



## The Book of Ephesians

### Lesson 2: Paul's Prayer for the Church / Chapter 2 – Sanctification – What He has called us to

#### 1. Prayer in Ephesians

##### Ephesians 1:16-23

This passages of scripture is a prayer that was prayed by Paul the Apostle for the believers in Ephesus.

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Wherever Paul says “you” – you can put yourself and say “me”.

##### Ephesians 1:19, 20

The mightiest working of God's power was when the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead.

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##### Romans 8:11

##### Ephesians 1:21, 22

Every principality, power, might, dominion – all the powers of Satan tried to defeat Jesus – but He rose from the dead!

He was made alive. He ascended into heaven, and He is seated at the right hand of the Father – a place of authority.

#### 2. Six things Paul prayed for

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Definition of WISDOM: Refers to practical, workable principles. This is wisdom beyond our intellect.

- Spirit of revelation in the knowledge of Him

Definition of REVELATION: The work of the Holy Spirit disclosing what and how great are the benefits of salvation.

Wisdom and revelation both come from the Holy Spirit.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- That we may know what is the hope of His calling.

The more time you spend in God's presence, the more wisdom and revelation you will have. Therefore, your mind will become clear, and you will have understanding of your call and destiny.

- That we may know what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.
- That we may know the exceeding greatness of his power to those who believe

### **Ephesians 1:19 – Amplified Bible**

*And [so that you can know and understand] what is the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of His power in and for us who believe, as demonstrated in the working of His mighty strength,*

There is nothing the power of God cannot change. That same power is in us.

### **3. Ephesians Chapter 2: Sanctification – Set aside for Him**

In chapter one, the Apostle Paul talks about who we are in Christ and what our inheritance is in Him. He writes about what God has given to us.

In chapter one, Paul gives us the prize first. Then, in chapter two, he challenges us to walk worthy of that prize.

First, we are told what we are saved FROM and then what we are saved FOR.

### **Ephesians 2:1-6**

#### **Ephesians 2:1**

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You needed to be resurrected.

#### **Ephesians 2:2**

**Ephesians 2:2 – Amplified Bible**

*In which at one time you walked [habitually]. You were following the course and fashion of this world [were under the sway of the tendency of this present age], following the prince of the power of the air. [You were obedient to and under the control of] the [demon] spirit that still constantly works in the sons of disobedience [the careless, the rebellious, and the unbelieving, who go against the purposes of God].*

Definition of WALKED ACCORDING TO THE COURSE OF THIS WORLD: Walked or lived according to the spiritual environment around you.

Before salvation we all lived under the influence of the demonic.

God has given you a new spirit. You no longer have a spirit of disobedience.

You have been separated from the world to God. You have been separated from your sin to righteousness, that you might live righteously.

**Ephesians 2:3****Ephesians 2:3 – Amplified Bible**

Among these we as well as you once lived and conducted ourselves in the passions of our flesh [our behavior governed by our corrupt and sensual nature], obeying the impulses of the flesh and the thoughts of the mind [our cravings dictated by our senses and our dark imaginings]. We were then by nature children of [God's] wrath and heirs of [His] indignation, like the rest of mankind.

You were ruled by your body and mind. It was impossible for you to live by your spirit.

You were an heir of His indignation. Now you are and heir of His blessing.

**Ephesians 2:4-6**

When Christ was made alive, we were too!

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I am sitting together with Christ in heavenly places!

This is already done. It is completed in the eyes of God.

**Ephesians 1:21**

This is where Christ is seated. This is where we are seated with Him!

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Many Christians do not understand this.

They do not understand their position.

If we lived and prayed from a revelation of our position in Christ, no demon would be able to stand against us.

### **Ephesians 1:21, 22**

Christ was raised and I was raised.

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Jesus was raised and seated at the right hand of the Father far above all demon powers. This shows us Christ's authority. The Head has authority.

However, you cannot separate the Head from the Body.

When Jesus (the Head) was raised and seated – we (the Body) were also raised and seated. That means the authority given to Jesus was given to us!

