

# ephesians

## CHAPTER 1. BLESSING THE LORD

- the entire chapter 1 showed how Paul the apostle is blessing the Lord.
- Blessing the LORD means:
  - we mention what the Lord has done
  - an expression of worship to honor the Lord
  - we are thanking the Lord
  - a Jewish style of prayer
- Ephesians 1:3-6 are the blessings we have through the Father.
- Ephesians 1:7-12 are the blessings we have through the Son.
- Ephesians 1:13-14 are the blessings we have through the Holy Spirit
- "Heavenly Places" or "Heavenly Realm":
  - Christians are already beneficiaries of every spiritual blessing that belong to the heavenly realm
  - all blessings are eternal, not temporal
  - the blessings solely come from God and not from the goddess Artemis

## THE LORD CHOSE US

- This is an emphasis that we cannot get salvation just because we wanted to.
- we are saved because we are recipients of God's Grace — not because we deserve it but because of His immense love for us.

*we are as one body as the church*

**"IN CHRIST"**

- we are redeemed
- we are recipients of God's grace
- we are heirs to eternal life
- we are sanctified
- we are inseparable from God's Love

*we are set free from the law of sin and death*

## How to receive these?

**COMPLETE SURRENDER TO THE LORD!**

- we have to admit that we alone cannot save ourselves.
- It cannot be earned, but freely given to us
- no religious, moral, or intellectual effort can gain it.

Author: Paul the Apostle  
Audience: The church at Ephesus  
The Blueprint: Unity in Christ (1:1-3:21)  
Unity in the Body of Christ (4:1-6:24)  
Megathemes: God's purpose, Christ at the center, Living Church, New Family, Christian Conduct.



## THE LORD WANTS US TO BE SAVED.

- Ever since **SIN** entered us, humans, God's magnificent plan to save us was **made known**. (John 3:16)

→ both in OT & NT

- As humans, with limits and terrible tendencies, we always forget how God has saved us through our darkest moments in our lives.
- Just like the Ephesians, who knew about Jesus and how He has already paid for our sins by dying on the cross, we are still in need of constant reminders on how important these events are.
- It has been always easy on the mouth to say that we **depend and trust in Jesus**, but the truth is, apart from the Holy Spirit, we will always have this **to see is to believe** mentality.
- we also try to find tangible and visible items or persons to objectify our faith EVEN THOUGH we know that we must not worship any man-made idols.
- The apostle Paul wants us to have a personal and deeper knowledge of Jesus so that we won't easily be swayed by the noise and distractions.
- we are to completely trust and put assurance on our faith — yes, even if the future is uncertain and unseen.

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## CHAPTER 2.

### I AM MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST

- ↳ Truly, apart from Christ, we are sinful in nature.
- ↳ All people, without any exemptions, commit **SIN**.
- ↳ **RELATIVE TRUTH**: we compare our sins to other people whom we know won't be at par with us — Criminals.
- ↳ **ABSOLUTE TRUTH**: no matter big & small sin, **SIN IS SIN**. No one is good enough to earn salvation.
- ↳ only through being in Christ's perfect life can we become good in God's sight.



the penalty of sin & its power are no longer binding us  
↳ Through faith in Christ, we stand acquitted,  
**NOT GUILTY** before God.  
↳ all of our PAST, PRESENT, and FUTURE sins are washed clean by Jesus' precious blood.

- ↳ only Christ as the perfect sacrifice to remove our sins completely.
- ↳ Christ died so that we may live.

## RESURRECTION

- ↳ because Christ resurrected, we know that our bodies will also be raised from the dead. (1 Cor. 15: 2-23)
- ↳ we are given the power to live as Christians now.
- ↳ we are dead to sin and to our sinful nature but alive in Christ.
- ↳ Living a Christian life will not make us **SINLESS** but will make us **SIN LESS and LESS**.
- ↳ our eternal life is made certain because we are united in His powerful victory.

## SALVATION IS A FREE GIFT

- ↳ even if this is given freely as a gift, we often times feel the urge to earn it one way or the other.
- ↳ we become Christians through **unmerited grace** of God — not by our efforts, not by good works, and not by our own choice.

