NEW TESTAMENT · PAUL'S LETTERS · BOOK 49 OF 66

Ephesians

For by grace are ye saved through faith (2:8)

6	Paul	c. A.D. 60–62	1–3 · 4–6
Chapters, 155 Verses	Author (1:1)	From Prison	Believe, then Walk

STRUCTURE

The Book in Two Parts

Ephesians is in two halves. **Chapters 1–3** are about belief: what God has given us in Christ. **Chapters 4–6** are about behaviour: how we walk, beginning "I therefore" (4:1).



Each bar shows that part's share of the 155 verses.

I 1–3 · 66 verses

Our Position in Christ

Chosen, redeemed, sealed, made alive, made one.

II 4–6 · 89 verses

Our Walk in Christ

Unity, new life, love, light, the home, the armour of God.

2:6

Sit

Seated with Christ in heavenly places (2:6), saved by grace.

4:1

Walk

Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.

6:11

Stand

Stand against the wiles of the devil.

Many teachers sum up Ephesians in three words: sit (2:6), walk (4:1) and stand (6:11).

CHAPTER 1:3–14

Every Spiritual Blessing

One long hymn of praise to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Each part ends "to the praise of His glory."

> *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ"*
>
> Ephesians 1:3 (KJV)

1 1:4–6 · THE FATHER

Chose Us

"He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world," adopting us as children.

2 1:7–12 · THE SON

Redeemed Us

"Redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

3 1:13–14 · THE SPIRIT

Sealed Us

Sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, the earnest of our inheritance.

EPHESIANS AT A GLANCE · PART 2 OF 4

Saved by Grace, Made One, the Church

CHAPTER 2:1–10

Dead, Made Alive, Created for Good Works

2:1–3 · WHAT WE WERE

Dead in Sins

Following the course of this world, children of wrath.

2:4–7 · WHAT GOD DID

But God

Rich in mercy, He quickened us together with Christ.

2:10 · WHAT WE ARE FOR

His Workmanship

Created in Christ Jesus unto good works.

> *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."*
>
> Ephesians 2:8–9 (KJV)

CHAPTER 2:11–22

The Wall Broken Down

The temple in Jerusalem had a wall that kept Gentiles out of the inner courts. In Christ that division is gone.

ONCE	NOW
Without Christ, aliens from the commonwealth of Israel 2:12	**Made nigh by the blood of Christ** 2:13
Strangers from the covenants of promise 2:12	**Fellowcitizens with the saints** 2:19
Having no hope, and without God in the world 2:12	**Of the household of God** 2:19

> *"For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us"*
>
> Ephesians 2:14 (KJV)

PICTURES OF THE CHURCH

The Church in Ephesians

1:22–23; 4:15–16

A Body

Christ is the head; every member grows up into Him.

2:19

A Household

Of the household of God, His family.

2:20–22

A Temple

Built on the apostles and prophets, Christ the chief corner stone.

2:15

One New Man

Jew and Gentile made one in Christ.

3:6

The Mystery

Gentiles fellowheirs and of the same body.

5:25–27

A Bride

Loved by Christ, who gave Himself for it.

EPHESIANS 3:20–21

Exceeding Abundantly

"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, Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

EPHESIANS AT A GLANCE · PART 3 OF 4

The Walk and the Household

CHAPTERS 4–5

How to Walk

"Walk" is the key word of the second half: our daily way of life.

1 4:1
Walk Worthy
Of the vocation wherewith ye are called.

2 4:17
Not as the Gentiles
Not in the vanity of their mind.

3 5:2
Walk in Love
As Christ also hath loved us.

4 5:8
As Children of Light
Ye are light in the Lord.

5 5:15
Circumspectly
Not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time.

6 5:18
Filled with the Spirit
Singing, giving thanks, submitting one to another.

4:4–6 · ONE

"One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all"

4:32 · KIND

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

CHAPTERS 5:22–6:9

The Christian Household

Paul addresses each member of the household, and each one's duty is grounded in Christ.

5:22–24
Wives
Submit to your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

5:25–33
Husbands
Love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church.

6:1–3
Children
Obey your parents in the Lord: the first commandment with promise.

6:4
Fathers
Provoke not your children to wrath; bring them up in the nurture of the Lord.

6:5–8
Servants
Serve with good will, as to the Lord, and not to men.

6:9
Masters
Forbear threatening: your Master also is in heaven.

EPHESIANS AT A GLANCE · PART 4 OF 4

The Armour of God, Themes and Key Verse

CHAPTER 6:10–20

The Whole Armour of God

Paul, chained to a Roman soldier, describes the believer's armour for spiritual battle.

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

6:14
Girdle of Truth
Your loins girt about with truth.

6:14
Breastplate of Righteousness
Guarding the heart.

6:15
Shoes of the Gospel
Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

6:16
Shield of Faith
To quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

6:17
Helmet of Salvation
Protecting the mind.

6:17
Sword of the Spirit
Which is the word of God.

EPHESIANS 6:18
Praying Always
"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

In Christ
Every spiritual blessing is ours in Him.
1:3–14

Grace
Saved by grace through faith, not of works.
2:8–9

One Body
Jew and Gentile one new man.
2:14–16; 4:4–6

The Church
Body, household, temple and bride.
1:23; 2:19–22; 5:25

A Worthy Walk
In love, in light and in wisdom.
4:1; 5:2, 8, 15

Spiritual Warfare
Strong in the Lord, in His armour.
6:10–18

KEY VERSE

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Ephesians 2:8–9 (KJV)