You and I, as believers, \_\_\_\_\_

We, as the Body, are Christ. We are Christ. We are the Body of Christ.

If we would get a revelation of the authority we have, we would rise up and do the works of Christ.

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Wherever He is seated – that is where we are seated.

Wherever the Head is – the Body will be in the same place.

He is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

That authority belongs to us! We were made to sit with Him on His throne.

That means – without question – we possess the authority that comes with sitting on that throne.

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### **Ephesians 1:23 – Amplified Bible**

*Which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all [for in that body lives the full measure of Him Who makes everything complete, and Who fills everything everywhere with Himself].*

The church is the full measure of Jesus in the earth.

**Ephesians 2:7-10**

Definition of WORKMANSHIP: A design produced by an artist. We get the English word “poem” from this Hebrew word.

Why did we get saved? – To do good works.

Good works did not get you saved, but they should be something you want to do after salvation.

Definition of GOOD: Good in the moral sense; attractive

Definition of WORKS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 2:11**

Remember where you came from. You were outside of God’s covenant. Now you have been brought into covenant with God.

**Psalm 40:2****Ephesians 2:12-18**

These verses are about how we, as believers, are now in covenant with God. We were strangers to the covenant and lived far away from God, but the blood of Jesus brought us into covenant and into God’s family.

**Ephesians 2:14-18 – New Living Translation**

**Ephesians 2:14** *For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.*

**Ephesians 2:15** *He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups.*

**Ephesians 2:16** *Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.*

**Ephesians 2:17** *He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near.*

**Ephesians 2:18** *Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us.*

The Ephesians were Gentiles. Paul was telling them that they are now part of the Body of Christ.

The prejudice between Gentiles and Jews was extreme. It was greater than anything we see in today's society. That is why when Jesus talked to the Samaritan woman, she was shocked. The Jew and the Gentile could not eat together, worship together, or intermarry.

This passage tells us that Christ came to the Jews and Gentiles.

There is no room for prejudice!

### **Ephesians 2:14**

In this verse, Paul is speaking about a wall or fence that separated Jews and Gentiles.

A six-foot high wall separated the court of the Jews from the court of the Gentiles in the temple.

If a Gentile crossed that wall they would be put to death.

Jews always wanted to be separated from Gentiles. Their rites, laws, and customs made a separation between them and Gentiles. This is what Paul is referring to when he mentions the "middle wall of separation".

Christ tore this wall down and created a New Covenant for both Jews and Gentiles.

To emphasize this, the literal veil in the temple was torn in two. This indicated that the way into the presence of God was available to all people.

Jesus was saying, "I have a plan for the church. This is how I am going to bring every tribe, kindred, and tongue together. They are not all just going to heaven, but they are going to bring heaven to earth. They are going to fill local churches across the world so that the earth can look at the church and know the only thing that could bring all of these different people together is God."

### **Ephesians 2:16**

### **Ephesians 2:17, 18**

Everyone comes to God through Jesus.

We (both Gentile and Jew) can come to the Father.

### **Ephesians 2:18 – King James Version**

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

Definition of ACCESS:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Access
- Unhindered approach

### **Ephesians 2:19**

We are not stranger and foreigners to the Kingdom of God.

Definition of HOUSEHOLD: Family

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The church should be a place where people feel like they belong.

During this time, there were people who were preaching that Gentiles are like stepchildren to God and they are not “real” Jews. But according to God, a real Jew is a believing person, no matter what their nationality or DNA.

Paul told them – you are “of the household of God”. Not just God’s house – but His household. This is describing a family.

All Gentiles were no longer strangers.

When Paul opens his letter to the Ephesians in Ephesians 1:1, 2 he makes this point.

### **Ephesians 1:1, 2**

The word “grace” is “charis” in Greek. This is the word that was used when Gentiles greeted each other. The word “peace” is “shalom”. This was the customary way the Jews brought greetings. Paul included both of these when he introduced the letter to the Ephesians.

### **Ephesians 2:20-22**

Why were the Jews and Gentiles being fit together? – Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

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