## we are saved to serve others

- ↳ God wanted us to save others by sharing the Gospel and the good news of salvation.
- ↳ God never saved us only for ourselves but to serve building His church.
- ↳ Since God is our **CREATOR**, only Him who can change our hearts, only Him who can save us, only Him who can revive us spiritually.
- ↳ we need constant reminders not to be like the **Jews** and **Gentiles** who have **SPIRITUAL PRIDE**.
  - ↳ trusts only their achievements, power, & positions.
  - ↳ thinks their faith & traditions elevated them above everyone else.
- ↳ **SPIRITUAL PRIDE** blinds us from our faults & only sees the fault of others.

## WE ARE ONE CHURCH

- ↳ A church is not a building.
- ↳ It is a group of people.
- ↳ we are all citizens of God's Kingdom and members of His household.
- ↳ The Lord wants to break all barriers built by pride and wants all of us to live harmoniously together in truth & love.
- ↳ God wants everyone to be saved that's why salvation only comes from Him and Him alone.
- ↳ A great reminder not to take any salvation for granted & not to waste time not making it known to everyone.
- ↳ A proper response for the gift of salvation is to produce the fruit of the Holy Spirit & result in good works.

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## CHAPTER 3.

### I AM PART OF GOD'S MARVELOUS PLANS

- All in God's perfect timing, everything will be revealed and by all means.
  - plans of making the Good News known by everyone - through prophets & apostles.
- The apostle Paul - former Saul - became one of the most prolific Apostles of the LORD.
- Paul regarded himself as a lesser version of Jesus' disciples because he never walked with Jesus and His teachings.
- All of Paul's wisdom came from the LORD and he followed ever since.
- He never walked, ate, and sat with Jesus and the disciples - in fact, he has been known as a great persecutor of Christians.
- Just like the Apostle Paul, I am not worthy to preach the Gospel if you would only look at my past life.
- Only by God's grace I am transformed and my heart changed.
- The Apostle Paul got locked up for preaching the Gospel but it did not stop him from reaching far regions through his letters and trusted missionaries.
- I think I can be a modern-day Paul by sharing God's intentionality & Jesus' love through my blog and journals.

The prison didn't stop Paul from preaching the Good News.

### What's stopping me?

- I have been saved by grace through faith - the proper response is to make it known by others.
- No role is too small or too big to be part of God's plans.

## THERE IS POWER IN THE NAME OF JESUS

- Paul emphasizes that there's truly an immeasurable power as Jesus' believers.
- Paul also emphasizes that there's blessings in obedience.
- The Ephesians are called to unite in Christ and obey.
- How do I train my heart to be like the Apostle Paul? He had visited the Ephesian church multiple times and yet he genuinely cares for not just the Ephesians but to all churches he had planted. How do I make preaching the Good News my burden?
- God's love is unimaginable and the reward of heaven is an overwhelming thought but we are saved not only for ourselves, but also help others get saved as well.
- God equips whom He calls. You just have to be available for Him.
- This is a great reminder of God's plans and vision for the Christians - TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

your LOVE is HIGHER than the skies up above.

your LOVE is WIDER than what I could ever dream of.

your LOVE is DEEPER it's the greatest of all.

- may the Lord continue to use me in building His church through the numerous talents He had bestowed upon me.
- may I continue to live as a testament of God's mercy and grace.
- may the Holy Spirit continue to guide me in leading my disciples as well.

