



Paul's letter to the Ephesians

April 23, 2014

A. Background

Prison Epistles

- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- Philemon

- Written approximately 62-63 AD
- An _____ Letter

B. Holy Ground

5 P's: The shape of the Letter looks something like this:

_____ of God's _____

_____ for God's _____

_____ in Christ

Prayer for the _____

_____ for Daily Living

1. A Greeting...and A Key

This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus, who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus. 2 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. 3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.

Ephesians 1:1-3 (NLT)

2. An echo of days gone by...

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance [to] you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26 (ESV)

Key Verse: "...who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ."

3. Our Wealth: "Come Thou out of Every Blessing..."

We are Rich!

- We are _____

Even before He made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes.

Ephesians 1:4 (NLT)

- We are _____

God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure.

Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

- We are _____ - _____

So we praise God for the glorious grace He has poured out on us who belong to His dear Son.

Ephesians 1:6 (NLT)

- We are _____

He is so rich in kindness and grace that He purchased our freedom with the blood of His Son and forgave our sins.

Ephesians 1:7 (NLT)

- We know _____

He has showered His kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding. God has now revealed to us His mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill His own good pleasure. And this is the plan: At the right time He will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in Heaven and on earth.

Ephesians 1:8-10 (NLT)

- We have an _____

Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for He chose us in advance, and He makes everything work out according to His plan.

Ephesians 1:11 (NLT)

In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in Heaven for you

1 Peter 1:3-4 (NIV)

“I have revealed You to the ones You gave Me from this world. They were always Yours. You gave them to Me, and they have kept your word.”

John 17:6 (NIV)

- We have been _____ and given a _____

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:13-24 (NLT)

4. Our Standing: Walking Dead now Made Alive

But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:4-10 (NIV)

- We are _____ (v4)
- We are _____ forever (v7-9)
- We are made _____ (v5)
- We are _____ as a _____
- We are _____ (v6)
- _____ (v10)

5. ur Instruction: Walk This Way...

- Walk with a _____ in the _____

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called...

Ephesians 4:1 (ESV)

- Walk in _____

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart...

Ephesians 4:17-18 (ESV)

- Walk in _____

The efore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to od.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (ESV)

- Walk as a _____ of _____

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

Ephesians 5:8-9 (ESV)

- alk _____

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,

Ephesians 5:15 (ESV)

C. Common Ground

God is always at work in my life, whatever my _____ may be.

God’s _____ ultimately prevails over the plans of man.

My worth is based on what God has _____, not what I have _____.

My _____ with Jesus is _____.

God _____ love at all times, I am to _____ this to the world around me.

My _____.

I am _____ beyond _____!

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