

The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians

Ephesus was the capital of the chief province of Asia. It was located about one mile from the Aegean Sea. The temple of Diana (Artemis) was important to the commerce of the city because the Mediterranean world considered it to be such a sacred and impeccable institution that it became the chief banking establishment in all of Asia Minor. The great number of pilgrims that came to worship at the temple also bolstered the economy in Ephesus. In fact, the population is believed to have exceeded a quarter million.

Paul came to Ephesus during his second missionary journey with Aquila and Priscilla but journeyed on to Jerusalem by himself not long afterward (Acts 18:18-21). On his next missionary journey Paul spent three years in Ephesus (Acts 19). He had so much influence on the people there that the craftsman who manufactured silver shrines for Diana incited a riot against him, concerned that their trade would become obsolete (Acts 19:24-29). As a result, Paul left Ephesus, traveling to Macedonia (Acts 20:1). Upon a return trip to Jerusalem, he requested that the elders of Ephesian congregation meet with him at Miletus, a city located thirty-five miles to the south, so that he could bid them his last farewell (Acts 20:16-38).

The book of Ephesians was probably written by Paul during his imprisonment in Rome (ca. A.D. 60-64), about the same time that he wrote Colossians and Philemon. The content of the Book of Ephesians is very similar to that of Colossians; both stress doctrine and give instruction in practical Christian duties. One difference between them, however, is that Colossians portrays Christ as the head of the Church, while Ephesians goes on to display Jesus as the ascended, glorified Christ. Also, in Colossians Paul attacks the gnostic heresy; but in Ephesians, Paul examines the splendor of Christ in glory.

The major theme of this letter is that the Church (ekklesia' [1577]) is the body of Christ (Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:15, 16). Paul also metaphorically spoke of the Church as a building of which Christ is the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:20-22) and compared the Church to a bride who will soon be united with Christ (Eph. 5:21-33). The key idea is that a body has individual parts that must operate as a unit. God's plan is to bring all believers together (Eph. 1:10) with Christ as the head (Eph. 1:22, 23). (Key Word, page 1463)

Chapter 1

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

The words "at Ephesus" do not appear in several important Greek manuscripts. Consequently, many believe that this letter was not originally sent to the congregation at Ephesus, but was meant to be circulated to the many Gentile churches in Asia. This would explain why Paul would completely omit any personal greetings to believers with whom he had spent three years (Acts 19). Scholars believe that it eventually became known as the Epistle of the Ephesians because the church in Ephesus was that mother church from which the letter would have been distributed to the other churches in Asia. (Key Word, page 1463)

2 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Blessing of Redemption

3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Verses 4,5 There are two words in this passage that must be examined in order to explain the much debated subject of God's election and predestination. The first found in verse four, "he has chosen," a translation of the Greek word exelexato (1586) meaning "chosen out of." In this context, the word means that at one particular time in the past, God chose individuals for salvation (Matt. 24:31; Luke 18:7; Rom. 8:33; 2 Tim. 2:10; James 2:5).

The second verb is in verse five: proorisas (4309), "to determine beforehand or predestinate" (cf. Acts 4:28; Rom. 8:29; 9:11; 1 Pet. 1:2, 20). It is interesting that Peter referred to the concept of predestination in his sermon on the day of Pentecost. He said (speaking of Christ), "Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and be wicked hands have crucified and slain." The concept of free choice is here coupled with the responsibility for one's own actions. God delivered up His Son, and man was given the choice of what they would do with Christ. They chose to crucify Him, leaving them with the responsibility for their act.

In 1 John 2:22 the writer states, "And he is the propitiation for our sins, (i.e., believers) and not for our only, but also for the sins of the whole world." Therefore, the ministry of Christ that He did on the cross was intended for all. Repeatedly, God says that "whosoever believeth in Him" can obtain salvation (John 3:16-18, 36; Acts 10:43). To come to Christ is an invitation to all, and all who hear the gospel are responsible and without excuse if they do not accept Christ. (Key Word, page 1464)

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Grace 5485 charis, khar'-ece; from 5463; graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude): -acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace (-ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank (-s, -worthy).

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Romans 3:

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

Prudence 5428 phronesis, fron' -ay-sis; from 5426; mental action or activity, i.e. intellectual or moral insight: -prudence, wisdom.

9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

Romans 16:

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven (*Gr. The heavens*), and which are on earth; *even* in him:

Dispensation 3622 o ikovouia, oikonomia, oy-kon-om-ee'; from 3623; administration (of a household or estate); specially a (religious) "economy": -dispensation, stewardship.

11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

See note on Ephesians 1:4, 5

12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

13 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Salvation 4991 soteria, so-tay-ree'-ah; feminine of a derivative of 4990 as (properly abstract) noun; rescue or safety (physical or morally): -deliver, health, salvation, save, saving.

14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Inheritance 2817kleronomia, klay-ron-om-ee'-ah; fro 2828; heirship, i.e. (concrete) a patrimony or (genitive) a possession: -inheritance

Verses 13, 14 The phrase "the earnest of our inheritance" refers to the act of the Holy Spirit whereby He makes a pledge, providing assurance for the believer of an eternal life in Christ, which he must accept by faith. (Key Word, page 1464)

15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

Christ said in Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Quicken together with

Chapter 2

Salvation From Sin

1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Quicken 4806 suzoopoieo, sood-zo-op-oy-eh'-o; from 4862 and 2227; to reanimate conjointly with (fig.): - quicken together with.

