

# PART 1 –BOOK OF EPHESIANS- INTRODUCTION

## FOUNDATIONAL TEXT

**John 1:16-17 AMP** - *For out of His fullness (abundance) we have **all received** [all had a share and we were all supplied with] one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and even favour upon favour and gift [heaped] upon gift. For while the Law was given through Moses, **grace** (unearned, undeserved favour and spiritual blessing) and **truth** came through Jesus Christ.*

1. Revelation – What does the Book of Ephesians tell us?
2. Interpretation – The word of God
3. Application - How do apply this preaching from the Book of Ephesians - OVERVIEW
4. Key Messages from this preaching

1. Revelation – What does the Book of Ephesians tell us?

- The theme of Ephesians is living in community with God and with one another
- It's a book for revival. Paul wrote it to keep the church in revival in Ephesus
- It's all about the Godhead, as we understand who God is and what He's done, it changes our identity
- The letter shows the balance in the Christian life between Doctrine - Chapters 1-3 [Divine Sovereignty] & Duty- Chapters 4-6 [Human Responsibility]
- We do not obey God so that He will give us His grace, we obey Him in response to the grace he has already given us
- We are all called to fight the good fight of faith and to take our stand against the spiritual forces of darkness
- **'In Christ'** – occurs 27 times in this book – over 150 times in Paul's writings
- **Grace** is not just a doctrine - Grace is a person - **Jesus**
- **Truth** is not just information - Truth is a person - **Jesus**

2. Interpretation – The word of God

*For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. **1 Thessalonians 2:13***

\*Paul planted many churches, but the bible gives credit to Paul for being a prayer warrior more than planting churches [I believe]. Often times he says "I'm praying for you without ceasing' I keep asking, I pray in the spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and the team with me, they're not just professional Christian's, they pray with me. I have this guy, Epaphras who is one like you, who is always wrestling in prayer for you. That's who Paul has on his team - prayer warriors.

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<b>Author : Watchman Nee</b>	<b>Teachings on the three postures of the believer</b>
<p>The warrior of the Lord We worship, then walk and then we are ready to stand to war – that is the Progression of Paul’s writings in the Book of Ephesians.</p> <p>We walk it out and then we fight. Some of us want to fight but we haven’t got a clue how to worship or how to walk out our salvation, so we’re living in sin, we’re living in unbelief, but we want to fight. It will never work. Why? Because of out of who God is, we worship [God I’m here for you, you are sovereign, you’re divine, salvation is yours] then I’ll walk out my life [worthy of the Lord]. Am I perfect? No, but I do what he tells me to do and out of that place I can take my stand, and having done all to stand, I stand in VICTORY.</p>	
<b>Sit:</b> <i>Resting in Christ’s finished work</i>	<i>Before we can fight we have to learn to <b>worship</b></i>
<p><i>1:3 - blessed be the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ</i>  <i>1:6 - to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved</i>  <i>1:12 - that we who first trusted in Christ, should be to the praise of His glory</i>  <i>3:21 - to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen</i></p>	
<b>Walk:</b> <i>Our life in the world</i>	<i>Before we walk, we have to learn to <b>worship</b></i>
<p><i>4:1 - walk worthy of the call you have received,</i>  <i>4:17 - walk not as the Gentiles in the futility of their minds</i>  <i>5:2 - walk in love, just as Christ also loved us,</i>  <i>5:17 - walk carefully not as fools, but as wise.</i></p>	
<b>Stand:</b> <i>Our attitude to the enemy</i>	<i>We <b>worship</b>, we <b>walk</b> and then we are ready to <b>war</b></i>
<p><i>6:10 - Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might against demonic opposing forces. Put on the full armour of God, take up your sword of the Spirit and pray at all times, with all kinds of prayer for all the saints</i></p>	

The Father	
Salvation is of the Father <b>1:3-5</b>	<i>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as he chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will</i>
Salvation is due to the Father’s <b>grace 1:6</b>	<i>To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved</i>
Salvation is for the Father’s <b>glory 1:14</b>	<i>Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory</i>
Salvation reveals the Father’s <b>greatness 1:19</b>	<i>And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power</i>

