

Bible Study – Outline

EPHESIANS

Author Paul
Date Written Approx. 60AD from Rome
Audience: The Church at Ephesus and the surrounding area

Major Theme(s)

What is the Church?

The Church is the Body
The Church is a Temple
The Church is a Mystery
The Church is the New Self
The Church is a Bride
The Church is a Soldier

Heavenly Realms

Eph. 1:3, 2:6, 3:8-10, 6:12

Key People

Paul, Tychicus

Ephesians

Our Position as Christians	1 - 3
Introduction: We are redeemed by the Son, sealed by the Spirit	1
Our position before God: Once dead, now alive in Christ	2:1-10
Our position in the Church: Jews and Gentiles reconciled	2:11-22
The mystery of the Church revealed	3
Our Lifestyle as Christians	4 - 6
Unity in the Church	4:1-6
Our Church, many Spiritual gifts	4:7-16
Put off the old self, put on the new	4:17-29
Do not grieve the Holy Spirit, but be filled with the Spirit	4:30 - 5:21
Christian submission: Husbands and wives, children to parents	5:22 - 6:4
Service in the workplace	6:5 - 9
Spiritual Warfare: The armour of God, praying and boldness	6:10 - 20
Conclusion	6:21 - 24

Key Scriptures

Eph. 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

Eph. 1:22-23 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23. which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Eph. 2:21-22 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Eph. 3:8-10 Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, 9. and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. 10. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,

Eph. 4:4-6 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5. one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6. one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Eph.4:7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

Eph. 4:24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. see also II Cor. 5:17

Eph. 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26. to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27. and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Eph. 5:31-32 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32. This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

Eph. 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Eph. 6:13-17 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15. and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

OUR TRUE IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Rom. 3:24	We are justified – declared “not guilty” of sin
Rom. 8:1	No condemnation awaits us
Rom. 8:2	We are set free from the law of sin that leads to death
I Cor. 1:2	We are sanctified and made acceptable in Christ
I Cor. 1:30	We are righteous and holy in Christ
I Cor. 15:22	We will be made alive at the resurrection
II Cor. 5:17	We are new creations
II Cor. 5:21	We receive God’s righteousness
Gal. 3:28	We are one in Christ with all believers
Eph. 1:3	We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ
Eph. 1:4	We are holy and blameless
Eph. 1:5,6	We are adopted as God’s children
Eph. 1:7	Our sins are taken away, and we are forgiven
Eph. 1:10,11	We will be brought under Christ’s authority
Eph. 1:13	We are identified as belonging to God by the Holy Spirit
Eph. 2:6	We have been raised up to sit with Christ in glory
Eph. 2:10	We are God’s work of art
Eph. 2:13	We have been brought near to God
Eph. 3:6	We share in the promise of blessings through Christ
Eph. 3:12	We can come with freedom and confidence into God’s presence
Eph. 5:29,30	We are members of Christ’s body, the Church
Col. 2:10	We are made complete in Christ
Col. 2:11	We are set free from our sinful nature
II Tim. 2:10	We will have eternal glory

AS BELIEVERS WE ARE ONE

In Body	The fellowship of believers
In Spirit	The Holy Spirit unites us
In Hope	The glorious future ahead of us
In the Lord	Christ, to whom we all belong
In Faith	Our commitment to Christ
In Baptism	The sign of entry into the Church
In God	God, who is our Father who keeps us for eternity

Discussion Questions

1. What is the meaning “Heavenly realms”?
2. What is our six fold calling?
3. Who, or what, do we struggle against each day and how can we stand our ground?

Resources Used

Adventuring Through the Bible by Ray Stedman
Life Application Bible (NIV) - Zondervan and Tyndale House.
Ephesians – Building a Community in Christ – by John Stott
www.biblestudytools.com