

Ephesians

By

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Ephesians

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Ephesians

I. The Position that we have in Christ as Christians - 1:1-3:31

A. God is the source of our grace and peace - 1:1-2

1. An introduction to Paul and the book of Ephesians - 1:1

An introduction to Paul

Paul was originally named Saul and is first mentioned - Acts 7:58

Saul held the coats at the death of Stephen - Acts 7:58

Saul was in full agreement about the death of Stephen - Acts 8:1

Saul chose to take the lead in trying to destroy the church - Acts 8:3

Saul received permission to arrest any Christians in Damascus - Acts 9:1-2

Saul was stopped by Christ on the road to Damascus - Acts 9:3-6

Saul was chosen by God to take the Gospel to the Gentiles - Acts 9:10-22

Saul was introduced by Barnabas to the apostles - Acts 9:23-29

Saul returned to Damascus for the next ten years - Acts 9:30-31; Gal. 1:15-2:2

Saul was brought to Antioch by Barnabas - Acts 11:19-26

Saul and Barnabas were sent out by the church in Antioch - Acts 13:1-3

Saul had his name changed to Paul - Acts 13:9

Paul spent nearly three years in Ephesus - Acts 19:1-20:1

An introduction to the book of Ephesians

Paul wrote by the will of God

Paul wrote to the Christians in Ephesus

Paul wrote this book to the Ephesians while a prisoner in Rome - Acts 28:30-31

Paul wrote to all the faithful in Christ

We have become faithful brothers and sisters in Christ - Col. 4:9

2. Paul explained what he wanted for the Christians in Ephesus - 1:2

Paul sent a message of grace and peace

The meaning of grace

The merciful kindness of God by which He turns us to Christ - Eph. 2:8-9

Keeps, strengthens and increases us in the Christian faith - 2 Pet. 3:18

Gives us His power to grow in godly character - Titus 2:11-12

The meaning of peace

The inner tranquility of a right relationship with God - Phil. 4:7

Grace and peace come both from the Father and from Christ - 1 Cor. 1:4

B. God is the One who chose and sealed us - 1:3-14

1. This choice was made before creation - 1:3-4

a. God is blessed and blesses us - 1:3

God is the One who is blessed

God is the One who deserves all praise and honor - 1 Tim. 1:17

God is blessed because He is the Father of mercies and all comfort - 2 Cor. 1:3

God is the One who also blesses us

God also chooses to place His favor and blessing on us - Gal. 3:9

God has begotten us to a living hope through the resurrection of Christ - 1 Pet. 1:3

God blesses us with all spiritual blessings

This blessing has come on all Gentiles that are in Christ - Gal. 3:14

This means God will not withhold from us any spiritual blessing - 1 Pet. 3:9

God blesses us in the heavenlies in Christ

That Jews and Gentiles are One in Christ has been revealed - Eph. 3:8-10

This means that our blessings are spiritual and eternal - Col. 2:10

We are partakers of the heavenly calling - Heb. 3:1

b. God is the One who chose us - 1:4

God chose us to be in Christ

Being in Christ makes us a new creation - 2 Cor. 5:17

We are created in Christ unto good works - Eph. 2:10

God chose for Christ to shed His blood for us before creation - 1 Pet. 1:20

God chose us before the creation of the world

The decision to save us was made before creation - Gen. 1:1

God also chose to conform us to the image of His Son - Rom. 8:29

God chose us to be holy

This means we are set apart to God - 1 Cor. 3:9

God called us with a holy calling - 2 Tim. 1:9

God chose us to be without blame

This is the result of all our sins being placed on Christ - 2 Cor. 5:21

Through His death, Christ is able to present us blameless - Col. 1:22

Christ will present us faultless to the Father - Jude 24

God chose us to stand before Him in love

Knowing, beloved brethren your election by God - 1 Thess. 1:3-4

Because our sins were placed on Christ, we no longer stand in fear - Rev. 20:11

Instead we are able to come to God boldly - Heb. 4:16

2. This choice was to make us sons through Christ - 1:5-7

a. God chose us according to His own will - 1:5

God is the One who predestinated us to adoption

To predestine means to determine beforehand - Acts 4:28

To adopt means God determined to adopt us into His family - Eph. 1:11

God adopted us to Himself by Jesus Christ

God made us His children by His will - John 1:12

God made that possible through the death of Christ - 1 Pet. 1:18-19

God adopted us according to the good pleasure of His will

God adopted us because of His kind intent - Phil. 2:13

God adopted us because He had determined that should be done - Rom. 8:15-16

God did this to the praise of the glory of His grace

God made this choice so that He is the One who receives glory - Heb. 2:10

God made this choice so that all we do can show His grace - Eph. 2:10

b. God made us accepted through Christ - 1:6

God did this through His grace

God chose us as a free gift of His grace - Rom. 3:24

It is because of His grace we are saved - Eph. 2:8-9

God did this for us in the Beloved (Christ)

Christ offered Himself without spot to God - Heb. 9:14

God could do this because of the blood of Christ - Heb. 9:22

c. God said that it is in Christ that we have redemption - 1:7

Christ provided redemption through His blood

God sealed us with the Holy Spirit as our guarantee - Eph. 1:14

Christ is the One who paid the price to redeem us - Col. 1:14

Christ bought us back from the consequences of sin - 1 Pet. 2:24

Christ did this through the shedding of His blood - Heb. 9:26

Christ provided the forgiveness of sins

God let go of our sins because He was satisfied with the payment - 1 John 2:2

Through this Man is preached the forgiveness of sins - Acts 13:38

We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins - Col. 1:14

Christ did this according to the riches of His grace

God's grace has no limits so He gives according to His grace - Rom. 5:17

In the ages to come He will show the exceeding riches of His grace - Eph. 2:7

3. This choice included knowing His will - 1:8-10

a. God made His grace to overflow toward us - 1:8

This overflowing is done in all wisdom

God chose to show His grace based on His perfect wisdom - Rom. 11:33

This overflowing is done in all prudence

God chose to do this based on His perfect knowledge and holy love - Jer. 31:3

John the Baptist turned the wisdom of the disobedient to the just - Luke 1:17

b. God made known to us the mystery of His will - 1:9

God only reveals His will to those who are His friends

Christ calls His disciples, "My friends" - John 15:15

God has made His will known to us

The moment we become Christians we begin to understand:

The Word of God - 1 Cor. 2:12-13

The will of God - Col. 1:27

God has made His will known to us because that pleases Him

That pleases Him because He wants to treat us as friends - John 15:14-15

Christ shared with the Apostles many of the plans of the Father - Matt. 16:21

God has made His will known to fulfill His purpose

God is fulfilling His purpose as He makes known His will to us - Phil. 2:13

c. God is going to complete all things in Christ - 1:10

This will happen according to the time plan of God

God has the exact time for each part of His plan to be fulfilled - Matt. 25:13

This will happen because He has placed all things in Christ

The Father has placed all things under the feet of Christ - 1 Cor. 15:27

Believers will stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ - 2 Cor. 5:10

This will be where we receive our rewards - 1 Cor. 3:12-16

Unbelievers will be judged at the Great White Throne Judgment - Rev. 20:11

God will give us a summing up of all things in Christ - Rev. 20:1-6

This will happen in heaven

God will complete His plan in heaven - Heb. 9:12

One day God will wipe away every tear from our eyes - Rev. 21:4

This will happen on earth

God will complete His plan on earth - Heb. 9:14

4. This choice included an inheritance - 1:11-12

a. God has given us an inheritance - 1:11

God chose us through Christ to receive this inheritance

This inheritance makes us joint heirs with Christ - Rom. 8:14-17

This inheritance is given by God to all Christians - Acts 20:32

This inheritance includes the Holy Spirit as a down payment - Eph. 1:14

God is the One who predestinated us

To predestinate means to determine beforehand

To predestinate when God does it means to determine from eternity

God chose us to be sons from eternity - Eph. 1:5

God chose to conform us to the image of Christ - Rom. 8:29

God then called us, justified us and glorified us - Rom. 8:30

God predestinated us according to His purpose

This purpose was the cause of our salvation - 2 Tim. 1:9

This purpose was His eternal purpose - Eph. 3:11

This purpose is why God causes all things to work for good - Rom. 8:28

God works out all things according to the counsel of His will

God is the One who causes His counsel to stand - Is. 46:10

God is the One who works in us to complete His will - Phil. 2:13

God will fulfill His will by giving us eternal life - Titus 3:5-7

God has given an oath to back up this promise - Heb. 6:17

b. God is the One who deserves all praise - 1:12

God is the One who caused us to trust Christ

The Father is the One who draws us to Christ - John 6:44

The Father is the One who gives us the faith to believe - Eph. 2:8

The Father is the One who made us accepted in the Beloved - Eph. 1:6

The Father strengthens us with might through the Spirit - Eph. 3:16

The Holy Spirit is the One who brought conviction - John 16:8-11

The Son is the One who came to seek and to save - Luke 19:10

God did this to bring praise to His glory

God is the one who deserves all praise - I Cor. 10:31

The Father will even receive glory from Christ - I Cor. 15:24-28

The Father is One who bears witness of Christ - John 8:18

The Holy Spirit will glorify Christ - John 16:13-15

The God of all grace called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus - 1 Pet. 5:10

5. This choice was sealed by the Holy Spirit - 1:13-14

a. God sealed us with the Holy Spirit - 1:13

God caused us to hear the word of truth

The word of truth has its source in Christ - Eph. 4:20-21

The word of truth comes to us through Christ - John 1:17

The word of truth leads us to faith - Rom. 10:17

God caused us to receive the Gospel

The word of truth is the source of the Gospel - Col. 1:4-6

The word of truth effectively worked in us - 1 Thess. 2:13

God caused us to believe in Christ

God worked through the Gospel to cause us to believe - Rom. 1:16

God worked through the Scriptures to cause us to believe - 2 Tim. 3:15

God worked through His grace to cause us to believe - Titus 2:11

God worked through other Christians to cause us to believe - Heb. 2:3

God sealed us with the Holy Spirit of promise

This seal is our down payment on eternal life - 2 Cor. 1:22

This seal has been placed in us until the day of redemption - Eph. 4:30

b. God gave us the Holy Spirit as our guarantee of eternal life - 1:14

The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our inheritance

The Spirit reminds us we are joint heirs with Christ - Rom. 8:15-17

The Spirit reminds us of the coming redemption of our body - Rom. 8:23

The Spirit reminds us He is our down payment - 2 Cor. 5:5

The Spirit reminds us that we are children of God - Gal. 4:6

The Holy Spirit provides this guarantee unto our full redemption

Our redemption was purchased by the blood of Christ - Acts 20:28

Our redemption will be complete when we have a new body - Rom. 8:23

The Holy Spirit shows that we are now God's purchased possession

The Holy Spirit reminds us we were bought with a price - 1 Cor. 6:19-20

The Holy Spirit reminds us to glorify God both in body and in spirit - I Cor. 6:20

The Holy Spirit causes all glory to go to God

The glory belongs to God for His grace - Eph. 1:6

The glory belongs to God for our salvation - Eph. 1:12

This glory caused God to give us the Holy Spirit as a guarantee - Eph. 1:14

God shared the riches of His glory so we could be strengthened - Eph. 3:16

God deserves all glory because His power works in us - Eph. 3:20-21

God willed to make known His riches to the Gentiles also - Col. 1:27

C. God is the One to whom Paul prayed - 1:15-23

1. Paul gave thanks for the faith and love of the Ephesians - 1:15-16

a. Paul heard about the faith and love of the Ephesians - 1:15

Word had spread about their faith in Christ

Paul had faithfully preached the message of faith to the Ephesians - Acts 20:21
Paul reminded them that they had been saved by grace through faith - Eph. 2:8-9
Paul prayed that the Christ would dwell in their hearts through faith - Eph. 3:17
Paul reminded the Ephesians that we have unity because of that faith - Eph. 4:13
Paul reminded the Ephesians that the shield of faith is our protection - Eph. 6:16

Word had spread about their love for all the saints

Christ commanded that we are to love one another as He loved us - John 13:34
Christ said that is how the world knows we are His disciples - John 13:35
God is rich in His mercy because of His great love to us - Eph. 2:4
Paul prayed they would know the love of Christ - Eph. 3:19
Paul prayed they would all grow to speak the truth in love - Eph. 4:15

b. Paul thanked God for their faith and love - 1:16

Paul prayed for them continually

Paul prayed for Christians continually - Rom. 1:9
Paul gave thanks to God every time for various churches - Phil. 1:3-4
Paul gave thanks to the Father as he prayed for Christians - Col. 1:3
Paul gave thanks for the faith, love and hope of Christians - 1 Thess. 3-4

Paul gave thanks for them continually

Paul did not cease to give thanks for Christians continually - Col. 1:9
Paul gave thanks for the grace of God as he prayed - 1 Cor. 1:4
Paul gave thanks for the love of Christ for one another - 2 Thess. 1:3

Paul prayed for them personally

Paul prayed that God would give them the spirit of wisdom - Eph. 1:17
Paul prayed the eyes of their understanding would be enlightened - Eph. 1:18
Paul prayed they would know the hope of His calling - Eph. 1:18
Paul prayed they would be strengthened with might through His Spirit - Eph. 3:16
Paul prayed Christ would dwell in their hearts by faith - Eph. 3:17
Paul prayed that they would be rooted and grounded in love - Eph. 3:17
Paul prayed they would know Christ's love in four dimensions - Eph. 3:18-19
Paul prayed they would be filled with all the fullness of God - Eph. 3:19

2. Paul prayed for growth in wisdom and knowledge - 1:17-18

a. God is the source of wisdom and knowledge - 1:17

God is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

Christ called Him the Father in His prayer in John 17:1-26

God is the Father of glory

The Father is the One who deserves all glory - 1 Chron. 29:11

The Father of glory is the One to whom we pray - Matt. 6:9-13

The Father is the God of glory who appeared to Abraham - Acts 7:2

God gives us the spirit of wisdom in the knowledge of Him

The Spirit of wisdom is the Holy Spirit - Is. 11:2

The Spirit of wisdom is the Spirit of truth - John 14:17

The Spirit of wisdom is the One who teaches us - John 14:26

The Spirit of wisdom gives us wisdom that is from above - James 3:17-18

God gives us the spirit of revelation in the knowledge of Him

The Spirit is the One who reveals things to us - 1 Cor. 2:1

The natural man cannot receive the things of the Spirit - 1 Cor. 2:14

The Spirit reveals the love of Christ to us - Eph. 3:18-19

b. God is the source of understanding - 1:18

God causes the eyes of our understanding to be enlightened

God is the One who opens our eyes - Psalm 119:18

God is the One who opens our understanding - Luke 24:45

God gives us light to give us understanding - 2 Cor. 4:4-6

God wants us to know the hope of His calling

In the past we were without hope - Eph. 2:12

In the present God wants us to know the hope of our calling - Eph. 4:4

We look for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of Christ - Titus 2:13