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## how to live a CHRISTIAN LIVING



### CHAPTER 4. UNITE & MATURE

- As we are saved by the Lord, we are reminded that our new life should not be wasted.
- Just as it is said in **Galatians 5:13**, we are called to be free — not to indulge the flesh, but to serve one another humbly in love.
- We are reminded not to forget who and why we are saved.
- I am a follower of Christ, a godly wife, a daughter to my parents, a leader to my DGroup, a servant in Christ's ministry, a sister in Christ in my DGroup Network, a manager to my team, an employee, an online citizen with a platform.
- I must use all of these to help build the church and not for personal gains.
- Being completely humble and gentle, being patient and bearing with one another in LOVE is something I need to work on.
- This speaks immensely on my character and limitations as were human. Goal: to be like Jesus
- Make every **EFFORT** to be at peace with everyone. This is acting out our faith

**ONE**

- Body
- Spirit
- Hope
- Love
- Faith
- Baptism
- God
- Father

**FOR ALL.**

- And to each one of us, **GRACE** has been given.
- Who Am I not to forgive and extend the grace? It is honestly not easy, but a continuous work in progress.
- Continue to be surrounded with fellow Christians, always be accountable and consistently attend DGroups — All of these will help us grow and mature in our faith.
- We are to not be infants in faith forever, but to grow and mature spiritually in order to chew and digest God's words better.
- Continue to seek wisdom from elders and leaders.

- Never forget to include the LORD in our lives. Life without God is useless and has no meaning (**Ecc 6:10-12**)
- Continuously living without the LORD will make us grow farther and farther away from Him.
- Our faith also become calloused and the Holy Spirit inside us become weaker and weaker — eventually allowing us to stumble in our faith.
- We are reminded to live as NEW BEINGS because it is no longer us alone but with Christ in us (**Galatians 2:20-21**) and that we should no longer conform to the ways of the world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds (**Romans 12:2**)
- We must die to self and live towards Christ likeness.

**always speak IN TRUTH & LOVE**

- Always look after fellow Christians and rebuke if necessary as long as it is done in truth and in love.

**in your anger DO NOT SIN**

- Never allow the devil to create footholds on you.
- Never allow purely emotions to run our decision-making and on how we speak
- Avoid making promises when you are happy and avoid making drastic decisions when you are mad.

**be kind and compassionate FORGIVE EACH OTHER just as Christ God forgave you**

- help others build the church
- be the salt and light to the workplace, to your family, and to your friends.
- Get rid of **anger, bitterness, rage, brawling, slander, and any form of malice.**
- All are works in progress but we are to allow and fully depend on the Holy Spirit to guide us moment by moment by moment. (**Galatians 5:16**)

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SUBMIT to one another  
out of reverence for Christ.

## CHAPTER 5

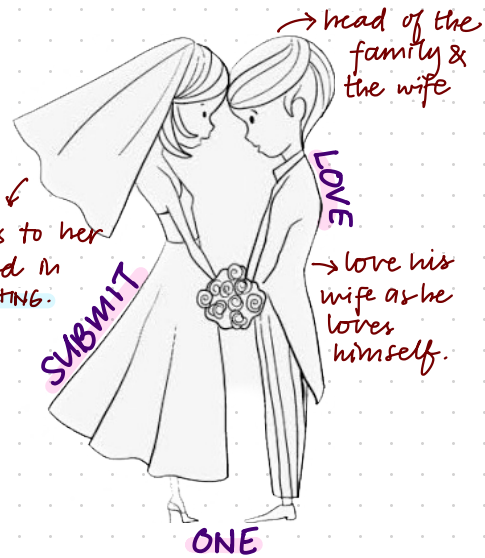
### WALK IN THE WAY OF LOVE

- ↳ we are reminded to follow God's example.
- ↳ we are called to **walk in the way of LOVE** like how Jesus showed His love for us. (Romans 5:8)
- ↳ Just like Jesus who died for us, we are to **die to ourselves and follow Him**.
- ↳ **Dying to self means:**
  - to have a forgiving spirit even though we see them unworthy of forgiveness, but hey, so do we.
  - to live putting others first.
  - to deny the desires of our flesh
  - to be the salt and light even in despair and brokenness
  - to live by your testimony of grace and salvation

- ↳ the apostle Paul reminded us that since we already know Christ, we should continue to live in the light.
- ↳ we should be careful in dealing with other people. we are not to conform instead, we are to expose them. Exposing means bringing light to the dark.

