each question. These are given as a starting point for answering the questions. Seldom will a question be fully answered and all the relevant points of a discussion exhausted by the given verses. Students are encouraged to look beyond the designated texts for related passages which will help to answer questions and reveal the lessons to be learned from the inspired record. Some questions given may require diligent investigation on the student's part to completely answer.

It is my hope that the questions provided will touch on all the important lessons which can be gleaned by the child of God today from these books. However, the class should not be limited to these questions. Perhaps segments of text which the given questions do not directly deal with, or detailed points which are found in the text will provoke questions on the student's part. Such questions are welcomed and encouraged. Though the intent of this class material is to benefit us for Christian living today, the class should also be conducted in such a manner that we also come to a better appreciation of the events and customs which are found in the times of old.

May this workbook be used to the glory of God and the strengthening of saints.

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# All Spiritual Blessings

## EPHESIANS 1:1-14

“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...” (1:3)

1. Where will the seeking soul find “*every spiritual blessing*”? (1:3)
2. Identify and discuss some of the spiritual blessings which are enjoyed by God’s people. (1:3)
3. What is the role of each member of the Godhead in the salvation of souls?
  - The Father (1:3-6)
  - The Son (1:7-13)
  - The Holy Spirit (1:13-14)
4. The text says that God “...*chose us in Him before the foundation of the world...*”, and that we are “*predestined*”. How is it that we are chosen and predestined? (1:4-5, 11)
5. How is the forgiveness of sins affected? (1:7)

### **“In Christ”, we are**

- # Blessed with every spiritual blessing (1:3)
- # Chosen to be holy and without blame (1:4)
- # Predestined to the adoption as sons (1:5)
- # Made accepted (1:6)
- # Redeemed from our sins (1:7)
- # Made to know the mystery of His will (1:8-9)
- # Gathered together (1:10)
- # Predestined heirs (1:11)
- # Sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise (1:13)

6. What is “...*the mystery of His will*...”? How is it discovered? (1:8-9)
  
7. What is the inheritance we have obtained? (1:11-12)
  
8. How does the apostle show the importance of God’s word in the salvation of souls? (1:13)
  
9. Discuss the “*seal*” and “*guarantee*” of the Holy Spirit. (1:13-14)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# Making Mention Of You In My Prayers

## EPHESIANS 1:15-23

"...[I] do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers..." (1:16)

1. What prompted Paul to include the Ephesians in his prayers? What lesson exists for us in this? (1:15-16)
2. What is the "...*spirit of wisdom and revelation...*" that Paul prays will be given to the Ephesian brethren? (1:17)
3. Part of Paul's prayer for the Ephesians is "...*that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened...*" (NASB). If they are already Christians, have they not already been enlightened?(1:18)
4. Discuss:
  - "...*the hope of His calling...*"(1:18)
  - "...*the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints...*"(1:18)
  - "...*the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe...*"(1:19)



# Saved By Grace Through Faith

## EPHESIANS 2:1-10

“...by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God...” (2:8)

1. What is the difference between a Christian and a non-Christian? (2:1-6)
2. What is the “...course of this world...”? Who is the “...prince of the power of the air...”? (2:2-3)
3. The phrase “...were by nature children of wrath...” has been used by some to affirm that we are born depraved. Show from other Bible texts that this is not the case. (2:3)
4. How should the phrase, “...were by nature children of wrath...” be understood? (2:3)
5. What things does the apostle identify as being responsible for our salvation? (2:4-8)

<b>“In Christ”, we are</b>	
#	made alive together (2:5)
#	raised up together (2:6)
#	made to sit together in heavenly places (2:6)
#	shown the exceeding riches of His grace (2:7)
#	created for good works (2:10)
#	brought near God and His promises (2:12-13)
#	made a new man (2:14-15)
#	fitted together as a holy temple (2:20-22)
6. Paul speaks of three things which happened to us in Christ (past tense). Discuss each:  
- “...made us alive together with Christ...” (2:5)

- "...raised us up together (with Christ)..." (2:6)

- "...made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus..." (2:6)

