

**Welcome to**

**Journey  
through  
the Bible**



**Book by book  
Bible study**



# Ephesians

Walking Worthy  
of our  
Heavenly  
Calling

# Paul's ministry in Ephesians

- ★ Paul ministered there for three years on his 3rd missionary journey (Acts 19).
- ★ Believers received the Holy Spirit when Paul laid hands on them.
- ★ Extraordinary miracles in Paul's ministry
- ★ Converts destroyed sorcery scrolls, idols
- ★ Idol merchants started a riot interrupting Paul's ministry, but his life was spared.
- ★ Paul gave his "farewell" speech (Acts 20)

# Paul's purpose for writing Ephesians

to edify and strengthen believers by:

1. Reminding them of their high calling and privileged position in Christ
2. Explaining that the church is a body, a temple, a bride, and also a soldier!
3. Stressing unity & love because Jews and Gentiles share equality as heirs,
4. The responsibility this position carries

# Why Ephesians is so important

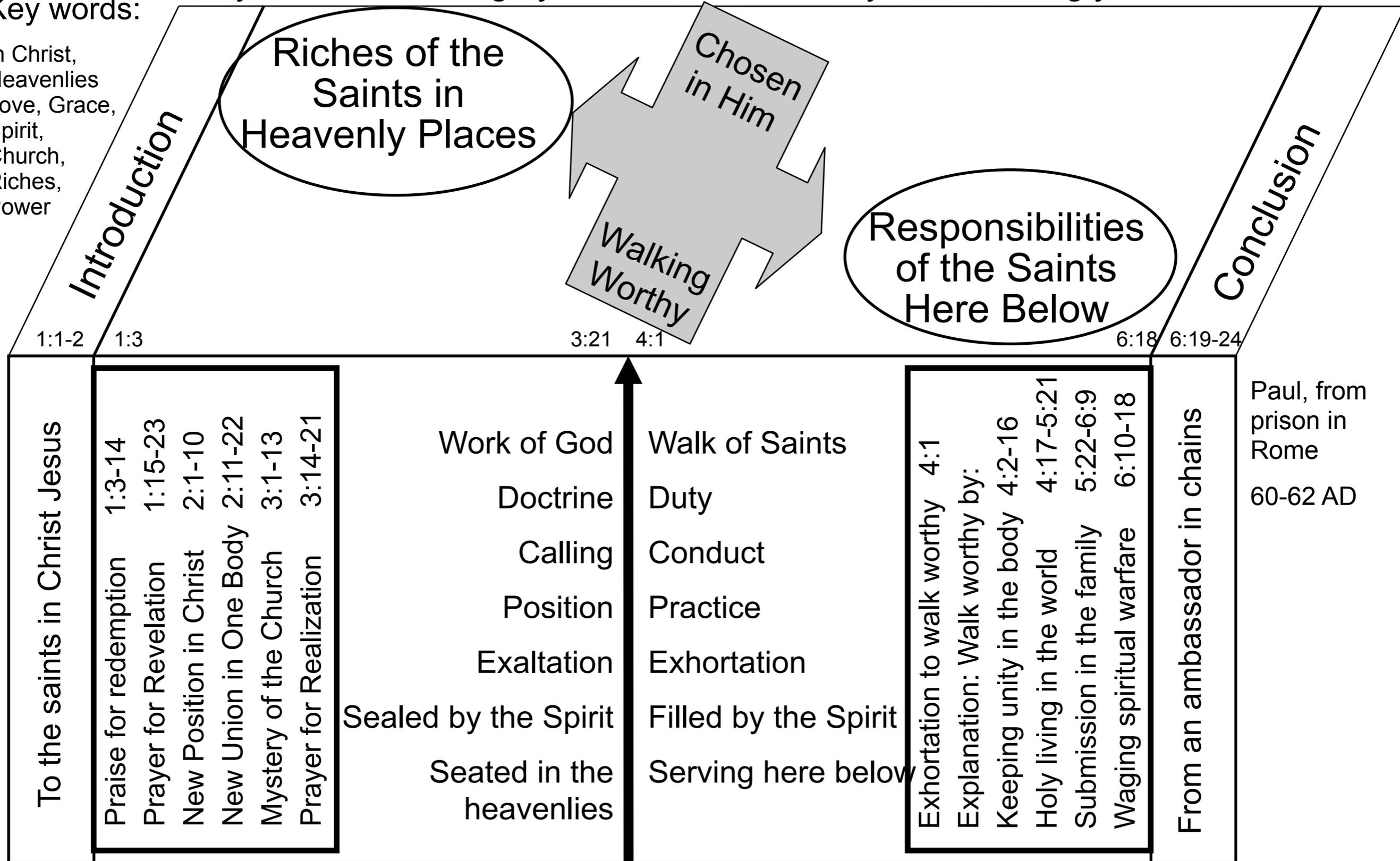
- ★ Rich in Christology and doctrine
- ★ Lofty in language and style
- ★ Special teaching on the church
- ★ Guide for christian home and family
- ★ Riches that believers have in Christ
- ★ Strategy for spiritual warfare
- ★ Explains the Spirit filled life

