

## AN INTRODUCTION TO EPHESIANS (Ephesians 1:1-2)

### I. BACKGROUND TO THE BOOK

### II. PAUL'S PURPOSE IN WRITING

#### A. The *Focus Or Purpose For Writing Is ...*

- 1) To understand or grasp that the \_\_\_\_\_ Church or the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ is part of God's \_\_\_\_\_ for mankind.
- 2) Some see Christian \_\_\_\_\_ in the church to be the issue or point of this epistle
- 3) Others say that Paul emphasized the need for \_\_\_\_\_ within the body

### III. HOW THE CHURCH WAS ESTABLISHED (There are several thoughts about its establishment):

- 1) On the Day of \_\_\_\_\_, when the Church was born, there were people from many nations in Jerusalem who heard "*the wonderful works of God*" as proclaimed by the apostles. Perhaps the visitors of these nations carried the \_\_\_\_\_ back to Asia and it's capital in Ephesus
  - 2) Paul had come to Ephesus at the end of his \_\_\_\_\_ missionary journey. He could have brought the \_\_\_\_\_ to these people at this time (Acts 18:18-21)
  - 3) A third possibility was through \_\_\_\_\_ coming to Ephesus to preach (Acts 18:24-26)
  - 4) The fourth possibility was at Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ to Ephesus on his \_\_\_\_\_ missionary journey. (Acts 19)
- What was the *difference* between Apollos message and that of Paul?
  - What is it that *saves* a lost sinner?
  - What was the *result* of what the Ephesians heard from Paul? (19:4-5)

### IV. WHAT WILL WE SEE IN EPHESIANS?

- A. Its *Extent Or Scope* – it is addressed to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ – Christians \_\_\_\_\_ concerning their place in God's \_\_\_\_\_ plan!
- B. The *Content of Ephesians* – it speaks of the \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ of the believer in Christ!
- C. Its *Emphasis* – is on our heavenly \_\_\_\_\_ (chp 1-3) and our earthly \_\_\_\_\_ (chp 4-6) in Christ!

- The key phrase of Ephesians is that we are ... “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” (12x)

**D. The Central Thought of Ephesians is 2-fold:**

1. Christ is set forth as the \_\_\_\_\_ of His Church... meaning... He makes the Church complete as He \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ it to control it for God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_!
2. On the other hand, Christ is \_\_\_\_\_ w/o His \_\_\_\_\_ - the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ!

**E. Some Truths To Take With You Today**

1. Jesus Christ is our \_\_\_\_\_ & very \_\_\_\_\_ in the Church today – yet we must \_\_\_\_\_ in Him by \_\_\_\_\_ to draw upon His resources for \_\_\_\_\_ in life!
2. What Christ is to the church completely covers our past \_\_\_\_\_, our present \_\_\_\_\_, and our future \_\_\_\_\_!
3. You will see the \_\_\_\_\_ at work for \_\_\_\_\_, the believer, in the epistle to the Ephesians

**V. Paul’s Introduction and Greeting (1:1-2)**

**A. The Human Author Is... \_\_\_\_\_**

- How did he become an apostle?

**B. The Recipients...**

1. They are the “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”.... those who live in \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_
2. They are the “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”.... the ones who show themselves \_\_\_\_\_ in life

- What is their spiritual address?

**C. The Greeting (1:2) – 2 aspects**

- \_\_\_\_\_ to you .... and \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Although Written by Paul, This Teaching Is Really From... (1:2b) ... \_\_\_\_\_**

Ephesians teaches us that the Church of Jesus Christ is part of God's \_\_\_\_\_, and it prospers & grows as a result of \_\_\_\_\_ working through believer's, even to \_\_\_\_\_ their spiritual \_\_\_\_\_!