We have become heirs because of the hope of eternal life - Titus 3:7

God wants us to learn to give a defense of this hope within us - 1 Pet. 3:15

God wants us to know the riches of His glory

The riches of His glory made possible the forgiveness of sins - Eph. 1:7

The riches of His glory provide strengthening of our inner man - Eph. 3:16

The riches of His glory make it possible to know the love of Christ - Eph. 3:17-19

God wants us to understand His inheritance to the saints

That inheritance is all we will share with Christ - Rom. 8:14-17

That inheritance includes eternal life - Acts 26:18

This inheritance includes the Holy Spirit as a down payment - Eph. 1:14

3. Paul prayed for growth in understanding the power of God - 1:19-21

a. God wants us to know His power - 1:19

The power of God is shown toward Christians

This power is shown by creating us unto good works - Eph. 2:10

This power is shown by giving us power to minister - Eph. 3:7

This power means God will do through us more than we can imagine - Eph. 3:20

The power of God is working with mighty power

The power of God is able to turn us from the power of Satan - Acts 26:18

The power of God is able to save - Rom. 1:16

The power of God is able to make us new creations - 2 Cor. 5:17

The power of God works in us to complete His will - Phil. 2:13

The power of God gives us His power to witness - Acts 1:8

The power of God empowers our preaching - 1 Thess. 1:5

b. God wants us to understand why the resurrection shows His power - 1:20

God showed His power in Christ

The Father gave Christ power to rise again - John 10:18

God will also raise us up by His power - 1 Cor. 6:14

God showed His power by raising Christ from the dead

This resurrection power is only understood as we grow - Phil. 3:10

God gives great power to witness to that resurrection - Acts 4:33

God showed His power by setting Christ at His right hand

Christ is at His right hand interceding for us - Rom. 8:34

Christ always lives to make intercession for us - Heb. 7:25

c. God wants us to understand how Christ demonstrates His power - 1:21

Christ is far above all principality, power, might and dominion

God has exalted Him above all things - Phil. 2:9-11

God made Christ head of all principality and power - Col. 2:10

God created all things through Christ - Col. 1:15-19

Christ is far above every name in this present age

Christ has been given all authority - Matt. 28:18

Christ is over the principalities of this world - Eph. 6:12-13

Christ is far above every name in the age to come

Christ will raise all from the dead - John 5:25-29

Christ will be victorious over all enemies - 1 Cor. 15:23-28

4. Paul prayed for understanding of Christ, the head of the church - 1:22-23

a. God made Christ the head of the church - 1:22

Christ had all things placed under His feet

God will place all enemies under His feet - 1 Cor. 15:25-27
God placed all created things under the feet of Christ - Ps. 8:6

God will place all things under His feet - Heb. 2:8

The last enemy to be destroyed is death - 1 Cor. 15:26

Christ was made the head over all things to the church

Christ is the head of the church - Eph. 4:15-16

Christ is the Head of the body, the church - Col. 1:18

Christ has all fullness dwelling in Him - Col. 1:19

Christ is the Head who makes us complete - Col. 2:10

Christ is the Head who joins all parts together - Col. 2:19

Christ is the Head who deserves all glory - Eph. 3:21

Christ is the Head of the church - Eph. 5:23

Christ has become the chief cornerstone - 1 Pet. 2:9

b. God said that the church is the body of Christ - 1:23

The church is the body of Christ

The body of Christ makes us members of one another - Rom. 12:5

The body of Christ has many different members - 1 Cor. 12:12

The body of Christ has many individual members - 1 Cor. 12:27

The body of Christ makes both Jews and Gentiles fellow heirs - Eph. 3:6

The body of Christ is to grow to maturity - Eph. 4:12

Christ is the Savior of the body - Eph. 5:23

Christ led Paul to suffer afflictions for the sake of His body - Col. 1:24

The church is the fullness of Christ who fills all things

Of His fullness we have all received - John 1:16

Christ is the Head who is to have the pre-eminence - Col. 1:18

Christ is the One in whom all fullness dwells - Col. 1:19

Christ demonstrates all the fullness of God in bodily form - Col. 2:9

Christ is the One who makes us complete in Him - Col. 2:10

Christ is the One who triumphs over all things - Col. 3:15

Christ wants to fill us with all the fullness of God - Eph. 3:19

Christ is the One who Himself fills all things - Eph. 4:10

Christ is One who is all and in all - Col. 3:11

D. God is the One who saves us by grace - 2:1-10

1. Our past condition was spiritual deadness -2:1-3

a. We were dead in trespasses and sins - 2:1

We have been made alive

Christ came to give His life so we could have spiritual life - John 10:10

Christ is the resurrection and the life - John 11:25-26

We were dead in our sins

Spiritual death is separation from God - Gen. 3:7-10

Our former condition was we were dead in our sins - Eph. 2:5

We had spiritual blindness (darkness) in our hearts - Eph. 4:18

b. We walked according to the pattern of Satan - 2:2

We followed the pattern of the world

We followed our old man which was corrupt - Eph. 4:22

The wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience - Col. 3:6

We followed the pattern of Satan

We followed the lusts of the devil - John 8:44

We followed the spirit who deceives the world

We previously followed the spirit of the world - 1 Cor. 2:12

We followed the deceptions of evil spirits - I John 4:1-4

c. We walked according to the lusts of the flesh - 2:3

Our actions were controlled by the desires of our flesh

We followed the flesh instead of the Spirit - Gal. 5:17-21

We spent our past following the sins of the world - 1 Pet. 4:3

Our desire was to carry out the desires of our flesh

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God - Rom. 8:8

We followed the desires of our flesh - Titus 3:3

We are to make no provision for the flesh - Rom. 13:14

Our desire was to carry out the desires of our mind

We followed the thoughts of our minds - James 3:14-16

We are to be renewed in the spirit of our mind - Eph. 4:23

Our destination was wrath along with many others

We followed the pattern of the entire world - Romans 3:19-20

We had a sin nature when we were born - Ps. 51:5

2. Our present position is seated with Christ - 2:4-6

a. We are loved with a great love - 2:4

God is rich in mercy

God revealed the riches of His glory to both Jews and Gentiles - Rom. 9:23-24

The riches of His mercy are for both Jews and Gentiles - Rom. 10:12

The riches of His mercy provided forgiveness of sin - Eph. 1:7

The riches of His mercy cause Him to give us a ministry - Eph. 3:8

God has loved us with His great love

This love was so great that God gave His Son for us - John 3:14-17

God placed great love on us by calling us His children - 1 John 3:1-2

This love will give us boldness in the day of judgment - I John 4:10-19

b. We are made alive in Christ - 2:5

God reached out to us when we were dead in sins

God reached out to us when we were without strength - Rom.5:6

God showed His love to us while we were still sinners - Rom. 5:8

God awoke us from the dead - Eph. 5:14

God drew us to Christ - John 6:44

God made us alive together with Christ

God says that we have risen with Christ - Col. 3:1

God has renewed us by the Holy Spirit - Titus 3:5

Alive to Christ means sin no longer rules over us - Rom. 6:11-13

Alive in Christ means we are set free from the fear of death - Heb. 2:15

c. We have been made to sit in heavenly places with Christ - 2:6

God has raised us up together with Christ

God has already blessed us with every spiritual blessing - Eph. 1:3

God has already reserved an eternal inheritance for us - 1 Pet. 1:4

God says our lives are hidden with Christ in God - Col. 3:3

God wants us to enjoy His fellowship right now - 1 John 1:3

Christ was raised and sits at the right hand of the Father - Eph. 1:19-20

God has made us sit in heavenly places with Christ

Christ has blessed us with all spiritual blessings - Eph. 1:3

God says we are seated with Christ in heavenly places - Eph. 1:20

God has done this so the church can know His great wisdom - Eph. 3:10

3. Our future promise is to know the riches of Christ - 2:7

We can look forward to the ages to come

God says there is no fear in love - 1 John 4:18

God blesses us both in the present and in the age to come - Luke 18:30

We will see the exceeding riches of His grace

We have been justified freely by His grace - Rom. 3:24

God is rich both in mercy and love - Eph. 2:4

We will see His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus

God showed love and kindness to us in Christ - Titus 3:4

4. Our provision of salvation is by grace - 2:8-10

a. We have been saved by grace - 2:8

God saved us by His grace

It is through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ that we are saved - Acts 15:11

We were spiritually dead before God saved us - Eph. 2:5

We had no hope before God saved us - Eph. 2:12

We were facing eternal punishment before God saved us - 2 Thess. 1:9

God saved us through faith

By the works of the law no flesh will be justified - Gal. 2:16

We received the promise of Christ by faith - Gal. 3:22

We received the promise of the Spirit by faith - Gal. 3:14

That faith comes from hearing the Word of God - Rom. 10:17

God gave us that faith as a gift

We received Christ and eternal life as a free gift - Rom. 6:23

We received that gift by believing in our hearts - Rom. 10:9-10

b. We have not been saved by our own works - 2:9

God says our works will not save

All our righteousnesses are like filthy rags - Is. 64:6

We cannot be saved by the works of the law - Rom. 3:20

We are saved apart from the works of the law - Rom. 3:27-28

God says no one is able to boast

Boasting is excluded by the law of faith - Rom. 3:27

We can only glory in what the Lord has done - 1 Cor. 1:29-31

We were destroying ourselves as we followed our own way - Titus 3:3-5

c. We have been created for good works - 2:10

God is the workman who created us

We were made by God - Ps. 100:3

We are the work of God's own hands - Ps. 138:8

We are God's building - 1 Cor. 3:9

God created us in Christ Jesus

We were made a new creation in Christ - 2 Cor. 5:17

We are being brought to maturity in Christ - Heb. 13:20-21

God created us for good works

We have been prepared for every good work - 2 Tim. 2:21

We are to be thoroughly furnished unto all good works - 2 Tim. 3:14-17

God appointed us to walk in good works

We are to be an example of good works - Titus 2:6-8

We are to practice good works and be fruitful - Titus 3:14

E. God is the One who brings Jews and Gentiles together - 2:11-18

1. As Gentiles we had no hope - 2:11-13

a. In the past we were Gentiles in sin - 2:11

God said that we were Gentiles in the flesh

We were following the idols of the world - 1Cor. 12:2

At that time we had no hope and were without God in the world - Eph. 2:12

God said that we were Uncircumcised

We were dead in our sins and the uncircumcision of our flesh - Col. 2:13

The Jews faithfully practiced physical circumcision - Phil. 3:5

In contrast, Paul wrote about circumcision that is not of the flesh - Col. 2:11

(this is the putting off the body of the sins' of the flesh)

We are the circumcision that has no confidence in the flesh - Phil. 3:3

This comes through faith in Christ and is God's righteousness - Phil. 3:9

God said that Jews and Gentiles were separated socially by Circumcision

We could not get together with Jews - Acts 10:28, Gal. 2:11-16

In Christ we have been brought near by the blood of Christ - Eph. 2:13

True circumcision is of the heart through the work of the Holy Spirit - Rom. 2:29

Abraham received this faith while he was still uncircumcised - Rom. 4:11

Abraham thus became the father of all who walk in faith - Rom. 4:12

We now walk by faith and not by sight - 2 Cor. 5:7

b. In the past we were Gentiles separated by sin and without hope - 2:12

We were without Christ

We were the other sheep - John 10:16

Christ said we would hear His voice and become one flock - John 10:16

We had nothing in common with Israel

We were alienated from God - Eph. 4:18-19

Christ is our peace and broke down the middle wall of separation - Eph. 2:14

We did not have the covenants of promise

We did not have the promises made to Abraham - Gal. 3:16-17

The promise by faith in Christ is given to those who believe - Gal. 3:22

We did not have hope

We did not have the hope of glory revealed to us - Col. 1:26

It is Christ in us that gives us the hope of glory - Col. 1:27

We were without God in the world

We chose to substitute other things for God - 1 Cor. 8:4-6

We were alienated from the life of God - Eph. 4:18

We have been reconciled to God through the death of His Son - Rom. 5:10

We were alienated and enemies in our mind by wicked works - Col. 1:21

God has reconciled us in the body of His flesh through death - Col. 1:22

(Christ wants to present us holy, blameless and above reproach in His sight)

c. In the past we were far away from God - 2:13

God said that we were far away from Him

We had our eyes blinded to God - Acts 26:18

We judged others while sinning secretly - Rom. 2:1

We walked according to the course of this world - Eph. 2:2

We fulfilled the desires of the flesh and mind - Eph. 2:3

We were controlled by the passion of lust - 1 Thess. 4:5

God has made us near Him by the blood of Christ

The goodness of God is why God was patient with us - Rom. 2:4

God was satisfied with the blood of Christ as payment for our sins - Rom. 3:25

God gives us His strength to possess our bodies in honor - 1 Thess. 4:4

We have now been reconciled to God by Christ - 2 Cor. 5:18-21

We have been reconciled by the blood of Christ - Col. 1:13-14

Christ made peace through the blood of His cross - Col. 1:20

Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness - Heb. 9:22

It is through the blood of Christ that we have forgiveness - Col. 1:14

Because Christ is in us, we can now fully forgive others - Col. 3:13

2. As Gentiles we have been reconciled to God - 2:14-18

a. Christ is our peace - 2:14

He is the One who made peace

Christ is our Prince of Peace - Is. 9:6

His peace is eternal - Is. 9:7

The veil of the temple was opened by the Father - Matt. 27:51

We no longer face condemnation - Rom. 5:1

He makes Jews and Gentiles one

In Christ there is no Jew or Greek - Col. 3:11

We have been joined together in one body - Eph. 4:16

He had broken down the wall of division

We stand in the righteousness of God through faith in Christ - Phil. 3:9

We are all one in Christ - Gal. 3:28

b. Christ is the One who ended the enmity between Jews and Gentiles - 2:15

He ended the enmity by His death

We were reconciled by His death and are saved by His life - Rom. 3:8-10

We can now enter the presence of God with boldness - Heb. 10:19-22

He ended the division brought by the law

We have been set free from sin - Rom. 6:18-22

We are no longer under the curse of the law - Gal. 3:10-13

He brings us together as a new person

We were alienated and enemies but have been brought together - Col. 1:21-23

We are a new creation in Christ - Gal. 6:15

He makes peace between us

God reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ - 1 Cor. 5:18-19

We have put off the old man and put on the new man - Col. 3:9-10

c. Christ is the One who has reconciled both Jews and Gentiles to God - 2:16

He reconciled both Jew and Gentile to God

In Christ there is no distinction between Jew and Greek - Rom. 10:12

Christ made this peace through His blood - Col. 1:20-22

Christ has perfected every person who trusts in Him forever - Heb. 10:12-14

He made us all a new man (a new unified body)