# EPHESIANS: Walking Worthy of Our Heavenly Calling

Key verse- 4:1: *I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.*

Key words:

In Christ,  
Heavenlies  
Love, Grace,  
Spirit,  
Church,  
Riches,  
Power



# Riches of the saints in Christ, 1-3

1. Praise for redemption in Christ: 1:3-14
2. Prayer for our comprehension: 1:15-23
3. Our new position in Christ: 2:1-10
4. Union of Jew and Gentile: 2:11-22
5. Mystery of the church as body: 3:1-13
6. Prayer for realization of riches: 3:14-21

Praise be to the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has  
blessed us in the heavenly realms  
with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

## **How has God blessed us?**

Chosen by God the Father, 1:4–6

Redeemed by Christ the Son, 1:7–12

Sealed by God the Holy Spirit, 1:13–14

**Each ends, “to the praise of His glory”**

# Chosen by God, the Father

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ—  
He chose us in him before the creation of  
the world to be holy and blameless in His  
sight. In love He predestined us for  
adoption to sonship through Jesus  
Christ, in accord with His pleasure  
and will—to the praise of His glorious  
grace, which He has freely given us in  
the One He loves. (1:4–6)

# Redeemed by Christ, the Son

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. ... having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, ... might be for the praise of his glory. (1:7–12)

# Sealed by God, the Holy Spirit

You also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed you were sealed in Him, with 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. (1:13b–14)

# 3 Things believers ought to know

“that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and the incomparably great power for us who believe.” (1:18-19)

- ★ Certainty of God’s plan for us
- ★ Riches of God’s inheritance in us
- ★ Greatness of God’s power at work in us

# Believer's new position in Christ

Our past state: dead in sins, 2:1–3

(Depravity and death)

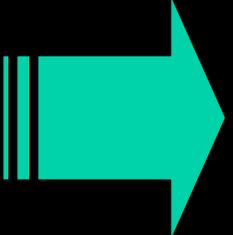
Our present: alive in Christ, 2:4-6

(Life and love)

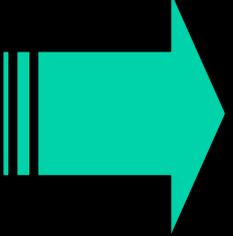
Our future: display His grace, 2:7-10

(Grace and good works)

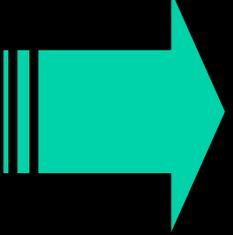
**God's grace is truly amazing!**



you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live ... we were deserving of wrath. (2:1–3)



made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. (2:4-6)