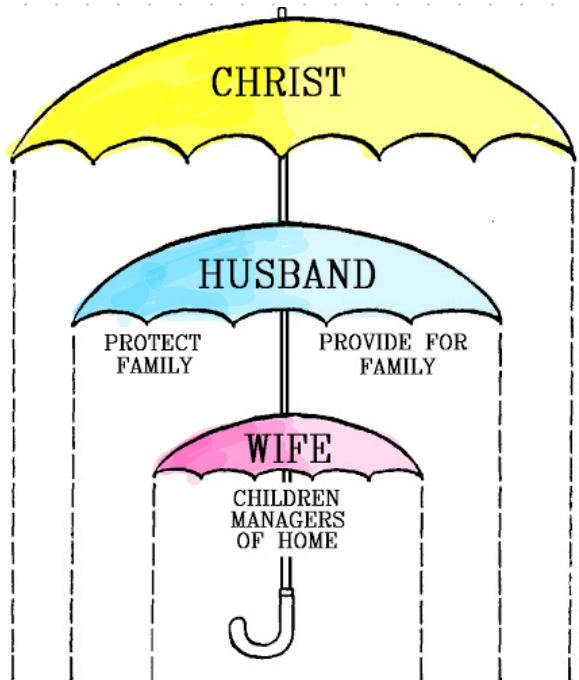
**be CAREFUL** how you **live**  
 don't be foolish ← **live** → always be wise

- ↳ let us not act thoughtlessly.
- ↳ always seek God's will = alignment  
 → "do not get drunk with wine" means:
  - do not do things that would make you lose control over your mind and body.
  - **wine** can also be your job, vices, lust, gambling, Netflix, social media, etc.
- ↳ always be **spirit-filled** (Galatians 5:16)



**LEAVE** your parents physically  
**CLEAVE** together; commit to staying together no matter what.  
**WEAVE** into being one.

## the DIVINE order



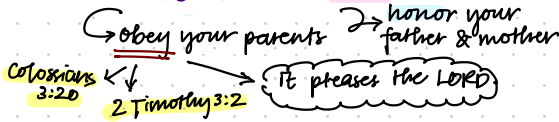


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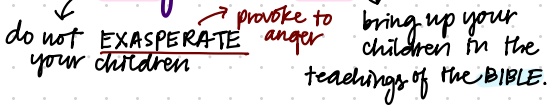
## CHAPTER 6.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLDS

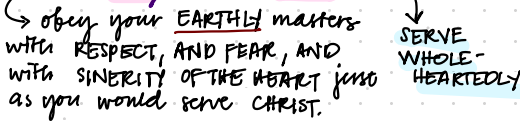
#### children



#### fathers

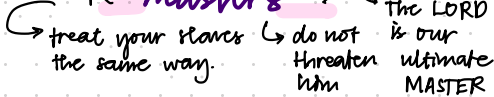


#### slaves



#### Titus 2:9

#### masters



→ The Apostle Paul impressed to us that the reciprocal attitude is important just like in Ephesians 5.

→ Treat others just how we would treat Jesus.  
 → we are constantly reminded to see Christ from others — family, work, friends, and even strangers.

→ Ephesians 6:1-9 also shows God's design on living harmoniously with others.

→ no matter role you have in the family, the work place, and in the society, we are to remain grounded and rooted in God's words.

→ the LORD will always be the ultimate master and father to each and everyone of us.

→ All of these PLEASES God, IT PROFITS us, and REQUIRES TRAINING & DISCIPLINE.

## WE ARE IN A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

### PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

BELT OF TRUTH

HELMET OF SALVATION

SANDALS OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

SHIELD OF FAITH

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Isaiah 11:5 ←

TRUTH ←

BELT OF TRUTH

→ Isaiah 59:17

→ RIGHTEOUSNESS

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Isaiah 52:7 ←

GOSPEL OF PEACE ←

SANDALS OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

→ Psalm 35:2; Isaiah 21:5

→ FAITH

SHIELD OF FAITH

Isaiah 59:17 ←

SALVATION ←

HELMET OF SALVATION

→ Isaiah 49:2

→ SPIRIT / WORD OF GOD / PRAYER

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT