

The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the holy and faithful *ones* in Christ Jesus *in Ephesus*: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places*, ⁴just as he chose us in him before *the* foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before him in love. ⁵He had marked us out beforehand to adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of his grace, which he freely bestowed on us in the beloved *one*, ⁷in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our transgressions, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished on us in all wisdom and prudence; ⁹having made known to us the sacred secret of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in him, *Christ*, ¹⁰until an administration of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens, and the things on the earth. In him, *I say*, ¹¹in whom also we were assigned a portion, having been

marked out beforehand according to the purpose of the one working all things according to the plan of his will, ¹²to the end that we who had previously hoped in Christ should be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In whom you also, when you heard the word of truth, the Good News of your salvation—in whom, having also believed, you were sealed with the promised holy spirit, ¹⁴which is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance, until the redemption of *God's own* property, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵Because of this I also, having heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and the love that *you show* toward all the holy *ones*, ¹⁶I do not stop giving thanks for you, remembering *you* in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the thorough knowledge of him, ¹⁸the eyes of your heart having been enlightened in order that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what *is* the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the holy *ones*, ¹⁹and what *is* the surpassing greatness of his power to us, the believing *ones*, (according to the energizing of his mighty strength ²⁰that he energized in the Christ when he raised him out from among *the* dead, and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹far above all rulership, and authority, and power, and lordship, and every

name named, not only in this age, but in the coming one also,²² and he put all things in subjection under his feet, and appointed him *to be* head over all things for the congregation,²³ which is his body, the fullness of the *one* filling all things in all).

2 And you *he made alive*, when you were dead in your transgressions and sins,² in which you once walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit who is working in the sons of defiance,³ among whom we also all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest—⁴but God, being rich in mercy, because of his great love with which he loved us,⁵ even when we were dead in our transgressions, made *us* alive together with the Christ (by grace you have been saved),⁶ and raised *us* up with him, and seated *us* with him in the heavenly *places*, in Christ Jesus,⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show, by kindness towards us in Christ Jesus, the surpassing riches of his grace,⁸ for by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God,⁹ not from works, so that no one can boast.¹⁰ For we are his handiwork, having been created in Christ Jesus to *do* good works, which God

prepared in advance so that we would walk in them.

¹¹Therefore, remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “uncircumcision” by that which is called “circumcision” *which is* done in the flesh by human hands,¹² that you were at that time without Christ, excluded from the citizenship of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world.¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who were formerly far off are made near by the blood of the Christ.¹⁴ For he is our peace who, having made both one, and having broken down by his flesh the middle wall of partition (that is the enmity),¹⁵ *and* having abolished the Law (that is to say, commandments *contained* in decrees), in order that in himself he might create the two into one new man, *thus* making peace,¹⁶ and might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, having slain the enmity by it,¹⁷ and having come, he told the Good News—peace to those far off, and peace to those near,¹⁸ because through him we both have access by one spirit to the Father.

¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow-citizens with the holy *ones* and members of the household of God,²⁰ having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and

prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy sanctuary in the Lord.²² In whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God by spirit.

3 Because of this, I Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles,—²since you have heard of the administration of the grace of God that was given to me for you,³ that by revelation the sacred secret was made known to me, as I wrote before in brief,⁴ by which, when you read, you are able to understand my insight into the sacred secret of Christ,⁵ which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by *the* spirit,⁶ that through the Good News the Gentiles are co-heirs, and fellow-members of the body, and fellow-partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus,⁷ of which I was made a servant, according to the gift of that grace of God which was given me according to the working of his power.⁸ To me, who am less than the least of all holy *ones*, this grace was given, to tell the Good News to the Gentiles—the unsearchable riches of Christ,⁹ and to make all men see what is the administration of the sacred secret, which for ages has been hid in God who created all

things,¹⁰ to the intent that now, to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*, might be made known, through the congregation, the many sided wisdom of God,¹¹ according to the Age-abiding purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord,¹² in whom we have boldness and access in confidence through our faith in him.¹³ Therefore I ask you not to be discouraged at my tribulations for you, which are your glory.

¹⁴For this cause I bow my knees to the Father,¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,¹⁶ that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power by his spirit in the inner man,¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, to the end that you, being rooted and grounded in love,¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the holy *ones* what is the breadth and length and height and depth,¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ, which surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,²¹ unto him *be* the glory in the congregation and in Christ Jesus to all generations for ever and ever. Amen.

4 Therefore, I, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called, ²with all humility and meekness, with longsuffering, showing forbearance to one another in love, ³being diligent to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴*There is* one body and one spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all.

⁷But to each one of us was the grace given according to the measure of the gift of Christ. ⁸Therefore he says, **When he ascended on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.** ⁹(Now this, “he ascended,” what is it but that he also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same also who ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹And he gave some apostles, and some, prophets, and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the holy *ones* for the work of the ministry *and* for the building up of the body of Christ, ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴that we may be no longer children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of

doctrine, by the trickery of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error, ¹⁵but speaking the truth in love, we may grow up in every way into him, who is the head, *even* Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body being fitted together and united through that which every joint supplies, according to the working in *due* measure of each individual part, makes the increase of the body to the building up of itself in love.

¹⁷This I say therefore, and implore in the Lord, that you *must* no longer walk as the Gentiles also walk, in the vanity of their mind, ¹⁸being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, *and* because of the hardening of their heart, ¹⁹who being past feeling, gave themselves up to unrestrained behavior, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰But you did not learn Christ this way. ²¹If so be that you heard him, and were taught in him, even as truth is in Jesus, ²²that you put away, as concerning your former manner of life, the old man, which is being corrupted according to the deceitful lusts, ²³and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and put on the new man, that after God has been created in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵Therefore, putting away falsehood, **speak truth each one with his neighbor**, for we are members

one of another. ²⁶Be angry, and *yet* do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your angry mood, ²⁷and do not give the Slanderer an opportunity. ²⁸Let him who stole, steal no more, but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing that is good, that he may have something to give to the one who has need.

²⁹Let no corrupting talk proceed out of your mouth, but only such as is good for edifying, according to the need, that it may give grace to those who hear, ³⁰and do not grieve the holy spirit of God, with which you were sealed to the day of redemption. ³¹Let all bitterness, and anger, and wrath, and clamor, and slander, be put away from you, together with all malice, ³²and be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, even as God also in Christ forgave you.

5 Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and walk in love, even as Christ also loved us, and gave himself up for us *as* an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling fragrance.

³But sexual immorality, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is proper for holy *ones*; ⁴and *there must not be* obscenity and foolish talking, nor crude joking, which are not fitting, but rather giving of

thanks. ⁵For this you know with certainty, that no person who is sexually immoral, or unclean, or covetous (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of defiance. ⁷Therefore, do not be partakers with them, ⁸for you were once darkness, but now, in the Lord, *you are* light. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light is in all goodness and righteousness and truth), ¹⁰proving what is well-pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather even expose them, ¹²for it is shameful even to speak of the things that are done by them in secret. ¹³But all things are revealed when they are exposed by the light. For everything being revealed is light. ¹⁴Therefore *he* says, “Awake, you who sleep, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵Therefore, watch carefully how you walk, not as unwise, but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷Because of this, do not be senseless, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not be drunk with wine, which leads to reckless actions, but be filled with spirit; ¹⁹speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual

songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰always giving thanks for all things to God, even the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²¹Submit yourselves one to another in *the* fear of Christ, ²²the wives to their own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³For a husband is *the* head of the wife even as Christ is *the* head of the congregation, *being* himself *the* Savior of the body. ²⁴But as the congregation is subject to Christ, so *let* the wives also *be* to their husbands in everything. ²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the congregation, and gave himself up for it ²⁶in order that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷that he might present the congregation to himself *as* a glorious *congregation*, not having a spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸In the same way husbands are obligated to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself, ²⁹for no man ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ also the congregation, ³⁰because we are members of his body. ³¹**For this cause will a man leave his father and mother and will be glued to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.** ³²This sacred secret is great, but I speak in regard to Christ and the congregation.

³³Nevertheless each one of you is to love his own wife even as himself, and *let* the wife *see* that she respect her husband.

6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

²**Honor your father and mother** (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³**that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth.** ⁴And you fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

⁵Servants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, *and* in sincerity of heart, as to Christ. ⁶*Do this* not only to win their approval when their eye is on you, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, ⁷serving with good will, as to the Lord and not to men, ⁸knowing that whatever good thing each one does, the same will he receive back from the Lord, whether *he is* slave or free.

⁹And, you masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no respect of persons with him.

¹⁰Finally, be empowered in the Lord, that is, in the might of his strength. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, in order that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the

Slanderer. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this *present* darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the heavenly *places*. ¹³Because of this, take up the whole armor of God, in order that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand.

¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened the belt of truth around your waist, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and having shod your feet with the preparation of the Good News of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, taking up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil *one*.

¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Be praying at all times in *the* spirit with all *kinds of* prayer and supplication. And to that *end*, keep watching with all perseverance, and supplication for all the holy *ones*.

¹⁹And *pray* on my behalf, in order that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given to me, to make known with boldness the sacred secret of the Good News ²⁰(for which I am an ambassador in chains), that in *proclaiming* it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

²¹But so that you also may know the things about me, how I am

doing, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will make known to you all things. ²²I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know our state, and that he may encourage your hearts.

²³Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with *love* incorruptible.