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. (2:7)

# It is all because of God's Grace

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (2:8–10)

# Remember your past without Christ

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised”... —remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship (*aliens*) in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

(2:11–12)

# Recognize your new position in Christ

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ... and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. (2:13-16)

# Our incredible benefits- “in Christ”

- every spiritual blessing in Christ, 1:3;
- chosen/predestined/adopted in Him, 1:4-5;
- given grace in the Beloved, 1:6;
- redemption through His blood, 1:7;
- given an inheritance/hope in Him, 1:11,12
- sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit, 1:13;
- made alive together with Him, 2:5;
- raised, seated in the heavenlies, 2:6
- brought near by His blood, 2:13;

# In Christ I am:

- ★ blessed, 1:3
- ★ chosen, 1:4, 11
- ★ predestined, 1:5, 11
- ★ adopted, 1:5
- ★ accepted, 1:6
- ★ redeemed, 1:7
- ★ forgiven, 1:7
- ★ enlightened, 1:8-9
- ★ given an inheritance, 1:11

# In Christ I am:

- ★ sealed by the Holy Spirit, 1:13
- ★ given a hope, 1:18
- ★ God's inheritance, 1:18
- ★ loved by God, 2:4
- ★ made alive, 2:5
- ★ saved by grace, 2:5
- ★ raised with Christ, 2:6
- ★ seated with Christ, 2:6
- ★ brought near to God, 2:13

# In Christ I am:

- ★ reconciled to God, 2:16
- ★ granted access to God the Father, 2:18
- ★ part of a holy temple, 2:21
- ★ in-dwelt by God the Holy Spirit, 2:22
- ★ an heir together with Israel, 3:6
- ★ a member of the body, the church, 3:6
- ★ able to approach God freely, 3:12
- ★ gifted for service by God, 4:7

## In Christ I am:

- ★ a new person in Christ, 4:24
- ★ forgiven by God, 4:32
- ★ light in the Lord, 5:8
- ★ able to please the Lord, 5:10
- ★ a member of the body of Christ, 5:30
- ★ engaged in spiritual warfare, 6:12
- ★ provided the full armor of God, 6:13
- ★ able to pray in every situation, 6:13
- ★ able to stand in the day of evil, 6:13

## Paul's prayer for you and me

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

(3:17–19)

# Responsibility of saints in Christ, 4-6

1. Walk worthy of your calling: 4:1-2
2. Maintain unity in the body: 4:3-16
3. Live a holy life in the world: 4:17-5:20
4. Submit to one another: 5:21-6:9
5. Wage a spiritual warfare: 6:10-18

## To “live a life worthy” of our calling

Therefore, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. (4:1–2)

## To maintain unity in the body (church)

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit,— just as you were called to one hope ... (4:3-6)

# **We are each/all gifted for growth!**

To each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ... so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ... builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (4:7-16)

# Off with the old! On with the new!

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. (4:22–24)

# Our new standard of living!

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (4:32–5:2)

# Live a Spirit filled (controlled) life!

Be very careful, then, how you live—  
not as unwise but as wise, making the  
most of every opportunity, because  
the days are evil. ... Do not get drunk  
on wine, which leads to debauchery.  
Instead, be filled with the Spirit,  
speaking to one another with psalms,  
hymns, and songs from the Spirit.

(5:15–20)

# Family life for believers- wives

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

(5:21–24)

# Family life for believers- husbands

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, ... In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— (5:25–29)

# Family life for believers- children

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother” — which is the first commandment with a promise—“so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. (6:1–4)

# Life for believers in the workplace

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. ... Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.

Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, ... (6:5-9)

# **We are engaged in spiritual warfare**

Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (6:10–12)

## **Be armed, stand your ground!**

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. (6:13)

## **Be alert! Pray always!**

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. (6:18)

See you next week!  
Philippians  
A reason to rejoice!