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Ephesians 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Quickened 4806 suzoopoieo, sood-zo-op-oy-eh'-o; from 4862 and 2227; to reanimate conjointly with (fig.): - quicken together with.

6 And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

John 6:65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

2 Timothy 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained (*Or, prepared*) that we should walk in them.

No Longer Strangers

11 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

2Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.

3Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

4Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace;

Colossians 2:

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby (*Or, in himself*):

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

Zechariah 9:

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

10 And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

John 10:9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

Matthew 16:

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, *Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.*

18 And I say also unto thee, *That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,
8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Chapter 3

God's Plan

1 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,

Acts 28:17 And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:

Dispensation 3622, oikonomia, oy-kon-om-ee'-ah; from 3623; administration (of household or estate); specially a (religious) "economy": -dispensation, stewardship.

3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

Acts 22:17-21

4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

Mystery 3466, musterion, moos-tay'-ree-on; from derivative of muo (to shut the mouth); a secret or "mystery" (through the idea of silence imposed by initiation into religious rites): -mystery

5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

Minister 1249, diakonos, dee-ak'-on-os; probably from an obsolete diako (to run on errands; compare 1377); an attendant, i.e. (genitive) a waiter (at table or in other menial duties); specially a Christian teacher and pastor (technically a deacon or deaconess): -deacon, minister, servant.

8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

9 And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:s

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

Ephesians 1:9

12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

13 Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

Paul's Prayer for Ephesians

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

Ephesians 1:10

16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;

17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

Romans 10:

2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

21 Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Chapter 4

Oneness

- 1 I therefore, the prisoner of (Or, in the Lord) the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,
- 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
- 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- 4 *There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;*

This verse begins with the statement, "There is one body." Paul is emphasizing the unity of believer, specifically that Jews and Gentiles are equal in Christ. Gentiles could become Christians without having to conform to Jewish traditions. However, many Jewish Christians, who had always been prejudiced against the Gentiles, thought they were not true followers of the Messiah unless they were first circumcised, and then were obedient to the Law of Moses. The tendency for Jews was to see themselves as the center of God's plan of salvation instead of placing Christ there. Paul taught that they should view the Gentiles as their brothers in Christ, on an equal level. God is sovereign over all races, cultures, problems of humanity (e.g. social and family situations), and even the unseen beings (Eph. 3:10). God's chosen people, having been set free from sin and made to be equals by Jesus' death and resurrection, must live in the unity of Christ. (Key Word, page 1467)

- 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
- 7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Verses 8-10 This passage discusses in detail Christ's incarnation, resurrection, and ascension. In verse nine, Paul uses the phrase "Now that he ascended" to emphasize the fact that Christ ascended to heaven following his resurrection. The verse continues by stating that if Christ ascended, he obviously had to have come ("descended") to earth at a previous time. Therefore, the "descent" of Jesus "into the lower parts of the earth" is His incarnation, making it possible for Him to experience death. The "ascent" is His ascension from earth to heaven after His resurrection (John 8:23; 16:28).

In verse eight, there is some controversy over what Christ is actually "leading captive." However, the meaning of this passage is simple: Christ defeated sin and death by His resurrection, taking them captive and rendering them powerless as would a king after a victory over his enemies. The "gifts" (i.e. eternal life and forgiveness of sin) that are given to believers were consequent to Christ's defeat of sin and death. The analogy is that Christ is sharing the spoils of His ultimate victory over Satan with those who have received Him. In Psalm 68:18, David is expressing the same idea of God Almighty obtaining victory over His enemies and leading them away as captives. The gifts given by Christ (Eph. 4:8) include those things that are given to enable a Christian to live a more victorious life for Christ while on earth. (Key Word, pages 1467-1468)

- 8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.
- 9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

John 3:

11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill (*Or, fulfill*) all things.)

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Evangelists 2099, euaggelistes, yoo-ang-ghel-is-tace'; from 2097; a preacher of the gospel: - evanelist.

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Colossians 2:2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

A New Way of Thinking

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness (*Or, hardness*) of their heart:

19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

20 But ye have not so learned Christ;

21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus:

22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness *Or, holiness of truth*).

25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27 Neither give place to the devil.

28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give (*Or, to distribute*) to him that needeth.

29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying (*Or, to edify profitably*), that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Christ stated in Matthew 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

Chapter 5

Walk in Love

1 Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;

Christ stated in Matthew 5:

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

3 But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience (*Or, unbelief*).

7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them.

8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

9 (For the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*.

12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

Romans 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

13 But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.

14 Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

Isaiah 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

2For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

3And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

Circumspectly 199, akribos, ak-ree-boce': adv. From the same as roo; exactly: -circumspectly, diligently, perfect (-ly).

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord *is*.

18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Husbands and Wives

21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband.

Chapter 6

Children and Parents

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Genesis 18:19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Servants and Masters

5 Servants, be obedient to them that are *your* masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;

6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;

7 With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men:

8 Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether *he be* bond or free.

9 And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master (*Some texts read, both your and their Master*) also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him.

The Christian's Armour

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual (*Or, wicked spirits*) wickedness in high places (*Or, heavenly*).

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Ephesians 6:

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15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds (*Or, in a chain*): that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Benediction

21 But that ye also may know my affairs, *and* how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things:

22 Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and *that* he might comfort your hearts.

23 Peace *be* to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

24 Grace *be* with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity (*Or, with incorruption*).

Amen. (*To the Ephesians written from Rome, by Tychicus.*)

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