By one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - 1 Cor. 12:13

Christ made it possible for us to carry out the will of God - 1 Pet. 4:1-2

d. Christ brought the Gospel to both those far and those near - 2:17

The Gentiles who were far off heard the Gospel

Christ gives peace to all those who place their faith in Him - John 14:27

Gentiles were brought near by the blood of Christ - Eph. 2:13

Christ preached peace because He is our peace - Eph. 2:14

Christ accepts people of every nation - Acts 10:34-35

The Jews who were near heard the Gospel

Christ says the Gospel is for both Jews and Gentiles - Rom. 1:16

e. Christ gave us both access to the Father by the Spirit - 2:18

Through Christ both Jew and Gentiles have access to the Father

Christ is the door through which we receive this access - John 10:9

As Gentiles we are the other sheep promised access - John 10:16

We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand - Rom. 5:2

Once far off but now brought near by the blood of Christ - Eph. 2:13

We have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Christ - Eph. 3:12

We now have fellowship with both the Father and the Son - 1 John 1:3

This is accomplished by the ministry of the Holy Spirit

Christ promised to send another Helper - John 14:16

That Helper is the Holy Spirit - John 14:17

Jews and Gentiles both have access by the Spirit - Gal. 4:6

F. God is the One who is building us into a holy temple - 2:19-22

1. Christ has made us fellow citizens - 2:19

We are no longer strangers and sojourners

Our citizenship is now in heaven - Phil. 3:20

We are now strangers to the earth instead of heaven - 1 Pet. 2:11

We have become fellow citizens with all saints

We have been joined together in one body - Eph. 4:16

We are becoming conformed to His glorious body - Phil. 3:20-21

We have become a part of the household of God

We all become children of God - Rom. 8:14-17

The household of God is also called the household of faith - Gal. 6:10

We can come boldly to the throne of God - Heb. 4:16

2. Christ is our chief corner stone - 2:20

We are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets

The apostles were personally chosen by Christ - Luke 6:13, Acts 1:20-23, Gal. 1:1

The apostles gave us eyewitness testimony of the resurrection - Acts 1:21-22

The apostles were given signs and wonders to verify their testimony - Heb. 2:3-4

All Scripture was given by the inspiration of God - 2 Tim. 3:16-17

The prophets gave us the written Word of God - 2 Pet. 1:19-21

The prophets spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit - 2 Pet. 1:21

We have Jesus Christ, Himself, as our chief cornerstone

Peter means little stone and Christ was the great massive rock - Matt. 16:18

Christ is the living stone precious in the sight of the Father - 1 Pet. 2:4

We are living stones built on Christ, the chief cornerstone - 1 Pet. 2:5-6

3. Christ is building us all into a holy temple - 2:21

We are all to be fitly framed together

God is the wise masterbuilder who uses us to build - 1 Cor. 3:10

Christ is the great foundation stone on which the church is built - 1 Cor. 3:11

We are to be growing into a holy temple

God is building us into a holy temple - 1 Cor. 3:17

God says our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit - 1 Cor. 6:19

God wants us a holy temple both in body and spirit - 1 Cor. 6:20

God calls us His own special people - 1 Pet. 2:9

4. Christ is making us a fit dwelling place for God - 2:22

We are being built together

We are to be known for our love for one another - John 13:34-35

We glorify God by becoming one - John 17:20-23

We are joined together by what every joint supplies - Eph. 4:16

We are being built into a dwelling place for God

We are the temple of God and His Spirit dwells in us - 1 Cor. 3:16

This is why our bodies are called the temple of the Holy Spirit - 1 Cor. 6:19

The Holy Spirit is our guarantee of eternal life - Eph. 1:13-14

God says that we are a holy temple - 1 Cor. 3:17

We are having this happen through the Spirit

We are to keep the unity of the Spirit - Eph. 4:3-6

God has given us His Spirit because He dwells in us - 1 John 4:12-13

G. God is the One who makes us equal in the body of Christ - 3:1-12

1. The church was a mystery in the past - 3:1-5

a. Paul said he was the prisoner of Jesus Christ - 3:1-2

Paul said this is the reason why he was a prison

Paul was in prison for preaching to the Gentiles - Acts 22:17-22; 2 Cor. 4:8-15

Paul was a prisoner in Rome when he wrote this book - Acts 28:16

Paul said he was a prisoner of Jesus Christ

Paul viewed himself as a prisoner of Christ - Philem. - 1:9

Paul said he was a prisoner for the sake of the Gentiles

The church recognized Paul and Barnabas had been sent to the Gentiles - Gal. 2:9

Paul was a prisoner for the sake of the Gentiles - Col. 1:24-27

Paul said they had heard of the dispensation of this grace

The word "dispensation" means a stewardship (management) - Luke 16:2-4

God chose Paul to take the Gospel to the Gentiles - Acts 9:15-16

Apollos greatly helped those who had believed through grace - Acts 18:27-28

Paul said this grace is the grace of God

The Jewish Christians also received this message by grace - Acts 15:11

Paul had written the Christians in Rome they were justified by grace - Rom. 3:24

All Christians received salvation by grace through faith - Eph. 2:8-9

God said that Jews and Gentiles are fellow heirs of this grace - Eph. 3:6

God chose Paul to reveal the mystery of the Gospel to the Gentiles - Eph. 6:19

The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men - Titus 2:11

Paul said he was given this message of this grace

Paul was a faithful witness of the grace of God - Acts 20:23-24

Paul had received this message from God by grace - Eph. 3:7

b. Paul had received revelation about the mystery - 3:3

God had revealed this message to Paul by revelation

God had shown Paul that He had other things to reveal to Him - Acts 26:16

God had revealed this message of grace by revelation - Col. 1:26-27

God had revealed to Paul that this was a mystery before

Paul revealed this wisdom God had hidden until Christ came - 1 Cor. 2:7

Paul and those with him were stewards of the mysteries of God - 1 Cor. 4:1

God had even caused Paul to write about this briefly

Paul had earlier mentioned the mystery of His will - Eph. 1:9-10

Paul wanted to reveal the mystery of Christ wherever he went - Col. 4:3

c. Paul said this was the mystery of Christ - 3:4

Paul said they would read about this mystery

Paul and Barnabas turned to the Gentiles to be a light to them - Acts 13:46-48

This mystery was the Gentiles would be fellow heirs with the Jews - Eph. 3:6

Paul said that then they would understand the knowledge he received

Paul was passing on this knowledge in the book of Ephesians - Eph. 1:3-4

God by His mercy made us alive together with Christ - Eph. 2:4-7

In Christ Gentiles have been brought near by the blood of Christ - Eph. 2:13

Christ is our peace who has made both one - Eph. 2:14

(Christ also broke down the middle wall of separation)

Paul said this is the mystery of Christ

Jews and Gentiles are saved by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ - Acts 15:11

In Christ the Gentiles had also received this inheritance - Eph. 1:10-12

We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ - Rom. 5:1

This mystery had now been revealed to the saints - Col. 1:24-26

That mystery is Christ in you, the hope of glory - Col. 1:27

Paul asked for prayer for an open door to speak the mystery of Christ - Col. 4:3

d. Paul said this mystery had not been revealed in the past - 3:5

This mystery was not known in other ages

This mystery was known to God from eternity - Acts 15:18

To you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God - Luke 8:10

This mystery was revealed to us at the time that God chose - 1 Cor. 4:1

In time past the Gentiles were without Christ - Eph. 2:12

This mystery was now being revealed to the sons of men

Abraham was to be a blessing to all families (but not explained) - Gen. 12:3

Paul explained this meant we would be one in Christ - Gal. 3:28-29

This mystery had been revealed by the Holy Spirit

We received the Spirit of adoption - Rom. 8:14-17

This mystery was revealed to us by the Holy Spirit - 1 Cor. 2:13

This mystery had been revealed to His holy apostles

The apostles were chosen to know the mysteries of the kingdom - Matt. 13:11

The apostles spoke about this mystery - Eph. 3:8-9

This mystery had been revealed to His prophets

Job knew that His Redeemer lives and would stand on the earth - Job 19:25

The Redeemer of the fatherless is mighty - Prov. 23:10-11

Isaiah said My Servant (Christ) was given as a light to the Gentiles - Is. 49:6

Paul and the prophets wrote about this mystery - Eph. 3:3

2. The church is where Jews and Gentiles become one - 3:6-7

a. This mystery was that Jews and Gentiles would be one in the church - 3:6

God planned that the Gentiles would be fellow heirs

Christ broke down the wall of separation between Jew and Gentile - Eph. 3:13-22

We become heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ - Rom. 8:17

Christians become spiritual heirs of the promise given to Abraham - Gal. 3:29

God planned that Jews and Gentiles would be the same body

By one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - 1 Cor. 12:13

We become fellow members of one body - Eph. 2:16

There is one body and one Spirit - Eph. 4:4

We are called into one body - Col. 3:8-15

God planned the Gentiles would be partakers of His promise

Christ made us all a part of the family of God - Gal. 3:26-28

Christ made us heirs of His promise - Gal. 3:29

God planned this would be made possible in Christ

We are one body in Christ and members one of another - Rom. 12:4-5

Christ is the One who made us His body - 1 Cor. 12:27

God planned that this would be shared through the Gospel

The Gospel is the power of God for both Jews and Gentiles - Rom. 1:16

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law - Gal. 3:13-14

b. Paul said he had become a minister of this mystery - 3:7

Paul said that he became a minister of this plan of God

Paul was called to take the faith to all nations - Rom. 1:5

Christ is the One who made Paul a minister - 1 Tim. 1:12-17

Paul said this was according to the gift of grace given to him

Paul served the Lord through the grace given to him - Rom. 12:3

Paul was made a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles - Rom. 15:15-16

Christ showed mercy to Paul - 1 Tim. 1:13

It is in the true grace of God that we stand - 1 Pet. 5:12

Paul said this happened through the effective working of God's power

We see the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe - Eph. 1:19

Paul said His working works in us mightily - Col. 1:29

It is this same power which raised Christ from the dead - Col. 2:12

Christ chose to show His power in Paul - 1 Tim. 1:16

God saves us and calls us according to His purpose and grace - 2 Tim. 1:8-9

The power of God that makes it possible for us to work effectively - Eph. 4:16

3. The church was a part of the eternal purpose - 3:8-12

a. Paul was called to declare this purpose - 3:8

He said he was the least of all the saints

Paul was the last of all those who saw Christ - 1 Cor. 5:8

Paul was the least of the apostles - 1 Cor. 15:9

He was given grace to preach

Paul had been given grace by God to minister - Rom. 15:15-17

The message Paul preached was not according to man - Gal. 1:10-11

Paul received this message so he could preach among the Gentiles - Gal. 1:16

He was called to declare the unsearchable riches of Christ

The wisdom of God is so great His ways are unsearchable - Rom. 11:33

Paul had been called by God to share the message - 1 Tim. 2:7

b. Paul was called to reveal this mystery

This mystery is the basis of fellowship for all people - 3:9

The bread...is it not the communion of the body of Christ? - 1 Cor. 10:16-17

This fellowship of Jews and Gentiles was shown by the church - Gal. 2:9

Paul had been given a commission to all the Gentiles - 2 Tim. 4:17

As we walk in the light we have fellowship with one another - 1 John 1:7

This mystery was hidden by God

God made known to us the mystery of His will - Eph. 1:9

Paul said this mystery was not known in other ages - Eph. 3:5

This mystery included the fact that the church is the body of Christ - Col. 1:24-28

As Paul spoke the mystery of Christ this included His body - Col. 4:3

c. Paul was revealing the greatness of the wisdom of God - 3:10

This wisdom was being revealed through Paul

Paul had been chosen to reveal the hidden wisdom of God - 1 Cor. 2:7

Paul prayed that all Christians would understand the wisdom of God - Eph. 1:17

Paul prayed the Colossians would be filled with all wisdom - Col. 1:9

In God are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge - Col. 2:3

This wisdom had not been revealed to the angels

The powers in heaven saw this mystery revealed in the church - Eph. 3:11

The church was the mystery of godliness seen by angels - Eph. 3:15-16

Peter says that there are many things the angels desire to know - 1 Pet. 1:12

d. Paul was revealing the eternal purpose of God - 3:11

This purpose was the eternal purpose of God

God works all things for good for those who love God - Rom. 8:28-29

God had this purpose from eternity past - Eph. 1:9

God's purpose is according to His will - Eph. 1:11

God revealed this purpose at the time that He chose - Eph. 3:5

This purpose was carried out in Christ Jesus

God called us through Christ according to His purpose - 2 Tim. 1:9

Timothy had seen Paul carefully follow this purpose - 2 Tim. 3:10

e. Paul was revealing the access that we have through Christ - 3:12

We have boldness because of Christ

We can come through Christ with boldness - Heb. 4:14-16

We have boldness to enter into the presence of God through Christ - 10:19-22

We have confident access through faith in Christ

We have access to the Father into this grace through Christ - Rom. 5:1-2

We have access by one Spirit to the Father - Eph. 2:18

The Spirit makes intercession according to the will of God - Rom. 8:26-27

H. God is the One is able to do more than we could ever imagine - 3:13-21

1. Paul gives us a model for prayer - 3:13-15

a. This prayer did not focus on Paul - 3:13

Paul did not want the Christians to get discouraged

Since God has given us this ministry we are not to lose heart - 2 Cor. 4:1

We are not to lose heart even though our outward man is perishing - 2 Cor. 4:16

Paul said he experienced "light affliction" which was for a moment - 2 Cor. 4:17

We will be rewarded if we do not faint - Gal. 3:8-10

We are not to grow weary while doing good - Gal. 6:9

We are not to get tired of doing good - 2 Thess. 3:13

Paul was willing to suffer for the sake of other Christians

Paul said his suffering was nothing compared to future glory - Rom. 8:18

Paul was willing to be afflicted for other Christians - 2 Cor. 1:6

Paul was a prisoner of Christ for the sake of the Gentiles - Eph. 3:1

He was glad his suffering led to boldness in others - Phil. 1:12-14

Paul was willing to let others misuse his name for the Gospel - Phil. 1:15-18

b. This prayer was to the Father - 3:14

Paul bowed his knees to the Father

Paul continually bowed his knees for the Ephesians - Eph. 1:16-19
Daniel and many others showed humbleness before God in prayer - Dan. 6:10

Paul recognized the relationship between the Father and Christ

This relationship brings glory to both - John 17:4-5
Christ also gives this glory to those who follow Him - John 17:24
Christ came according to the power of an endless life - Heb. 7:16-17

c. This prayer was to the Father of all saints - 3:15

God is the Father of all saints now in heaven

This includes all Old Testament saints - Eph. 4:8-10
This includes all New Testament saints who have died - 1 Thess. 4:13-18