7. What is "...the ages to come..."? What difference, if any, is there in "...the riches of His grace..." (1:7) and "...the exceeding riches of His grace..."? (2:7)

**"...ages...", Gr. *aion*:**

- # "...not only in this age [aion]..." (1:21)
- # "...the course [aion] of this world..." (2:2)
- # "...that in the ages [aion] to come..." (2:7)
- # "...from the beginning of the ages [aion]..." (3:9)
- # "...the eternal [aion] purpose..." (3:11)
- # "...forever [aion] and ever [aion]..." (3:21)
- # "...darkness of this age [aion]..." (6:12)

8. Is salvation by faith alone, excluding all works? Explain. (2:8-9)

9. What part do good works have in the life of a Christian? (2:10)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# Reconciliation In Christ

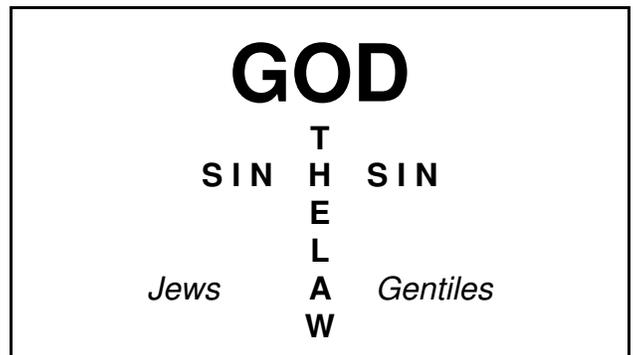
## EPHESIANS 2:11-22

"For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation..." (2:14)

1. What two classes of people does Paul identify? What differences exist between these two peoples? (2:11-12)

2. What has the Gentile been brought near to? How? (2:13)

3. What was "...the middle wall of separation..."? How did it create enmity? How was it removed? (2:14-16)



4. What other Bible texts show that this "...middle wall of separation..." has been removed?

5. What message came through Christ to both "...you who were afar off and to those who were near..."? Who are those "afar off" and those "near"? (2:17-18)

6. Three terms are used to describe Christians, “...*citizens...*”, “...*saints...*”, and “...*members of the household of God.*” Discuss the relevance of each. (2:19)
  
7. How are we built on “...*the foundation of the apostles and prophets...*”? (2:20)
  
8. What is the purpose of a “...*chief cornerstone...*”? How does Jesus serve in this capacity? (2:20)
  
9. What is the purpose of the building Paul describes in the context? What makes it fit for this purpose? (2:21-22)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# The Mystery Of Christ

## EPHESIANS 3:1-13

“...by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)...” (3:3-4)

1. This chapter begins with “*For this reason...*” For what reason? **(3:1)**

2. “*For this reason...*”, Paul does what? **(3:1, 14)**

3. What is a “*dispensation*”? What was Paul’s dispensation? **(3:2)**

### **The Mystery:**

- # “...He made known to me the mystery...” (3:3)
- # “...you may understand my knowledge in the mystery...” (3:4)
- # “...make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery...” (3:9)

4. Unveil the mystery. What is the mystery in this context? **(3:3-9)**

5. Paul makes two statements which are important regarding the revelation of, and our ability to understand God’s word. Discuss these points. **(3:4-5)**

6. What is “...*the gift of the grace of God given to me [Paul] by the effective working of His power...*”? **(3:7-8)**

7. Why does Paul consider himself to be “...*less than the least of all the saints...*” (3:8)
  
8. If the “...*riches of Christ...*” are “...*unsearchable...*”, how can Paul suppose to preach them? (3:8-9)
  
9. How is the “...*manifold wisdom of God...*” made known to whom? (3:10-11)
  
10. What benefits are found in Christ for the child of God? (3:12-13)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# I Bow My Knees

## EPHESIANS 3:14-21

“...I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named...” (3:14-15)

1. What is the reason for Paul’s prayer? (3:14)
2. What is “...*the whole family in heaven and earth...*”? What is the name which is given to the whole family? (3:15)
3. The primary aim or request of Paul on behalf of the Ephesians is “...*that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man...*” Discuss what this statement means, and how it is affected. (3:16)
4. The things listed in 3:17-19 could be considered either further requests in Paul’s prayer, or results from his primary request being answered. Discuss the meaning and importance of each:
  - “...*that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...*”
  - “...*that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height...*”

- "...to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge..."

