

Ephesians

More than a Makeover

Why Should You Be Excited about Ephesians?

Ephesians 1-6

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / September 15, 2024

I. The Book Of Ephesians Is Written To A Group Of Christians That Saw One Of The Greatest Revivals In History Launched From Their City

From the city of Ephesus, the Gospel spread through the entire region of Asia Minor with an estimated population of **8-15 million** people in just **2 years**.

See **Acts 19:18-20, 23-26**.

The book of Ephesians presents the Gospel of Jesus Christ as the answer to all this brokenness in our world. The root problem in our world is the pervasive sin problem that starts in our heart. Only the power of the gospel can change the human heart.

The Gospel itself rocked the Roman Empire!

II. The Book Of Ephesians Is A Perfectly Balanced Diet Of Indicatives And Imperatives

Ch. 1-3 are packed with dense and rich run-on sentences that don't give you anything that you need to do! Instead, these three chapters just rumble and soar into a crescendo of what God has done!

Ch. 4-6 are all about how to live, in light of what God has done.

III. Why Should You Personally Be Excited?

A. You'll Learn What You Have

In **Ephesians 1:3-14**, **Paul** is updating your spiritual resume, because so many times you just don't know who you are in Christ now. You're still thinking old thoughts, you're stuck in old ways, and you're believing old lies listening to your enemy – Satan.

1. Blessed with every spiritual blessing (v. 3)
2. Chosen to be holy and without blame (v. 4)
3. Predestined (v. 5)
4. Adopted as sons (v. 5)
5. Accepted in the Beloved (v. 6)
6. Redeemed through His blood, according to the riches of His grace (v. 7)
7. Forgiven of your sins (v. 7)
8. Given wisdom and understanding of His will (vv. 8-9)
9. Given an inheritance (v. 11)
10. Sealed with the Holy Spirit (v. 13)

B. You'll Learn What He Did

Look at what God did for us and what His love is like in **Eph. 2:1-5**.

- His love is *“great”*
- His love is specific – *“us”*
- His love is unexpected and undeserved – *“even when”*

C. You'll Learn Who To Praise

3x in that first, glorious, run-on sentence, Paul tells us where to look and who to thank for where we are now as Christians.

Ephesians 1:6 “...to the praise of His glorious grace...”

Ephesians 1:12 “...to the praise of His glory.”

Ephesians 1:14“... to the praise of His glory.”

D. You'll Learn How To Pray

We can learn how to pray by noting what he did and did not pray for, for the believers in Ephesus in **Eph. 1:15-20**.

1. That they would know the hope that they have (1:18)
2. That they would know the riches of their inheritance (1:18)
3. That they would know the greatness of His power toward them (1:19-20)

The second prayer is in **Ch. 3:14 -21**, where he sticks the landing.

Ephesians 3:20-21 “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

E. You'll Learn How To Change

In **Eph. 4:20-24**, you see that God calls us take action in light of what He's done.

Real change is about knowing and following Jesus, not just applying biblical principles or verses to your life.

Ephesians 4:20-21 “But that is not the way you learned Christ! – ²¹ assuming that you have heard about Him and were taught in Him, as the truth is in Jesus...”

“Where the Lord calls for change, connect those specific changes to what God is doing. Whenever you need to change, put the Redeemer in the center of the picture... God is primarily interested in making us know Him. Don't ever degenerate into giving advice unconnected to the good news of Jesus crucified, alive, present, at work, and returning.”

~David Powlison, *Seeing With New Eyes*

F. You'll Learn How To Live

Ch. 4-6 tell us how to communicate, how to reconcile differences, and how to change habits that are hard to change.

It talks about marriage, parenting, the workplace, and spiritual warfare:

1. **In the Family of God (Church)** – Eph. 4:1-6
2. **In Your Home** – Eph. 5:22-32; 6:1-4
3. **In the World** – Eph. 5:7-16
4. **In the Workplace** – Eph. 6:5-9

G. You'll Learn How And Who To Fight

God doesn't just care about what you do, He cares about how you do it, because how you do it will determine what gets destroyed. When you use the weapons of our flesh other people get destroyed. When you tap into His divine power—and do it His way—strongholds are destroyed! See **Eph. 6:10-20**.