God is the Father of all saints still on the earth

God sees us as already seated in heavenly places - Eph. 2:6
We are all the children of God and will be like Him - 1 John 3:1-3

2. Paul prayed that they would be strengthened with might - 3:16

This strength comes from the Father

This growth in strength was modeled by Christ - Luke 2:40
This strength comes as we humble ourselves before God - 1 Pet. 5:6
God gives us His strength as we are humble before Him - James 4:6-10

This strength is according to the riches of His glory

The riches include His goodness, forbearance and longsuffering - Rom. 2:4
Our forgiveness is based on His riches - Eph. 1:7
Our inheritance is based on His riches - Eph. 1:18

Our kindness that we will receive is based on His riches - Eph. 2:7
This strength is given to the least as a result of His grace - Eph. 3:8

This strength comes through the power of the Spirit

The disciples were to wait until they received the Holy Spirit - Acts 24:49
The Spirit is our only source of power - Acts 1:8

Our Gospel came in power and in the Holy Spirit - 1 Thess. 1:5

This strength becomes present in our inner man

The inner man of Christians delights in the law of God - Rom. 7:22
This strength is quenched when we depend on our own strength - 1 Thess. 5:19

This strength gives us His power - Col. 1:11
This strength renews our inner man day by day - 2 Cor. 4:16

3. Pray prayed that they would become rooted in the love of Christ -3:17-19a

a. We are to be rooted and grounded in the love of Christ - 3:17

Christ dwells in our hearts by faith

Christ lives in us so we can walk by faith - 2 Cor. 5:7

Christ lives in us so we can live by faith - Gal. 2:20

Christ will ground us in the faith as we are grounded and steadfast - Col. 1:23

Christ wants us to let the peace of God rule in our hearts - Col. 3:15

Christ comforts our hearts and establishes us - 2 Thess. 2:17

Christ is greater than he that is in the world - I John 4:4

Christ roots us and grounds us in His love

Christ roots us in Himself and in His love - Col. 2:6-7

Christ also establishes and builds us up in the faith - Col. 2:7

Christ grounds us and makes us steadfast as we abide in Him - Col. 1:23

b. We are to comprehend the greatness of the love of Christ - 3:18

We can comprehend this love only as we are rooted in it

We become rooted by spending time with Christ - John 13:34-35

This happens as we abide in Christ and His Word abides in us - John 15:7-8

We are to understand the four dimensions of Christ's love

Oh, the depth of the riches both of wisdom and knowledge of God - Rom. 11:33

(those riches are past finding out without God in control)

The Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God - 1 Cor. 2:10

His love fills both space and time - Eph. 1:4

c. We are to know the love of Christ which surpasses human knowledge-3:19a

We are to know the love of Christ

Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ - Rom. 8:35-39

Christ loved me and gave Himself for me - Gal. 2:20

The love of Christ becomes what motivates us - 2 Cor. 5:14-15

We are to walk in love as Christ also loved us and gave Himself for us - Eph. 5:2

Our love is to abound still more and more - Phil. 1:9

The Lord make you to increase and abound in love to one another - 1 Thess. 3:6

This love comes from Christ and is to flow through us to others - 1 John 1:5

This love surpasses human knowledge

The thoughts and ways of God are beyond human understanding - Is. 55:8-9

This love surpasses all understanding and guards our hearts - Phil. 4:7

4. Paul prayed that they would be filled with the fullness of God - 3:19b

We are to be filled with all the fullness of God

Christ is the head of the church - Eph. 1:22-23

Understanding the fullness of God

To be filled with God is to humble self - Phil. 2:8

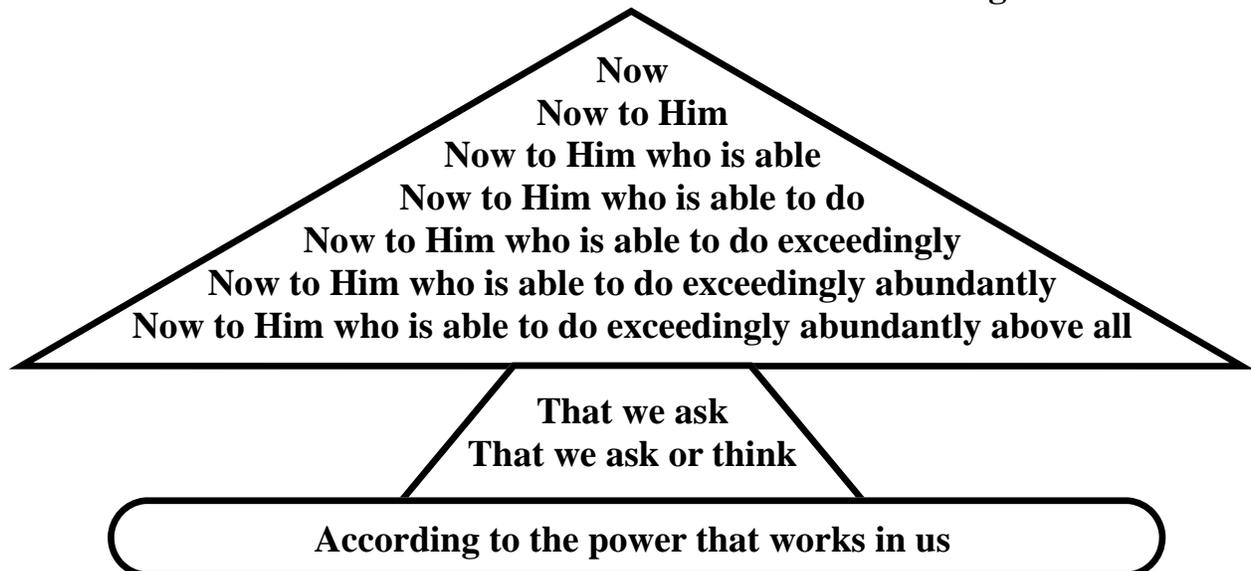
We are to be filled with God - Eph. 3:19

We are to be filled with Christ - Eph. 4:13

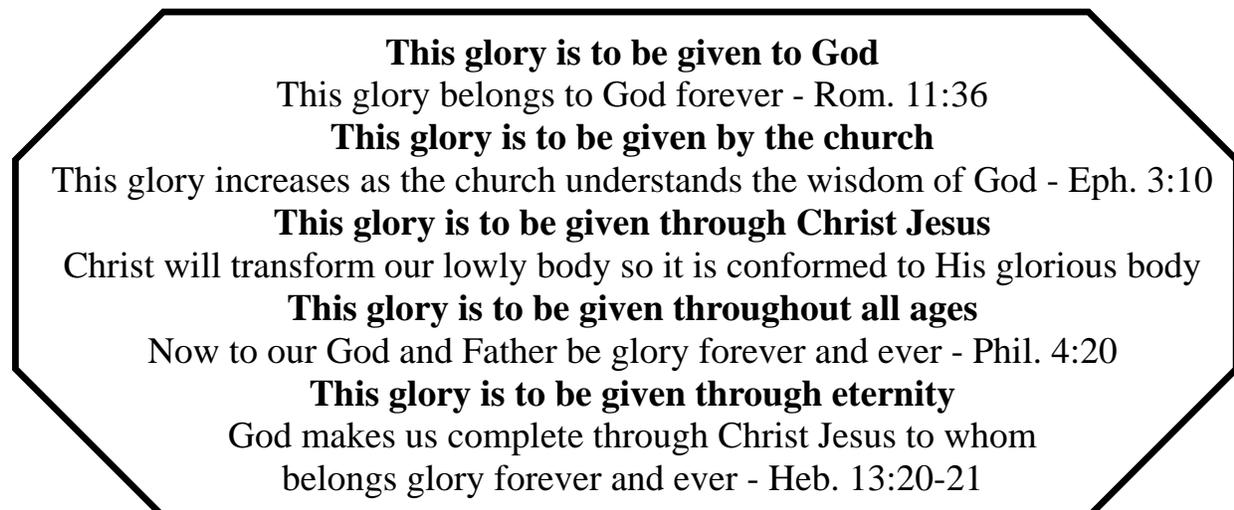
We are to be filled with the Spirit - Eph. 5:18

5. Paul prayed that they would see God work beyond imagination - 3:20-21

a. God is able to do more than we could ever ask or imagine - 3:20



b. God is the One who is to receive all glory - 3:21



II. The practices that we are to follow as Christians -4:1-6:9

A. God wants us to be one with other Christians - 4:1-6

1. Our desire should be a worthy walk - 4:1-2

a. We are to walk worthy of our calling - 4:1

Paul was a prisoner of the Lord

Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles - Eph. 3:1

Paul did not view himself as a prisoner of men - Philem. 9

Paul was making a request in humbleness

I, Paul am pleading with...and gentleness of Christ - 2 Cor. 10:1

Paul did not demand but rather requested - Philem. 1:8-11

Paul wanted all Christians to walk worthy of our calling

A worthy walk is a walk in love - Eph. 5:2

Walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him - Col. 1:10

Walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom - 1 Thess. 2:12

b. We are to walk with a humble attitude - 4:2

This attitude includes a humble opinion of self

We are to give preference to one another - Rom. 12:10

We are to view others as better than ourselves - Phil. 2:3

This attitude is an attitude of gentleness

Gentleness is a part of the fruit of the Spirit - Gal. 5:22-23

Gentleness is the attitude we are to have as we restore others - Gal. 6:1

Gentleness is an attitude we are commanded to put on - Col. 3:12

Gentleness is the attitude we are to have toward those who oppose - 2 Tim. 2:25

This attitude is an attitude of patience

Patience is a part of the fruit of the Spirit - Gal. 5:22-23

Patience is an attitude that we are to put on - Col. 3:12

Patience is an attitude that we are to have as we preach the Word - 2 Tim. 4:2

This attitude is an attitude of endurance

We are to bear with one another and forgive one another - Col. 3:13

We are to endure when we experience persecutions - 2 Thess. 1:4

This attitude is an attitude of love

True love bears the infirmities of others - Rom. 15:1

True love bears all things - I Corinthians 13:7

True love bears one another's burdens - Gal. 6:2

2. our desire should be to keep the unity of the Spirit - 4:3-6

a. We are to keep the unity produced by the Spirit - 4:3

The Spirit has already produced unity
This unity began with the Godhead - John 17:21-23
The Spirit wants us to preserve that unity
This unity was present when we were placed in the body - I Co. 12:12-13
The Spirit wants us to preserve that unity in peace
This unity will produce peace and edification of one another - Rom. 14:17-19

b. We are to keep the unity of the Spirit - 4:4

There is one body
Christ reconciled us all to God in one body - Eph. 2:16
There is one Spirit
The Spirit gave us different gifts and ministries - 1 Cor. 12:4-11
There is one hope in our calling
Christ will make us like Himself when He appears - I John 3:1-3

c. We are to keep the unity of Christ - 4:5

There is one Lord
Christ is Lord of both the living and the dead - Rom. 14:8-9
There is one faith
Christ wants us all to come to the unity of the faith - Eph. 4:13
There is one baptism
We were all baptized into Christ - Rom. 6:3-4

d. We are to keep the unity of the Father - 4:6

there is one God and Father of all
There is one God, the Father - 1 Cor. 8:5-6
He is above all
The Father is above all principality and power - Eph. 1:15-21
He is through all
The Father is the One through whom all things happen - Rom. 11:33-36
He is in us all
We have been built into a habitation for God - Eph. 2:21-22

B. God wants us to grow to spiritual maturity - 4:7-16

1. Christ is the One who gives spiritual gifts - 4:7-10

a. He has given grace to each of us - 4:7

Every Christian has been given grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is with our spirit - Gal. 6:18

Every Christian has received the gift of Christ

We have all been given grace and spiritual gifts - Rom. 12:3-8

We have all been given a gift to minister to one another - 1 Pet. 4:10-11

b. He ascended on high and gave gifts to men - 4:8

Christ ascended up on high

This happened the day He arose - John 20:17

Christ led captivity captive

This happened to fulfill an Old Testament promise - Ps. 68:18

Christ gave gifts to men

This happened so we can serve one another - 1 Pet. 4:10-11

c. He descended into the lower parts of the earth - 4:9

Christ was the One who ascended

He had promised He would ascend where He was before - John 6:62

Christ first descended into the lower parts of the earth

He descended into paradise - Luke 23:39-43

Those in the place of torment could hear those in paradise - Luke 16:23-26

He announced judgment to all who had rejected God's grace - 1 Pet. 3:18-19

He blotted out the sins of all in the Old Testament who had faith - Col. 2:14-15

He arose and then presented paradise and all in it to the Father - Eph. 4:8

d. He ascended far above the heavens - 4:10

Christ ascended far above the heavens

Christ is at the right hand of the Father - Heb. 7:26-8:1

Christ is making intercession for the saints - Heb. 7:25

Christ is the One who fills all things

He fills all places - 1 Kings 8:27; Acts 7:47-50

2. Christ is the One who gives leaders to equip the saints - 4:11-12

a. Christ gives spiritual leaders to the church - 4:11

Apostles and Prophets were given as a foundation for the church

The apostles and prophets are the foundation of the church - Eph. 2:19-22

The apostles gave eyewitness testimony of the resurrection - Acts 1:21-22

The prophets gave us the written Word of God - 2 Pet. 1:19-21

Evangelists are given to build the church

Every Christian is commissioned to make disciples - Matt. 28:18-20

Every Christian needs to be equipped to preach the Gospel - Rom. 10:14-15

Pastors are given to build the church

Pastor is translated shepherd in all other passages - John 10:11-16

Shepherds equip the saints for various ministries - Ezek. 34:4-6, 11-16

Teachers are given to build the church

Paul was a teacher who equipped the saints - 1 Tim. 2:7

b. Christ gives spiritual leaders to equip the saints for ministry - 4:12

Spiritual leaders are to equip the saints

Spiritual leaders are to equip the body and mature it - 1 Cor. 1:10

Spiritual leaders equip the saints for ministry

Spiritual leaders equip us for every good work to do His will - Heb. 13:20-21

Spiritual leaders equip the saints to build up the body

The body is built up externally as we are equipped to evangelize - Mark 16:15

The body is built up internally as we are equipped to minister to one another
in love - John 13:34-35

The body is built to maturity as we are equipped to obey the Word - Matt. 7:24-27