- "...that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

5. How does Paul speak about the power of God and His care for those who serve Him? How does God work this power and care? (3:20)
  
6. Paul concludes his prayer saying, "...to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." How will this glory be accomplished? Discuss the phrase "...to all generations, forever and ever." (3:21)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

"...now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places..."

### **THE CHURCH**

**Jews & Gentiles**

**Rich & Poor**

**Educated & Uneducated**

**Male & Female**

All enter the same way, all are promised the same blessings,  
all are part of one body, all glorify God in the church.

# Walk Worthy Of The Calling

## EPHESIANS 4:1-16

"I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called..." (4:1)

1. What motivates Paul to beseech a worthy walk? What is the "...calling with which you were called..." (4:1)

### Seven Walks Of Ephesians

- # walking in lust and sin (2:2)
- # walking in good works (2:10)
- # walking worthy (4:1)
- # walking different from the Gentiles (4:17)
- # walking in love (5:2)
- # walking in light (5:8)
- # walking circumspectly (5:15)

2. Discuss each of the attitudes Paul identifies as being essential for this worthy walk (4:2):  
- "...with all lowliness and gentleness..."

- "...with longsuffering..."

- "...bearing with one another in love..."

3. What is "...the unity of the Spirit..."? How is this unity to be attained and maintained? (4:3)

4. Discuss each "one" identified in the text:

- "...one body..."

- "...one faith..."

- "...one Spirit..."

- "...one baptism..."

- "...one hope..."

- "...one God and Father..."

- "...one Lord..."

5. Why begin **verse 7** with the word “*but*”? What gifts does Paul speak about? When were these gifts given? (**4:7-10**)
  
6. Define each of the offices/duties which Paul reveals in the church (**4:11**).
  - “*...apostles...*”
  - “*...pastors...*”
  
  - “*...prophets...*”
  - “*...teachers...*”
  
  - “*...evangelists...*”
  
7. Why were these given in the church? What is the desired result of the work they engage in before the Lord? (**4:12-14**)
  
  
8. Discuss the personal responsibility demanded of every saint. (**4:12, 15-16**)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# No Longer Walk As The Rest Of The Gentiles Walk

## EPHESIANS 4:17-32

"...you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God..." (4:17-18)

1. What has caused the futile walk of the Gentiles? Discuss the words used to describe them. (4:17-19)

"...no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk..."	
FORMERLY	NOW
futile minds (4:17)	renewed minds (4:23)
darkened understanding (4:18)	understand the Lord's will (5:17)
alienated from God (4:18)	created according to God (5:24)
ignorant and blind (4:18)	taught (4:21)
past feeling (4:19)	kind, tenderhearted and forgiving (4:32)
the old man (4:22)	the new man (4:24)

2. How had the Ephesians "...heard...and...been taught by Him..."? (4:20-21)

3. What does it mean to be "...renewed in the spirit of your mind..."? What is the "...new man..." we are to put on? (4:22-24)

4. What admonition is given to liars and thieves? What does the Bible say about lying and stealing? (4:25, 28)

5. How can one “...*be angry, and...not sin...*”? What does it mean to “...*not let the sun go down on your wrath...*”? (4:26)
  
6. What does it mean to “...*give place to the devil...*”? How can we avoid giving place to the devil? (4:27)
  
7. Why must the child of God guard his lips? (4:29)
  
8. How might one “...*grieve the Holy Spirit...*”? What important fact about the Holy Spirit can be understood from this and other texts? (4:30)
  
9. Define the evils mentioned and discuss the necessary replacements to these in the child of God. (4:31-32)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# Walk In Love... Light... Wisdom

## EPHESIANS 5:1-21

“...walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us... You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light... walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise...” (5:2, 8, 15)