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<b>The Son</b>	
Christ the <b>Redeemer</b> <b>1:7</b>	<i>In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace</i>
The One by whom history will ultimately be <b>consummated</b> <b>1:10</b>	<i>That in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.</i>
He is the <b>resurrected King</b> who pours his life over us <b>1:15-23</b>	<i>Therefore I also after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you many know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which he worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And he put all things under His feet and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fill all in all.</i>
He is the <b>Peacemaker</b> – reconciles man to God and man to man as well <b>2:11-18</b>	<i>Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.</i>
He is the chief <b>Cornerstone</b> of the new temple <b>2:19-22</b>	<i>Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.</i>
He is the <b>Treasure</b> of unsearchable riches <b>3:8</b>	<i>To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,</i>
The <b>in-dweller</b> of our hearts, securing us in the Father’s love <b>3:17-19</b>	<i>That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.</i>

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<p><b>The Giver of ministry gifts</b> to equip His church <b>4:7-11</b></p>	<p><i>But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended"—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,</i></p>
<p>The <b>Model Husband</b>, unselfishly giving Himself to enhance His bride <b>5:25-27, 32</b></p>	<p><i>Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, "that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.</i></p> <p><i>This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.</i></p>
<p>He is the Lord, <b>mighty in battle</b>, the resource of strength for His own, as they engage in spiritual battle <b>6:10</b></p>	<p><i>Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.</i></p>
<p><b>The Holy Spirit</b></p>	
<p>The Spirit is the <b>Sealer</b> – authorising the believer to represent Christ - <b>1:13</b></p>	<p><i>In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,"</i></p>
<p>The Spirit is our <b>down payment</b>, guaranteeing our complete redemption - <b>1:14</b></p>	<p><i>Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.</i></p>
<p>The Spirit is the <b>Revealer</b> who enlightening our hearts to perceive God's purpose - <b>1:17-18</b></p>	<p><i>That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.</i></p>
<p>The Spirit is our <b>access</b> to the Father - <b>2:18</b></p>	<p><i>For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.</i></p>
<p>The Spirit <b>builds us together</b> to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit - <b>2:22</b></p>	<p><i>In whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit</i></p>
<p>The Spirit is the <b>Empowerer</b>, who strengthens our inner man - <b>3:16</b></p>	<p><i>That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,</i></p>
<p>The Spirit <b>enables</b> the Body to live in unity - <b>4:3</b></p>	<p><i>Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.</i></p>
<p>The Spirit can be <b>grieved</b> through our words &amp; deeds - <b>4:30</b></p>	<p><i>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.</i></p>
<p>The Spirit is the <b>Fountain</b>, that fills us, to</p>	<p><i>And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,</i></p>



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4. Overarching Messages from this preaching	
How do we operate in levels of faith required for this time and season?	We need to find our inheritance and our destiny and our life source in God's word.
Take authority over distractions [especially devices!]	Read God's word and you will be blessed, you'll be fed, you'll be encouraged, you'll be saying 'Lord what do I need to do, tell me?' AND you will hear his voice – clearly.
I can't help you if you're not going to God for help	Jesus said my words are spirit and life. If you don't put my words into practice, you're like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand.
God has planned everything including salvation	God is like this great architect; He meticulously plans every single second of every second day of every month of every year
Jesus didn't come to call the righteous, but the sinners to repentance	It's not the world that needs a doctor, it's the sick that needs a physician
Salvation is for the Father's glory	God draws people, even right now, he's drawing loved ones, your family. How? By the grace He is releasing.
Please let's not disrespect God's word.	Blood was shed, people lost their lives, Paul lost his life to write the New Testament, let's treat it with value
You can never earn a miracle from God, never earn salvation from God, healing, breakthrough, restoration.	Everything we receive from God is a gift. We need to pray so it positions us in faith to receive those things we can never earn. Your job is to make sure your heart's in faith to receive
God does nothing, except through his word	God's word works in you if you can effectively believe. How do you believe God's word? By sitting, walking and standing
The cross is free, but it will cost you everything.	Once you receive [for free] it's going to cost you your whole life
We are the temple of the Holy Spirit	He is building us into the temple of the Lord