The body is built to maturity as we are equipped to teach the Word - 2 Tim. 2:2

The saints are to be built up to function properly

Ephesians 4:13-16

The evangelists, pastors and teachers equip the saints to minister

Ephesians 4:11-12

The apostles and the prophets are the foundation - Ephesians 2:19-22

Christ is the chief cornerstone - Ephesians 2:19-22

3. Christ wants every Christian to become mature - 4:13-14

a. The will of God is for Christians to become mature - 4:13

This includes coming to the unity of the faith

We are all to be of one accord - Acts 1:14; Acts 4:32

This includes growth in the knowledge of the Son of God

We are to grow in our knowledge of Christ - Phil. 3:8-10

This includes growing to spiritual maturity

We are to grow to spiritual maturity - 2 Tim. 3:14-17

This includes being filled with the knowledge of His will - Col. 1:9

This includes walking worthy of the Lord and fully pleasing Him - Col. 1:10

This includes growing in Christlikeness

We are to grow and become more and more like Christ - 1 John 3:1-3

b. The will of God for Christians is that we would not remain toddlers - 4:14

Toddlers (children who cannot speak clearly) are not the goal of God

Toddlers are still walking like non-Christians - 1 Cor. 3:1-3

Toddlers are tossed to and fro

Toddlers are weak in faith and doubleminded - James 1:4-8

Toddlers are carried about by every wind of doctrine

Toddlers are easily deceived by false teaching - 2 Tim. 4:3-4

Toddlers are deceived by the slight of man

Toddlers follow men instead of Christ - Acts 20:30

Toddlers are deceived by the cunning craftiness of false teachers

Toddlers are often deceived by false teachers - Acts 20:29

The Tragedy of Toddlers

Toddlers act like people who are not Christians - 1 Cor. 3:1

Toddlers are not able to understand difficult teachings from the Bible - I Cor. 3:2

Toddlers experience envying, strife and divisions - 1 Cor. 3:3

Toddler talk, understanding and thinking of spiritual things is limited-1 Cor. 13:11

Toddlers are tossed to and fro by every false teaching - Eph. 4:14

Toddlers are easily deceived by false teachers - Eph. 4:14

Toddlers are dull of hearing to spiritual truth - Heb. 5:11

Toddlers need to be retaught the basics of Christianity - Heb. 5:12

Toddlers are unskillful in the word of righteousness - Heb. 5:13

Toddlers do not have their senses developed to recognize good and evil-Heb. 5:14

4. Christ wants every Christian to function effectively - 4:15-16

a. The will of God is for Christians to learn to serve in love - 4:15

We are to learn to speak the truth in love

This involves speaking the truth - Eph. 4:25

This involves speaking in love - Eph. 4:29

We are to grow up in Christ in all things

We are growing into a holy temple for the Lord - Eph. 2:21

We are to continue to grow in Christ - 2 Pet. 3:18

We are to recognize Christ as the head

Christ is the head of the church - Eph. 1:22

Christ is the head of the body - Col. 1:18

b. The will of God is for Christians to learn to function effectively - 4:16

Christ is the One who joins the whole body together

We all are to abide in Christ - John 15:5

Christ is the One who keeps us united as one body

Christ is the Head who binds us together - Col. 2:19

Christ wants every person to do his or her part

Every part has an important ministry - 1 Cor. 12:12-28

Christ wants us to work together in His power

We are to work together as one body - 1 Cor. 12:14-20

We can do nothing in our own power - John 15:5; Acts 1:8

We can do all things through Christ's power - Phil. 4:13

Christ says every Christian working effectively is His standard

Toddlers do not work because they are self centered - 1 Cor. 3:1-3

Toddlers do not work because they are tossed to and fro - Eph. 4:14

Toddlers do not work because they are dull of hearing and are not exercising their senses to discern good and evil - Heb. 5:11-14

Christ wants us to mature and function properly - Eph. 4:11-16

Christ says this will cause growth in the body

Healthy Christians speak the Word with boldness - Acts 4:31; Acts 8:4

Healthy Christians lead others to Christ - John 1:40-41; Acts 11:19-21

Christ says this will also cause the body to build itself up in love

Healthy Christians love one another - John 13:34-35

Healthy Christians bear one another's burdens - Gal. 6:2

Healthy Christians build up one another - 1 Thess. 5:11-18

C. God wants us to walk as new people in Christ - 4:17-24

1. The Christian is no longer to walk like other Gentiles - 4:17-19

a. The Gentiles walk in the evilness of their mind - 4:17

The Lord is speaking through Paul

Paul was writing the commandments of the Lord - 1 Cor. 14:37

The Lord does not want us to walk like our past life

We were in darkness but now are to walk in the light - Eph. 5:8

We have been redeemed from our former aimless conduct - 1 Pet. 1:18

Those lacking the Spirit speak great swelling word of emptiness - 2 Pet. 2:18

The Lord does not want us to walk in the evilness of our mind

As a man thinks in his heart, so is he - Prov. 23:7

We are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind - Rom. 12:2

b. The Gentiles have their understanding darkened - 4:18

They have their understanding darkened

We formerly followed the desires of the mind - Eph. 2:3

We were once aliens and enemies in our minds - Col. 1:21

They are alienated from the life of God

We were formerly alienated from God - Col. 1:21

They are separated by the ignorance that is in them

This ignorance left us without knowledge of God - Acts 17:30

Their hearts are filled with blindness

Our foolish heart was darkened - Rom. 1:21-23

c. The Gentiles have given themselves over to sin - 4:19

They are beyond feeling guilt, shame or grief

They have their conscience seared - 1 Tim. 4:2

The blood of Christ cleansed our conscience from dead works - Heb. 9:14

They have given themselves over to outrageous sin

This has led to every form of sin - Rom. 1:24-28

We are to put to death our members which are on earth - Col. 3:5

They are doing all kinds of wild living and desire more

They take pleasure in their evil - Rom. 1:29-32

We spent enough of our past lifetime doing the will of the Gentiles - I Pet. 4:3

2. The Christian is to put off our past lifestyle - 4:20-22

a. Christ did not teach us our former lifestyle - 4:20

We have become dead to our former lifestyle - Rom. 6:1-2
We have been made alive together with Christ - Eph. 2:5
We are now motivated by the love of Christ for us - 2 Cor. 5:14-15
We are now to live godly in this present world - Titus 2:11-14

b. Christ has taught us a new lifestyle - 4:21

We have heard Christ

We as the sheep of Christ hear His voice - John 10:4, 14
We have heard the truth through Christ - Eph. 1:13

We have been taught by Christ

The law came by Moses but grace and truth came by Christ - John 1:17
We have been taught by Christ through the Spirit - John 14:26

We have learned the truth through Christ

Christ is the way and the truth - John 14:6
Christ has given us the Spirit of truth - John 14:16-17

c. Christ has taught us to put off the old man - 4:22

We are to put off our former lifestyle

We are to put off the works of darkness - Rom. 13:12
We are to put off the the attitudes that cause evil speaking - Col. 3:8
We are to lay aside every hindrance and sin - Heb. 12:1

We are to put off our old man

We are to put away our former sins - Eph. 4:25
We have put off the old man and his deeds - Col. 3:9
Our old man was crucified with Christ - Rom. 6:1-6
This happened at the cross when Christ said, "It is finished" - John 19:30
We apply this fact as we become doers of the Word - James 1:22

We are to realize our old man is corrupt

Our old man caused us to be slaves to sin - Rom. 6:6
Our old man caused us to live in sin - Col. 3:5-7
Our old man followed the lifestyle of the Gentiles - 1 Pet. 4:3

We are to realize our old man followed deceitful lusts

Our old man deceived our heart - James 1:26
Sin deceived us and destroyed us - Rom. 7:11

3. The Christian is to put on the new man - 4:23-24

a. Christ wants us to be renewed in the spirit of our mind - 4:23

We have been given a new spirit

We are created in Christ Jesus - Eph. 2:10

We have Christ living in us - Gal. 2:20

We are born of the Spirit when we place our trust in Christ - John 3:5-8

We have become partakers of the divine nature - 2 Pet. 1:4

We have a right spirit renewed in us as we confess sin - Ps. 51:10

We are to be renewed in the spirit of our mind

We are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind - Rom. 12:2

We are now able to think spiritual thoughts - 1 Cor. 2:9-16

We are to bring every thought to the obedience of Christ - 2 Col. 10:5

We are to set our mind on things above - Col. 3:2

We are being renewed in knowledge by Christ - Col. 3:10

We are being renewed by the Holy Spirit - Titus 3:5

To be spiritually minded produces life and peace - Rom. 8:6

b. Christ wants us to put on the new man - 4:24

The new man is what we are to put on

The new man is Christ in us - Gal. 2:20

The new man makes us new creations - 2 Cor. 5:17

The new man is renewed in knowledge - Col. 3:10-11

The new man motivates us to put on a new lifestyle - Col. 3:12-17

The new man is created in righteousness

Our new man has been raised by Christ for new life - Rom. 6:4

Our new man is a new creation and creates new life - 2 Cor. 5:17

Our new man is being renewed day by day - 2 Cor. 4:16

The new man is created in holiness

We were originally created in the likeness of God - Gen. 1:26-27

We are now being changed into His image - 2 Cor. 3:18

We are becoming conformed to His image - Rom. 8:28-29

God gives us abundance for every good work - 2 Cor. 9:8

We have been created unto good works - Eph. 2:10

We are to be rich in good works - 1 Tim. 6:18

We are to be ready for every good work - Titus 3:1

We will be like Him one day - 1 John 3:2

D. God wants us to put away the actions of the past - 4:25-32

1. Christians are to be members one of another - 4:25

We are to put away lying

Lying has its source in Satan - John 8:44

This deception includes all power, signs and lying wonders - 2 Thess. 2:9

We are to speak the truth

He who speaks truth declares righteousness - Prov. 12:17

The Spirit of truth will guide us into all truth - John 16:13

We are to speak the truth in love - Eph. 4:15

We are members of one another

We are individually members of one another - Rom. 12:5

The body of Christ has many parts - 1 Cor. 12:12-13

The members of the body all depend on one another - 1 Cor. 12:14-27

We fulfill the law of Christ by bearing one another's burdens - Gal. 6:2

Loving one another is evidence of God dwelling in us - 1 John 4:10-11

2. Christians are to handle anger properly - 4:26-27

a. Anger must be handled properly - 4:26

We are to have anger against sin

Moses had great anger against sin - Exodus 32:19-22

Christ showed great anger against sin - Matt. 21:12

We are not to have anger against the sinner

Moses had great love for the sinners - Exodus 32:30-32

Christ showed great love to sinners - Rom. 5:8

Christ was grieved with the hardness of their hearts - Mark 3:5

We are not to let the sun go down on our wrath

Wrath by man does not bring righteousness - James 1:19-20

Wrath against sinners belongs to the Lord - Romans 12:19-21

b. Anger handled wrongly gives the devil an opportunity - 4:27

We are in a conflict against Satan - Eph. 6:11

We are to be aware of Satan's traps for us - 2 Cor. 2:11

We are to resist the devil - James 4:7-8

We are to be vigilant against Satan - 1 Pet. 4:8-9

3. Christians are to work and to share - 4:28

Christians are not to steal

We are commanded not to steal - Ex. 20:15, 17
We have been set free from our past - 1 Cor. 6:10-11
We are to love rather than steal - Rom. 13:9
We are to do good to all - Gal. 6:10

Christians are to labor

We will be rewarded according to our labor - 1 Cor. 3:8
We are to labor to present people mature in Christ - Col. 1:28-29
We are to labor in our service for Christ - 1 Tim. 4:8-10
We are to labor in the Word and doctrine - 1 Tim. 5:17
We are to labor as spiritual leaders - 1 Thess. 5:12

Christians are to work with our hands

We are to do good to all - Gal. 6:10
We are to work to please the Lord - Col. 3:23
We are to work to meet our own needs - 2 Thess. 2:8-12
We are to work to meet the needs of others - 1 Thess. 4:9-12

Christians are to do the things that are good

We are to abound in every good work - 2 Cor. 9:8
We are to do good to all - Gal. 6:10
We were created for good works - Eph. 2:10
We are to speak what is good - Eph. 4:29
We are to be fruitful in every good work - Col. 1:10
We are to follow what is good - 1 Thess. 5:15
We are to do good works to other saints - 1 Tim. 5:10
We have been prepared for every good work - 2 Tim. 2:21

Christians are to be prepared to share

We are to share both the Gospel and our lives - 1 Thess. 2:8
We are to share through our spiritual gifts - Rom. 1:11
We are to share generously with others - Rom. 12:8

Christians are to give to those in need

The Christians in Philippi sent to meet Paul's need - Phil. 4:16
The Christians in Philippi were told God would supply their need - Phil. 4:19
The meeting of needs is a way of showing love - 1 John 3:17

4. Christians are to speak what builds up others - Ephesians 4:29

a. Christians are not to speak worthless words

Worthless words come from a worthless character - Matt. 7:17-18
Worthless words show the character of a person - Matt. 12:33
Worthless words will bring judgment - Matt. 13:48
Worthless words are not fitting for a Christian - Eph. 5:3-4
Worthless words are to be put off by the Christian - Col. 3:8-9
Worthless words create great problems - James 3:2-12
Worthless words are the way false teachers deceive - 2 Peter 2:18

b. Christians are to speak words that are good

We will be rewarded for the good we have spoken - 2Cor. 5:10
We are to look for opportunities to speak good words - Gal. 6:10
We were created for good words and works - Eph. 2:10
We are to always speak with grace - Col. 4:6
We are to teach good words that teach our children - Deut. 6:6-9
We are to speak good words that teach others - 1 Cor. 14:19
We are to speak to bring honor to Christ - Col. 3:16-17

c. Christians are to speak words that build up others

The word of His grace builds us up so we can build others - Acts 20:32
We are to speak words that comfort and build up others - 1 Thess. 5:11
We are to speak words that build up the body of Christ - Eph. 4:12
We are to speak words that build up others in love - Eph. 4:16
We are to speak words of godly wisdom - James 3:17

d. Christian are to speak words that minister to others

We are to speak words of comfort to others - 2 Cor. 1:3-4
We are to speak words that bring glory to God - 1 Cor. 10:31
We are to speak words that help others learn godly living - Titus 2:1-10
We are to speak words that help people walk worthy of God - 1 Thess. 2:11-12
We are to speak words that bring wisdom to others - Prov. 10:31-32
We are to speak words that turn away wrath - Prov. 15:1
We are to speak words that bring life and knowledge to others - Prov. 15:2-7

5. Christians are not to grieve the Holy Spirit - 4:30-31

a. The Holy Spirit is the One who sealed us - 4:30

We are not to grieve the Holy Spirit

The Spirit is grieved by the sinfulness of man - Gen. 6:3-6

The Spirit is grieved by hardness of heart - Acts 7:51

Grief shows the abundant love God has for us - 2 Cor. 2:4

We are to remember that the Holy Spirit is the one who sealed us

We were sealed by the Holy Spirit and given life - Rom. 8:9-11

We were given the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee - 2 Cor. 1:22