1. In what are we to be “...imitators of God...” (5:1-2)
2. Define each of the following. Why should none of these be found in the child of God? (5:3-8)
  - “...fornication...”
  - “...filthiness...”
  - “...uncleanness...”
  - “...foolish talking...”
  - “...covetousness...”
  - “...coarse jesting...”
3. Discuss Paul’s use of “darkness” and “light”. Where else in the Bible do we see these terms used? How can we “...walk as children of light...”? (5:8-10)
4. What is the fruit of the Spirit? Define the words which are listed. (5:9)
5. How should the child of God view the wicked and their deeds? (5:11-13)

6. Where is the quote in **5:14** from? What does this verse mean? (**5:14**)  
[Note - this text, in conjunction with the quoted text serves as a solid proof text that Jesus is Jehovah]
  
7. What are the marks of a circumspect walk? (**5:15-17**)
  
8. How does one “...redeem(ing) the time...”(**5:16**)
  
9. What does it mean to be “...filled with the Spirit...”? (**5:18**)
  
10. What things does Paul identify as evidence that one is “...filled with the Spirit...”? (**5:18-21**)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# Wives, Submit... Husbands, Love...

## EPHESIANS 5:22-33

"Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord... Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her..." (5:22, 25)

1. Define the following words:

- "...submit..."

- "...love..."

- "...head..."

- "...respect..."

2. To what degree ought a woman submit to her husband? Why? (5:22-24)

3. Discuss the scope, limitations and implications of this command.

4. To what degree ought a man love his wife? Why? (5:25-28)

5. Discuss the scope of his responsibility in regard to his wife, especially regarding spiritual things.

6. What does it mean, “...*he who loves his wife loves himself*”? (5:28-30)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What does Paul call a “*great mystery*” in the context? Discuss the “*great mystery*”. (5:31-33)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Discuss the effect following this instruction will have on a marriage? What if the instruction is neglected?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Discuss the effect following this instruction will have on the church? What if the instruction is neglected?

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# Children... Bondservants... Masters...

## EPHESIANS 6:1-9

“...Children, obey your parents in the Lord... Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh... Masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening...” (6:1, 5, 9)

1. Why should children be obedient to their parents? (6:1)
2. What does it mean to “...honour your father and mother...”? Where is the command first found? Discuss the promise associated with this command. (6:2-3)
3. What is meant by “...do not provoke your children to wrath...”? Why is this command directed to fathers and not mothers? (6:4)
4. How does a father “...bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord...”? (6:4)
5. Search for other Bible texts which deal with parenthood and discuss.
6. Why should we study about “...bondservants...” and “...masters...”? (6:5-9)

7. What attitudes are to encompass a servant's relationship to his master? **(6:5-7)**
  
8. Notice, the emphasis placed on the Christ in this text about servants. What is the purpose for such emphasis? **(6:5-8)**
  
9. Only one verse is addressed to masters, but a great deal is said in it. What is meant by the words, "*...do the same things to them...*" **(6:9)**
  
10. What other principles does Paul specifically mention which should govern the conduct of masters? **(6:9)**

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

# The Whole Armour Of God

## EPHESIANS 6:10-24

"Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (6:11)

1. What is the purpose of Paul's introductory words to this final section of his letter to the Ephesians? Why repeat himself so much? (6:10-11, 13)
2. The apostle identifies our enemy for us. Discuss the enemy and the nature of the warfare. (6:12)

3. Label the soldier.
4. Discuss the importance of each part of the armour of God.
  - Girdle



- Breastplate

- Shod feet

- Shield of faith

- Helmet of salvation

- Sword of the Spirit

5. What is the importance of prayer to the child of God? What is the difference between “*prayer*” and “*supplication*”? (6:18)
  
6. What specific things does Paul mention that the Ephesians (and we) should be mindful of in prayer? (6:18-20)
  
7. What does it mean to “*speak boldly*”? What else do we learn from this text (and others) about our speech for the cause of Christ? (6:19-20)
  
8. Who is Tychicus? What do we know about this man? (6:21-24)

## **Lessons and principles:**

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]