



EPHESIANS THE HIGHLIGHTS REEL

**Martyn Saunders,
St Philip and St James Church,
Sunday 10th February 2019**

EPHESIANS BACKGROUND

- **Matthew 4:23** Jesus went through out Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom.
- **Matthew 10:5** The twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles...”
- **Luke 7:4** “This man deserves to have you do this because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue” (centurion and his servant)

EPHESIANS BACKGROUND

- **“Go and make disciples of all nations”
Matthew 28:19**
- **Acts 2 – Pentecost “God fearing Jews from every nation...”**

EPHESIANS BACKGROUND

- Acts 10 Peter's vision, then goes to the house of a Gentile, Cornelius
- v45 : “the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit has been poured out even on Gentiles.”
- Peter explains, Council of Jerusalem – Acts 15

EPHESIANS BACKGROUND

- **Acts 18-19 Paul, Priscilla and Aquila in Ephesus.**
- **First to the Jews, then to Gentiles too – two years there.**
- **Sorcery books burnt, jealousy from silversmith who made shrine images of Artemis, almost a riot...**

EPHESIANS 1

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- **When you believed you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance... v13-14**

EPHESIANS 1:15-22 PRAYER

- I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the spirit of wisdom and revelation so that you may know him better.
- I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, in order that you may know the hope... and his incomparably great power

EPHESIANS 2

- **As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins. ... but because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy made us alive with Christ. V1, 4-5**
- **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. v10**

EPHESIANS 2

- **Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles [not Jews]... were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. V 11-13**

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- For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. v18

EPHESIANS 3


- In reading this you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. (v4)
- This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. (v6)

EPHESIANS 3

- His intent was that now, through the Church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms..... (v10)
- In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence (v 12)

EPHESIANS 3 – ANOTHER PRAYER

- “I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being” v 16
- And I pray that you,.. may have power, ... 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 v16-19



‘Who am I?’ – the question of identity,
‘Where do I fit?’ – a question of belonging.
‘What am I living for?’ – the question of purpose.

*‘It’s in Christ that we find out
who we are and what we are living for’*

Ephesians 4:1

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. (NIV)

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called (NRSV)

As a prisoner of the Lord, I beg you to live in a way that is worthy of the people God has chosen to be his own. (CEV)

EPHESIANS 4-6

- **“I beg you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received” 4:1**
- **Unity of spirit**
- **Put off old self... instead speak truthfully**
- **Attitude and actions matter**
- **Relationships Husband /wife, Children , workers,**
- **Put on armour of God**
- **Pray in the spirit**



Assess your attitude : Ephesians 5:1-2

Protect your Purity: Ephesians 5:3

Watch your Words : 5v4

Wake –up!

- Be careful : ‘Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise’ (Ephesians 5v15)

Be smart :- ‘making the most of every opportunity’ (Ephesians 5v16)

Be filled ‘be filled with the Spirit’ (Ephesians 5v18 – a lifestyle of worship)

Be thankful :- ‘always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.’ (Ephesians 5v20)

Be accountable. ‘Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.’ (Ephesians 5v21)

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OUR PRAYER FROM EPHESIANS 3

Father, out of your glorious riches may you strengthen us with power through your Spirit in our inner being

May we thus know Christ dwelling in our hearts through faith.

We also pray that we, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all your 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 we may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.



EPHESIANS 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.