We were sealed by the Spirit as our guarantee of eternal life - Eph. 1:13-14

b. The Holy Spirit is grieved by wrong attitudes and actions - 4:31

We are to put away bitterness

A root of bitterness will defile many others - Heb. 12:15

A root of bitterness produces bondage - Acts 8:23

We are to put away wrath

Wrath is anger that boils up against another - Luke 4:28-29

Wrath will cause a person to be contentious - Rom. 2:8

We are to put away wrath and these other attitudes - Col. 3:8

We are to put away anger

Anger is to be taken by God not us against sin - Rom. 12:19

Anger will cause a person to be contentious - Rom. 2:8

Anger does not produce the righteousness of God - James 1:19-20

The anger (wrath) of God will be fearful when it comes - Rev. 6:17

We are to put away clamor

Clamor is crying out in anger against another - Acts 23:9

(this is a public outburst indicating loss of control)

We are to put away evil speaking

Evil speaking is a railing accusation against another - Jude 9

Evil speaking is a characteristic of false teachers - 1 Tim. 6:3-5

Evil speaking will be a characteristic of the antichrist - Rev. 13:1, 5-6

We are to put away all malice

Malice is a desire to hurt another by words or actions - Titus 3:3

Malice comes from an evil nature - 1 Pet. 3:9-12

Malice is something we are to lay aside - 1 Pet. 2:1

Malice has the same affect as yeast - 1 Cor. 5:8

6. Christian are to be kind and forgiving - 4:32

God calls us to be kind to one another

Love is kind and patient - 1 Cor. 13:4
We are called to put on kindness - Col. 3:12-13
God showed us His kindness through Christ - Titus 3:4
Kindness is part of the fruit of the Spirit - Gal. 5:22
Brotherly kindness is to be added to godliness - 2 Pet. 1:7

God calls us to be tenderhearted toward one another

The wicked do not know how to show tender mercies - Prov. 12:10
The Lord is the source of compassion and tenderness - James 5:11
The Lord calls us to be full of compassion and tenderness - 1 Pet. 3:8

God calls us to forgive one another

You ought to forgive and comfort him - 2 Cor. 2:7
God made us alive and forgave all our trespasses - Col. 2:13
God now calls us to forgive one another - Col. 3:13
God calls us to continue to forgive - Luke 17:3-4

God forgave us because of Christ

It is because of Christ that we have forgiveness - Col. 1:14
God forgave us all trespasses - Col. 2:13
We are to forgive others as Christ forgave us - Col. 3:13

Forgiven by God



Because of Christ



We are now to forgive others

E. God wants us to avoid the works of darkness - 5:1-17

1. Christians are to walk in love - 5:1-2

a. God calls us to be followers - 5:1

We are to be followers of God

This is how the Father conforms us to the image of Christ - Rom. 8:29

Paul said to imitate him, just as he imitates Christ - 1 Cor. 11:1

The Thessalonians had become followers of Paul and of the Lord - 1 Thess. 1:6

God wants us to know the love that passes from Christ to us - Eph. 3:19

God has called us to live a holy life - 1 Pet. 1:15-16

We are to follow as dear children

All who receive Christ become children of God - John 1:12

We were given the Holy Spirit at the time we became Christians - Rom. 8:15

We are being transformed as we are led by the Spirit - 2 Cor. 3:16-18

God has called us His children - 1 John 3:1-3

b. God calls us to walk in love - 5:2

We are to walk in love

We are to be rooted in the love of Christ - Eph. 3:17-19

We are to walk in Christ - Col. 2:6

We are to walk worthy of Christ - Col. 1:10

We are to remember that Christ loves us

Christ loved the church and gave Himself for us - Eph. 5:25

Christ loved us first and we respond to His love - 1 John 4:19

We are to remember that Christ gave Himself for us

Christ died for us according to the Scriptures - 1 Cor. 15:3

Christ died for us because of His love for us - 2 Cor. 5:14-15

Christ gave Himself for each of us individually - Gal. 2:20

We remember that Christ gave Himself as an offering and sacrifice to God

Christ offered Himself without spot to God - Heb. 9:14

Christ gave Himself as a sacrifice for us - Heb. 9:24-26

Christ gave Himself as an offering for us - Heb. 10:5-18

We are to realize that Christ's sacrifice was pleasing to God

The sweet savor of Christ's sacrifice has been placed on us - II Cor. 2:14-16

This sweet savor makes our works well pleasing to God - Phil. 4:18

God said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" - 2 Pet. 1:17

2. Christians are to avoid the sins of the flesh - 5:3-7

a. God calls us to avoid all uncleanness - 5:3

We are to avoid fornication

Christians are to avoid all fornication - Acts 15:20, 29

We are to flee sexual immorality - 1 Cor. 6:18

We are to marry instead of commit fornication - 1 Cor. 7:2

The will of God is for us to avoid any sex sin - 1 Thess. 4:3

We are to avoid all uncleanness

Uncleanness is following the evil lusts of the heart - Rom. 1:24

Uncleanness is lustful and impure living - Rom. 6:19

We are to avoid covetousness

Covetousness is a desire to have more things - Luke 12:15

Those without Christ work all uncleanness with greediness - Eph. 4:19

Evil desires and covetousness are idolatry - Col. 3:5

By covetousness they will exploit you with evil words - 2 Pet. 2:3

False teachers have their hearts trained in covetous practices - 2 Pet. 3:14

b. God calls us to avoid foolish talk - 5:4

We are to avoid filthiness

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks - Matt. 12:34

Filthiness is evil speaking and denying the truth - 2 Cor. 4:2

We are to get rid of all filthy speaking with our mouths - Col. 3:8

We are to avoid foolish talk

Avoid foolish...disputes knowing that they generate strife - 2 Tim. 2:23

Foolish talk is godless talk - Titus 3:9

By doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men - 1 Pet. 2:15

We are to avoid jesting

A person with a debased mind that says things that are not fitting - Rom. 1:28

Filthy talk with double meanings - 2 Pet. 2:18

We are to give thanks

We are to give thanks to God as He has given us victory - 1 Cor. 15:57

We are to give thanks always for all things - Eph. 5:20

We are to give thanks for other Christians - Col. 1:3

We give thanks to God for qualifying us to share eternal life - Col. 1:12

We are to give thanks to God in everything we say and do - Col. 3:17

We are to give thanks for all people - 1 Tim. 2:1

c. God says those who practice such things show their heart - 5:5

A sinful heart may produce a fornicator

Christians are to avoid fornication - Acts 15:20, 29

A fornicator is a person who has given himself to sex sin - 1 Cor. 5:9-11

The body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord - 1 Cor. 6:13

Christians are to flee fornication - 1 Cor. 6:18

It is the will of God that we abstain from immorality - 1 Thess. 4:3

A sinful heart may produce an unclean person

God gave them up to uncleanness to dishonor their bodies - Rom. 1:24

An unclean person is one who has given himself over to evil lusts - 2 Cor. 6:14-17

Someone past feeling who gives himself to uncleanness with greed - Eph. 4:19

We once walked in these when we lived in them - Col.3:5-7

God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness - 1 Thess. 4:7

A sinful heart may produce a covetous person (idolater)

A covetous person is one controlled by the love of money - 1 Tim. 6:9-10

They have a heart trained in covetous practices - 2 Pet. 2:14

A sinful heart does not produce eternal life

We are not to keep company with a Christian who is covetous - 1 Cor. 5:11

A covetous person (idolater) does not have eternal life - 1 Cor. 6:9-10

d. God does not want us to be deceived - 5:6

We are not to be deceived

Beware lest any one cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit - Col. 2:8

A deceived person has a deceived heart - James 1:26

We do not want to share in the wrath of God

All in unbelief of Christ have the wrath of God abiding on them - John 3:36

Before Christ we are children of disobedience - Eph. 2:2

The wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience - Col. 2:8

e. God does not want us to share the deeds of evil doers - 5:7

We are not to be partakers (to partner together)

We can be a partner with someone for good - Eph. 3:6

We are not to be unequally yoked together with unbelievers - 2 Cor. 6:14

We are not to share our lives with children of disobedience

A covetous person is an idolater - Eph. 5:5

We can be a partner with someone for evil - Eph. 5:6

3. Christians are to walk in the light - 5:8-10

a. Christians are in the light - 5:8

We were once darkness

We were formerly separated from God - Eph. 2:12

We were in darkness when separated from God - Eph. 4:18

We have been made light in the Lord

Christ came to bring light to all in darkness - Matt. 4:16

We have been delivered from the power of darkness - Col. 1:12-13

God has given us His light in our hearts - 2 Cor. 4:6

Our ministry is to turn people from darkness to light - Acts 26:18

We are to walk as children of light

We are to let our light shine before others - Matt. 5:16

Walking with Christ causes us to walk in the light - John 8:12

We are to shine as lights in the world - Phil. 2:15

We are to walk in the light as Christ is in the light - 1 John 1:7

b. Christians are the fruit of the light - 5:9

We are to demonstrate all goodness

We are to be full of goodness - Rom. 15:14

We have goodness as the fruit of the Spirit develops in us - Gal. 5:22

We are to fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness - 2 Thess. 1:11

We are to demonstrate righteousness

The new man is created in righteousness - Eph. 4:24

We are to have on the breastplate of righteousness - Eph. 6:14

We are to follow after righteousness - 1 Tim. 6:11

We are to demonstrate truth

We are to have our loins girded about with truth - Eph. 6:14

We are to speak the truth in love - Eph. 4:15

We have put on the new man and are to speak truth - Eph. 4:25

c. Christians are to learn what is pleasing to the Lord - 5:10

We are to prove what is acceptable to the Lord - Rom. 12:1-2

Righteousness, peace and joy are acceptable to the Lord - Rom. 14:17:18

Prayer for all leaders is acceptable to the Lord - 1 Tim. 2:1-3

Suffering patiently when serving the Lord is acceptable to the Lord - 1 Pet. 2:20

4. Christians are to expose the works of darkness - 5:11-12

a. God tells us not to fellowship with the works of darkness - 5:11

We are not to participate in the unfruitful works of darkness

We are to avoid the counsel of the ungodly - Ps. 1:1-2

Christ came to give light to those who sit in darkness - Luke 1:79

The reason why people love the darkness - John 3:19

Our ministry is to turn people from darkness to light - Acts 26:18

We are to cast off the works of darkness - Rom. 13:12

We are to avoid those who cause divisions and offenses - Rom. 16:17

We are to avoid fellowship with Christians living in sin - 1 Cor. 5:9-11

We are to avoid fellowship with false worship - 1 Cor. 10:20

We are to avoid fellowship with unrighteousness - 2 Cor. 6:14-17

The Lord delivered us from the power of darkness - Col. 1:13

We are to avoid fellowship with false teachers - 1 Tim. 6:3-5

We cannot fellowship with God while in darkness - 1 John 1:5-6

We are to expose the unfruitful works of darkness

Christ said, "This is your hour and the power of darkness." - Luke 22:53

The Word of God will reprove of hidden sin - 1 Cor. 14:24-25

We are to use the Word of God to reprove - 2 Tim. 4:2

The end of the works of darkness is death - Rom. 6:21

The works of darkness are the fruit of walking in darkness - 1 John 1:6

b. God tells us not to even discuss the works of darkness - 5:12

The works of darkness are even shameful to discuss

God is the One who will judge the secrets of men - Rom. 2:16

We are to avoid discussing the works of darkness - Eph. 5:3

We are no longer to focus on our past life - 1 Pet. 4:2-3

God will judge men according to their works - Rev. 20:12

The works of darkness are the things done in secret

The works of uncleanness are the works of darkness - Rom. 1:24-32

The works of the flesh are works of darkness - Gal. 5:19-21

The deeds of the old man are the works of darkness - Col. 3:5-9

The deeds of the last days are the works of darkness - 2 Tim. 3:1-8

The works of the defiled are the works of darkness - Titus 1:15-16

We have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light - 1 Pet. 2:9

For whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever - 2 Pet. 2:17

5. Christians are to walk as wise men - 5:13-15

a. All things become visible when exposed to the light - 5:13

The light exposes all things

The light reveals the hidden things of darkness - 1 Cor. 4:5

The light reveals both the good and the bad - 2 Cor. 5:10

The light reveals those who are false teachers - 1 John 2:19

The light causes everything to become visible

The light reveals the wickedness of individuals - Hos. 2:10

The light reveals the wickedness of nations - Hos. 7:1

The light causes the deeds of those who do truth to be revealed - John 3:20-21

b. All unbelievers are called to salvation - 5:14

Unbelievers need to awake to spiritual things

Those in darkness are to awake to salvation - Rom. 13:11-12

Those who are sleeping need to awake - 1 Thess. 5:6-7

Unbelievers need to arise from the dead

Those who are dead need to be raised to newness of life - Rom. 6:4-5

Christ makes alive those who are dead in trespasses and sins - Eph. 2:1

Those who are dead need to come to life - Eph. 2:5

Unbelievers can have Christ give them light

Christ promised to be a light to those walking in darkness - John 8:12

Christ will cause the light to flow into our hearts - 2 Cor. 4:6

c. All believers are called to be careful how we walk - 5:15

We are to walk carefully

We are to walk in the Spirit - Gal. 5:16

We are to walk with good works - Eph. 2:10

We are to walk in love - 1 Pet. 1:22

We are not to walk as fools (unwise)

An unwise person leaves God out of his life - Ps. 14:1; 53:1

An unwise person changes the glory of God - Rom. 1:19-21

An unwise person depends on worldly wisdom - James 3:14-16

We are to walk as those who are wise

A wise person walks with godly wisdom - James 3:13, 17-18

A wise person will be a wise builder - 1 Cor. 3:10

6. Christians are to make good use of the time we have - 5:16-17

a. God wants us to use our time wisely - 5:16

We are to buy up every opportunity to serve the Lord

Christ bought us back from the curse of the law - Gal. 3:13

Christ bought us out from under the law - Gal. 4:5

Christ wants us to use every opportunity to do good - Gal. 6:10

Christ wants us to buy up every opportunity to serve Him - Col. 4:5

We are to realize that the days are evil

The Lord is the One who establishes us and keeps us from evil - John 17:5

This present age is an evil age - Gal. 1:4

We are to be prepared to withstand in the evil day - Eph. 6:13

We are to avoid every appearance of evil - 1 Thess. 5:22

The Lord will guard us from the evil one - 2 Thess. 3:3

We are to realize that people will become more evil - 2 Tim. 3:13

We are to avoid an evil heart of unbelief - Heb. 3:12

We are to have our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience - Heb. 10:22

b. God wants us to understand His will - 5:17

We are not to be unwise

The unwise man (fool) focuses on the outward man - Luke 11:39-40

The unwise man (fool) does not prepare for the future - Luke 12:20

We are to understand the will of the Lord

The Holy Spirit prays for us according to the will of God - Rom. 8:27

The Word of God will teach us the will of God - Rom. 12:1-2

The will of Christ is to deliver us from this present evil age - Gal. 1:4

The will of God is to be done from the heart - Eph. 6:5-6

We are to become mature and complete in the will of God - Col. 4:12

The will of God is for us to avoid sexual sin - 1 Thess. 4:3

The will of God is for us to give thanks in everything - 1 Thess. 5:18

The will of God was to verify the ministry of the apostles - Heb. 2:4

The will of God is to silence foolish men by our godly actions - 1 Pet. 2:15

Sometimes it is the will of God for us to suffer - 1 Pet. 3:17

The will of God is for us to no longer live for the lusts of the flesh - 1 Pet. 4:2

The Word of God was given to us by the will of God - 2 Pet. 1:21

The will of God is for all to come to repentance - 2 Pet. 3:9

The will of God is to abide forever - 1 John 2:17

F. God wants us to be filled with the Spirit - 5:18-21

1. Christians are to be continually filled with the Spirit - 5:18

We are not to be drunk with wine

Drink is not for the sons of the King - Prov. 31:4

Drink will cause a leader to pervert justice - Prov. 31:5

Drink is for those who are perishing or of heavy hearts - Prov. 31:6

Christians are not to participate in drunken ceremonies - 1 Cor. 10:19-21

Drink is for those who are of the night - 1Thess. 5:6-8

Drunkenness may have been a part of our former life - 1 Pet. 4:3

We are to be filled with the Spirit

We will have boldness when we are filled with the Spirit - Acts 4:8

We are to choose leaders who are full of the Spirit - Acts 6:3

Stephen was full of faith and the Holy Spirit - Acts 6:5

Stephen was full of the Spirit when he was stoned to death - Acts 7:55-60

A Christian filled with joy serves in the power of the Spirit - Rom. 15:13

A Christian filled with the Spirit bears the fruit of the Spirit - Gal. 5:22-25

A Christian filled with the Spirit is abiding in the Word of God - Col. 3:14-17

2. Christians are to have a melody in our hearts - 5:19

We are to speak to one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs

Christ quoted the Psalms as He answered His enemies - Luke 20:41-44

When we speak with Psalms we will speak the Word of God - Luke 24:44

We are to speak to one another in psalms - 1 Cor. 14:26

(psalms refers to the book of Psalms - Luke 24:44)

We are to speak to one another in hymns as we teach - Col. 3:16

We are to speak to one another in spiritual songs - 1 Cor. 2:13

We are to be singing and making melody in our hearts

Israel sang to glorify God for deliverance from Egypt - Ex. 15:1

They sang praises with gladness...and worshiped - 2 Chron. 29:30

They sang when they laid the foundation for the temple - Ezra 3:10-11

Then they believed His words; they sang His praise - Ps. 106:12

We sing to glorify God for His mercy - Ro. 15:9

We are to sing with both the spirit and understanding - 1 Cor. 14:15

We are to make melody when we are cheerful - James 5:13

We are to sing from our hearts - Eph. 5:19

(the heart is the center of both physical and spiritual life - Prov. 4:23)

We will one day sing to Christ in heaven - Rev. 5:9-10

c. Christians are to give thanks always - 5:20

We are to give thanks at all times

Paul gave thanks always for other Christians - 1 Cor. 1:4

Paul always gave thanks when he prayed - Eph. 1:16

Paul gave thanks each time he thought about each of the churches - Phil. 1:3

Paul gave thanks always both in word and deed - Col. 3:17

Paul gave thanks that people accepted the Word of God - 1 Thess. 2:13

Paul gave thanks that people were chosen by God - 2 Thess. 2:13

We are to give thanks for all things

Many churches gave thanks for Priscilla and Aquila - Rom. 16:3-4

We give thanks to the Father who has made us qualified - Col. 1:12

We give thanks to God always for you all - 1 Thess. 1:2

We are to give thanks in everything - 1 Thess. 5:18

I exhort...giving of thanks be made for all men - 1 Tim. 2:1

We are to give thanks always for all things - Eph. 5:20

We are to give thanks to the Father in the name of Christ

We can give thanks to God for grace when we fail - Rom. 7:25

Paul gave thanks to the Father each time He prayed - Col. 1:3

Paul gave thanks to the Father for giving us power to share in the inheritance of the saints - Col. 1:12

We are to give thanks to the Father in all that we say or do - Col. 3:17

d. Christians are all to submit to one another - 5:21

We are to submit ourselves to one another

We begin by being submissive to God - James 4:7

In lowliness of mind we are to esteem others more important than self - Phil. 2:3

Wives are to be submissive to their husbands - Titus 2:4-5

Men are to be submissive to their wives - 1 Tim. 5:14

Employees are to be submissive to their employers - Titus 2:9

Masters are to have the submissive attitudes toward their slaves - Eph. 6:9

We are all to be submissive to rulers and other leaders - Titus 3:1

The younger are to submit to the elders - 1 Pet. 5:5

We are to submit in the fear of God

The meaning of submission is demonstrated by Christ - 1 Cor. 15:28

(The Father has put all things under Christ and then Christ will exalt the Father)

We are to submit to every ordinance of man - 1 Pet. 2:13

We are to be obedient with godly fear - Heb. 11:7

We are to serve God with reverence and fear - Heb. 12:28

G. God describes the Spirit filled life for husbands and wives - 5:21-33

1. A Spirit led wife will submit to her husband - Ephesians 5:22-24

a. Understanding why a wife submits - 5:22

The wife is submissive in the church to fulfill the law - 1 Cor. 15:34-35
The wife is submissive because it is fitting - Col. 3:18
The wife is submissive to show a learner's attitude - 1 Tim. 2:11-12
The wife is submissive so that the Word is not blasphemed - Titus 2:5
The wife is submissive to win her husband to Christ - 1 Pet. 3:1-5

b. Understanding headship - 5:23

The wife is to recognize her husband as head

The head of every man is Christ - 1 Cor. 11:3
Christ calls the husband to be the head of his wife - 1 Cor. 11:3
Christ calls the wife to recognize her husband as head - Eph. 5:23

The church is to recognize Christ as head

Christ is the head of the man - 1 Cor. 11:3
Christ is the head of the church - Col. 1:18
Christ calls us all to grow up into Him - Eph. 4:15
Christ calls us all to minister with a submissive attitude - Eph. 4:16

The husband is to sacrifice for his wife

Christ gave His life for the church - Eph. 5:25
The husband is to give his life for his wife - Eph. 5:28

c. Understanding balanced submission - 5:24

The church is to be subject to Christ

Paul said to imitate him just as he imitated Christ - 1 Cor. 11:1
The church is to be subject in all things - Col. 3:17-18
The elders are to lead by example - 1 Pet. 5:3

The younger people are to submit to the elders - 1 Pet. 5:5

The wife is to be subject to her husband

The wife is to be subject in all things - Eph. 5:24
The choice to be submissive is fitting to the Lord - Col. 3:18
God said this prevents the Word of God being blasphemed - Titus 2:4-5
This models the submission of Christ to the Father - 1 Cor. 15:28

2. A Spirit led husband will love his wife - 5:25-30

a. Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it - 5:25

Husbands are commanded to love their wives

Love is an act of the will not the emotions - John 13:34-35

Husbands are commanded to love their wives - Col. 3:19

Husbands are to love as Christ loved the church

Love was demonstrated to us by Christ - 1 John 4:10-11

Husbands have been given a new pattern for love - John 13:34-35

Husbands are to give of themselves as Christ gave for the church

True love is the result of spiritual life - 1 John 4:7

Love is mature when it is without fear - 1 John 4:18

b. Christ cleanses and sanctifies the church - 5:26

Husbands are to sanctify and cleanse their wives

Sanctifying happens through the Word - John 17:17-19

Cleansing happens through confession of sin - I John 1:9

Husbands are to minister the Word to their wives

Husbands are to answer the questions of their wives - 1 Cor. 14:34-35

c. Christ will present the church without spot or wrinkle - 5:27

Husbands are to present their wives as glorious wives

Christ calls the church to be to the praise of His glory - Eph. 1:12

The wife is the glory of her husband - I Cor. 11:7

Husbands are to protect their wives from spot or wrinkle

Husbands are to avoid bitterness toward their wives - Col. 3:19

Bitterness will defile those around it - Heb. 12:15

Husbands are to present their wives holy and without blemish

The goal of Christ is to present the church holy - Col. 1:22

The goal of the husband is to present the wife holy - 1 Pet. 3:5

Christ chose us to be holy and without blemish - Eph. 1:4

Christ will present us holy and without blemish - Col. 1:22

Christ offered Himself without spot to God to cleanse our conscience - Heb. 9:14

Husbands are to model the Word for their wives - James 1:22

Christ presented Himself as a lamb without blemish or spot - 1 Pet. 1:19

Christ will present us faultless to the Father - Jude 24

d. Christ calls husbands to love their wives as they love their own bodies- 5:28

Husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies

A husband and wife become one flesh - Eph. 5:31

A husband is to love his wife as he loves himself - Eph. 5:33

Husbands actually love themselves when they love their wives

A husband is caring for his own bones and flesh - Gen. 2:21-24

A husband becomes one flesh with his wife - Matt. 19:5-6

e. Christ says men take care of their own bodies - 5:29

Men do not hate their own bodies

Hate is usually felt toward others - Titus 3:3

Hate is demonstrated toward those around us - 1 John 2:9-11

Hate is to be replaced by love toward those around us - 1 John 4:11-20

Men nourish their own bodies

Our bodies are the temple of the Lord and we are to glorify Him - 1 Cor. 6:19-20

Men are warned not to nourish their own hearts for evil - James 5:5

Merciful men do good to their own souls - Prov. 11:17

Men cherish their own bodies

Men care for their bodies as a nursing mother cares for her child - 1 Thess. 2:7

Men are to nourish and cherish their wives as Christ does the church

Christ gave His life for the church - Eph. 5:25

f. Christ says we are a part of Him - 5:30

We are a part of His body

Christians become one body in Christ - Rom. 12:5

Christians are to avoid any form of sexual sin - 1 Cor. 6:15-17

Christians are all a part of the body of Christ - 1 Cor. 12:12-27

Christians are the body and Christ is the head - Col. 2:19

We are a part of His flesh

Christians become part of the flesh of Christ - John 6:50-58

Christians reveal Christ in our flesh - 2 Cor. 4:11

Christians live in the flesh by faith - Gal. 2:20

We are a part of His bones

Christ was flesh and bones after the resurrection - Luke 24:39

Christ lives within our lives - Gal. 2:20

Christ calls us to represent Him in the world - John 20:21

3. A Spirit led couple will become one in Christ - 5:31-33

a. Christ calls couples to become one flesh - 5:31

A husband is to leave father and mother

This was explained to Adam in the garden - Gen. 2:24
To leave means to forsake or leave behind - Acts 18:19

A husband is to be joined to his wife

To be joined together means to cleave or be welded together - Mark 10:7

A husband and wife are to become one flesh

To become one flesh means to have sexual relations as humans - 1 Cor. 6:16
This is why we are to flee all sexual immorality as Christians - 1 Cor. 6:18

b. Christ says a godly couple pictures the church - 5:32

The unity of a couple is a great mystery

A mystery reveals the wisdom of God - 1 Cor. 2:7
A mystery is something not known which Christ reveals - Eph. 1:9
The mystery is the church is the eternal bride of Christ - Rev. 21:2; 21:9

The unity of the church is a great mystery

This unity began with Christ and the Father - John 17:4-8
This unity is the desire of Christ for the church - John 17:21-23
A mystery is something which is now revealed by the Spirit - Eph. 3:3-5
This unity is to be kept by Christians - Eph. 4:3-7

c. Christ calls godly couples to love and respect - 5:33

A godly husband will love his wife

A husband is to love his wife as his own body - Eph. 5:28
A husband is to love his wife and not be bitter toward her - Col. 3:19
A husband shows love to his wife by honoring her - 1 Pet. 3:7
A husband shows love by meeting his wife's needs - 1 Cor. 7:3-5
A husband shows love by following Christ's example - Eph. 5:25-29
A husband shows love by listening to his wife - James 1:19-20

A godly wife will respect her husband

A wife shows respect to her husband when she has godly fear - 1 Pet. 3:1-6
A wife shows respect to her husband when she submits - Col. 3:18
A wife shows respect by meeting her husband's needs - 1 Cor. 7:3-5
A wife shows respect by listening to her husband - James 1:19-20

2. Spirit led parents will not provoke their children to wrath - 6:4

Fathers are to lead in helping their children grow spiritually

Fathers are to instruct their children - Prov. 6:1-4
Fathers are to teach their children by example - Deut. 6:5-9
Fathers are to train their children as they are growing - Prov. 22:6
Fathers are to teach their children at all times - Deut. 6:5-9
Fathers are to take time to answer children's questions - Deut. 6:20-24
Fathers are to teach their children in all places - Deut. 11:19-21
Fathers are to lead their family in serving the Lord - Josh. 24:15
Fathers are to teach their children to seek the Lord - 1 Chron. 28:9
Fathers are to teach the next generation - Ps. 78:4-7
Godly fathers urge their children to imitate them - 1 Cor. 4:14-16
Godly fathers teach their children how to walk worthy of God - 1 Thess. 2:10-12

Fathers are not to provoke their children to wrath

Fathers are not to provoke or discourage their children - Col. 3:21
Fathers are to discipline and correct their children - Heb. 12:9-11
Fathers are to discipline but not destroy - Prov. 19:18
Fathers are to correct through loving discipline - Prov. 22:15

Fathers are to bring their children up in the training of the Lord

Godly training must begin with a godly example - 1 Cor. 11:1
Training is best done by using the Word of God - 2 Tim. 3:16-17
Training is to be done with gentleness - 2 Tim. 2:25
Training has as its focus growth in godly living - Titus 2:12
Training includes chastening and discipline - Heb. 12:5-11

Fathers are to bring their children up in the admonition of the Lord

Fathers are to give wisdom by discipline and rebuke - Pro. 29:15
Fathers are to admonish and warn in love - 1 Cor. 4:14
Fathers warn children to bring them to maturity - Col. 1:28
Fathers can admonish children through music - Col. 3:16
Spiritual fathers are to admonish spiritual children - 1 Thess. 5:12
Fathers are to warn the unruly - 1 Thess. 5:14

I. God describes the Spirit filled life for employees and employers - 6:5-9

1. Spirit led employees will work to please the Lord - 6:5-8

a. Employees will obey their masters as if they were obeying the Lord - 6:5

Employees (bondservants) are to be obedient to their masters

Bondservants are to obey their masters in all things - Col. 3:22

Bondservants are to be well pleasing in all things - Titus 2:9-10

The only exception to obedience is when it would disobey God - Acts 5:29

Employees talk about all who have employers or masters here on earth

Christians are to realize we are bondservants of God - 1 Pet. 2:15-16

Employers are to obey with fear (respect) and trembling

Servants are to be submissive to their masters with all fear - 1 Pet. 2:18

Employees are to do this in sincerity of heart

We want to do all that we do with a pure heart - 1 Tim. 1:5

We are to have a clear conscience before God for the way we work - 1 Pet. 2:19

Employees are to respect their employers as they respect Christ

Employees are to obey their employers from the heart - Col. 3:22-24

Employees are to realize Christian employers are brethren beloved - 1 Tim. 6:2

Employees are to please their masters in all things - Titus 2:9-10

b. Employees (slaves) will seek to do the will of God - 6:6

This is not just when the employer is watching

We are to do all to the glory of God - 1 Cor. 10:31

We are to work with reverence toward God - Col. 3:22

We are to live our lives to carry out the will of God - 1 Pet. 4:2

This is what many do to please their employers

We are to avoid causing God and His doctrine to be blasphemed - 1 Tim. 6:1

We are to adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things - Titus 2:10

This is to be done as bondservants of Christ

We are to work to please the Lord and He will reward us - Col. 3:23-24

As a servant of the Lord we are not to quarrel but be gentle - 2 Tim. 2:24

This means doing the will of God from the heart

Those who do the will of God are part of the family of Christ - Mark 3:35

Employees are to seek to understand the will of God - Eph. 5:17

Employees are to honor those in authority - 1 Pet. 2:13-16

Those who do the will of God will abide forever - 1 John 2:17

c. Employees will seek to serve the Lord - 6:7

Employees will do this with goodwill

Employees are to do all to the glory of God - 1 Cor. 10:31-33

Godly employees will do this with an attitude of service

We are to serve in the newness of the Spirit - Rom. 7:6

This includes serving both non-Christians and Christians - 1 Tim. 6:2

Employees will do this to please the Lord and not just men

Employees are to do all they do to the Lord - Col. 3:23

d. Employees will look to the Lord for provision - 6:8

Employees know that the Lord is observing all that they do

We are to do whatever we do to the glory of God - 1 Cor. 10:31

The Lord observes when we do good and suffer - 1 Pet. 2:20

The Lord will commend us before the Father - 1 Pet. 2:20

Employees are to look to the Lord to reward us

Employees are to look to the Lord for reward - Col. 3:24

Employees will see Christ provide needs as they honor Him - Phil. 4:19

We are to do this whether we are bondslaves or free

This will change our attitudes as we work - Eph. 6:6

2. Spirit led employers will show respect to employees - 6:9

Godly employers will also seek to serve our Master (the Lord)

At salvation our sins are blotted out - Acts 3:19

Our Master is in heaven (He is interceding for us) - Col. 4:1

Employers are to treat their employees fairly - Rom. 4:8

Employers who are not fair will be judged - James 5:4

The half-brothers of Christ recognized Him as Lord - James 1:1; Jude 4

Godly employers will not threaten

Employers are to treat others the way they want to be treated - Matt. 7:12

Christ the Lord washed the feet of the disciples - John 13:13-14

Christ gave us the real example by not threatening - 1 Pet. 2:23

Godly employers will seek to please the Lord, their Master

Christ gave His disciples a great ministry - John 21:15-17

God does not show partiality in salvation - Acts 10:34-35

Christ does not show partiality when He rewards - Col. 3:24-25

Godly masters will give what is just and fair - Col. 4:1

Christ calls us to avoid all partiality - James 2:1-10

III. The protection that we have in Christ as Christians - 6:10-24

A. God describes our enemy as Christians - 6:10-12

1. We are to depend on the strength of the Lord - 6:10

We are to be strong in the Lord

Christ is the source of our strength - Phil. 4:13

We can have strength because of the grace Christ provides - 2 Tim. 2:1

We are to be strong in the power of His might

Christ causes His mighty power to work through us - Eph. 1:19

Paul prayed for Christians to be strengthened with all might - Col. 1:11

The power of Satan was defeated at the cross - Heb. 2:14

Christ gives us this strength to minister effectively - 1 Pet. 4:11

2. We are to put on the whole armor of God - 6:11

We are to put on the whole armor of God

Satan experiences defeat as we depend on the power of God - 2 Cor. 10:3-5

God calls us to put on the entire armor not just some parts - Eph. 6:13

We will then be able to stand against the wiles of the devil

God tells us that the devil is very deceptive - 2 Cor. 11:3, 13-15

3. We are to understand our enemy - 6:12

Our fight is not against human enemies

God says our fight is not a physical fight - 1 Cor. 9:25-27

God says that our fight is a spiritual fight - 2 Cor. 10:3-5

Our fight is against principalities

Principalities are the first created angels who became demons - Col. 1:16

Christ disarmed the principalities and powers - Col. 2:15

Our fight is against powers

Satan is the prince of the power of the air - Eph. 2:2

All authorities and power have been made subject to Christ - 1 Pet. 3:22

Our fight is against the rulers of the darkness of this world

Christ has turned us from darkness to light - Acts 26:18

God delivered us from the power of darkness - Col. 1:13

Our fight is against spiritual wickedness in high places

Satan is the wicked one - 1 John 2:13-14

B. God describes our armor as Christians - 6:13-20

1. Spiritual armor is for defense - 6:13-17a

a. We are to take the full armor of God - 6:13

We are to take (put on) the full armor of God

Wiles speak of the fact that the devil lies in wait to deceive - Eph. 4:14

The full armor will help us stand against the wiles of the devil - Eph. 6:11

The full armor will give us strength to withstand in the evil day

We are to redeem the time because the days are evil - Eph. 5:16

The Lord warned that the days will become more evil - 2 Tim. 3:1-7

Resisting in the Lord's strength requires a humble attitude - James 4:7

We withstand the devil by being steadfast in the faith - 1 Pet. 5:8-9

We will have full joy as we fellowship with the Lord - 1 John 1:3-4

We are to make every preparation to stand

The Lord is able to make us stand complete in all the will of God - Col. 4:12

We are able to stand in the true grace of God - 1 Pet. 5:14

We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand - Rom. 5:2

This is why we must walk by faith and not by sight - 2 Cor. 5:7

b. We are to stand strong in Christ - 6:14

We do not stand in our own strength

We can do nothing in our own strength - John 15:5

Christ's strength is made perfect in our weakness - 2 Cor. 12:9

Christ told the apostles He would give them a mouth and wisdom - Luke 21:15

The synagogue of the Freedmen was not able to resist Stephen - Acts 6:9-10

We can do all things as we depend on the strength of Christ - Phil. 4:13

God gives more grace by resisting the proud - James 4:6-7

We resist the devil in the strength that Christ provides - 1 Pet. 5:8-9

We have had our loins girded with truth

We are to be committed to knowing the truth - John 8:31-32

We are to be committed to obeying the truth - James 1:22

We purify ourselves in obeying the truth through the Spirit - 1 Pet. 1:22

We have been given the breastplate of righteousness

We have been given the righteousness of Christ - Phil. 3:9

We are to grow in our obedience to that righteousness - Phil. 3:10-14

This is also the breastplate of faith and love - 1 Thess. 5:8

c. We are to have our message ready - 6:15

We have had our feet shod with the gospel of peace

Christ said we are to preach the gospel to every creature - Mark 16:15
Paul's ministry was to testify to the gospel of the grace of God - Acts 20:24
Paul said he was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ - Rom. 1:16
Paul endured all things to minister the Gospel of Christ - 1 Cor. 9:12
Some turned from the grace of Christ to another gospel - Gal. 1:6
These false teachers wanted to pervert the gospel of Christ - Gal. 1:7
The message of the cross of Christ is the message of peace - Gal. 6:16
We have the peace of God controlling our hearts and minds - Phil. 4:4-7
We have the God of peace with us in spiritual battle - Phil. 4:8-9

d. We are to have Biblical protection - 6:16

Christ tells us to take certain things in order to stand

We will fail to stand in our own strength - John 15:5; Rom. 7:19
We are to present ourselves as slaves to obey - Rom. 6:16
This is necessary because of our human weakness - Rom. 6:19
The Lord even uses our failures to conform us to His image - Rom. 8:28-29
No created thing can separate us from the love of Christ - Rom. 8:35-39
That is why we are to take the whole armor of God - Rom. 6:11

We are to take the shield of faith

The shield of faith provides protection from temptation - 1 Cor. 10:12-13
This faith gives us an eternal viewpoint - 2 Cor. 4:16-18
This faith quenches all the fiery darts of Satan - 1 Pet. 5:8-9
This faith causes us to know the wicked one cannot touch us - 1 John 5:18-19

This protection will quench all the fiery darts of the wicked

This is how to have victory over evil from within us - Mark 7:21-23
As evil heart will cause us to depart from the living God - Heb. 3:12
This is why we are not to quench the Spirit - 1 Thess. 5:19

e. We are to take the helmet of salvation - 6:17a

The helmet of salvation is the hope of salvation - 1 Thess. 5:8
That hope is based on the resurrection of Christ - 1 Cor. 15:12-21
That hope is based on the return of Christ - 1 Thess. 4:13-18
That hope we have as an anchor of the soul - Heb. 6:17-19

2. Spiritual armor is for offense - 6:17b-18

a. The sword of the Spirit is one of our weapons - 6:17b

We are to take the sword of the Spirit

The sword of the Spirit is greater than a human sword - Heb. 4:12

The sword of the Spirit defeats Satan - Matthew 4:4, 7, 10-11

The Word of God is sharper than a two-edged sword - Heb. 4:12

We are to realize that the sword of the Spirit is the Word of God

The Word of God is living and powerful - Heb. 4:12

The Word of God is greater than our words - Is. 55:8-9

The Word of God will take away our fear of man - Heb. 13:5-6

b. Prayer is our other weapon - 6:18

We are to pray always

We are to pray at all times - 1 Thess. 5:17

We are to pray for all people - 1 Tim. 2:1

We are to pray in all places - 1 Tim. 2:8

We are to pray with prayer and supplication

Prayer speaks of general prayer addressed to God - Col. 4:2, 12

Supplication (petition) refers to specific requests to God - Phil. 4:6

We are to pray in the Spirit

We pray to the Father through the Spirit - Rom. 8:15

We pray in the Spirit for the will of God - Rom. 8:26-27

We are to pray with all perseverance

We are to continue in prayer to avoid temptation - Matt. 26:41

We are to continue in prayer until Christ comes - Mark 13:33-37

We are to continue in prayer and watch - Col. 4:2

We are to pray with all supplication (petition)

We are to pray for forgiveness - Matt. 6:12; 1 John 1:9

We are to pray for victory over temptation - Matt. 6:13

We are to pray for the salvation of others - Rom. 10:1

We are to pray for the ministry of one another - 2 Cor. 1:11

We are to pray for Christians in other areas - 2 Cor. 9:14

We are to pray for victory for one another - James 5:16

We are to pray for all saints

We are to pray for the spiritual growth of all Christians - Eph. 3:14-21

We are to pray for fruitfulness for all Christians - Col. 1:9-13

3. Spiritual armor caused Paul to speak boldly for Christ - 6:19-20

a. Paul asked the Ephesians to pray for him - 6:19

He asked them to pray for utterance

Paul realized that we lack personal strength - 2 Cor. 1:8-11

Paul realized that God is the One who opens the door - Col. 4:3

Paul wanted people to pray that the Word would spread quickly - 2 Thess. 3:1

He asked them to pray he would open his mouth boldly

When we spend time with Christ we can speak boldly - Acts 4:13

When we are filled with the Spirit we can speak boldly - Acts 4:31

Paul had come to Corinth in fear, and in much trembling - 1 Cor. 2:3

The Lord spoke to Paul in a vision to encourage him - Acts 18:9

When we are filled with hope we can speak boldly - 2 Cor. 3:4-12

He asked them to pray that he would be able to share the Gospel

Paul was chosen to reveal the mystery of the gospel - Eph. 3:3-7

Paul's goal to share the Gospel where it had not been heard - Rom. 15:20-21

Paul also had a goal to bring people to spiritual maturity - Col. 1:26-29

We are to equip faithful men to teach others also - 2 Tim. 2:2

b. Paul had a desire to speak to please God - 6:20

This is because Christians are ambassadors for God

Paul was an ambassador for Christ in chains - Acts 28:16; 30-31

An ambassador for Christ calls people to be reconciled to God - 2 Cor. 5:20

Paul was the prisoner of Christ when he wrote Ephesians - Eph. 3:1

The chains of Paul encouraged others to speak boldly also - Phil. 1:14

Paul had begotten Onesimus while in chains - Phile. 1:10-11

This is because we are to speak boldly

We are to speak boldly and without fear - Phil. 1:12-14

We are to speak with the love that casts out fear - 1 John 4:18

This is because speaking boldly is the way we ought to speak

We are to obey God rather than men - Acts 5:29

We are to speak the Word with confidence - Acts 28:31

We are to speak the Word of God without shame - Phil. 1:20

We are to make the Gospel clear to others - Col. 4:3-4

We are to speak the Word even when facing opposition - 1 Thess. 2:2

We are to be willing to lay down our lives as we speak - 1 John 3:16

We are to be bold as we contend for the faith - Jude 3

C. God wants us to be concerned for one another - 6:21-24

1. Paul sent Tychicus to tell what was happening to him - 6:21-22

a. Tychicus was a faithful servant of God - 6:21

He would tell how Paul was doing

Paul realized how God was working - Phil. 1:12

He was a beloved brother

Paul had a real love for Tychicus - Col. 4:7

Paul later sent Tychicus to Ephesus - 2 Tim. 4:12

He was a faithful servant of God

Paul had added Tychicus to his ministry team - Acts 20:4

b. Tychicus was sent to encourage the Ephesians - 6:22

He was sent with a purpose

Paul sent Tychicus to encourage the brethren - Col. 4:7-8

People are encouraged when their hearts are knit together in love - Col. 2:1-2

He would tell what was happening to Paul

Paul wanted to keep the Christians informed - Col. 4:9

He would encourage the Ephesians

Paul knew that Tychicus had a ministry of encouragement - 2 Tim. 4:12

Paul wanted the brethren to experience peace and love - 6:23-24

Peace is something God wants us all to experience - 6:23

Peace can be our experience

Peace has its source in the Father and Christ - Rom. 1:7

Peace is our experience as we are obedient to God - Phil. 4:9

Love with faith comes from the Father and Christ

Love has its source in the Father and Christ - John 17:23

Grace is present with all who love Christ - 6:24

Timothy was to be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus - 2 Tim. 2:1

We are to let our speech always be seasoned with grace - Col. 4:6

We are to be good stewards of the manifold grace of God - 1 Pet. 4:10