

Introduction to Ephesians

Course Description

This course provides a home-based Bible Study Course with Commentary. Students will learn what the Apostle Paul wrote to the holy and believing people in Christ Jesus. It gives great emphasis to God's grace, and to the unfolding of the "mystery." It shows the beauty and depth of God's glory, of everything that holy-people have in Christ, and how we are to behave ourselves during the everyday living of our lives as we await Christ's coming to gather us all together with him.

This course corrects erroneous teachings and concepts, and covers many topics such as:

- Spirit
- Mystery
- Gifts
- Body of Christ
- Love
- Heavens
- Lordship
- Full armor of God

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Have an accurate understanding of the Book of Ephesians
2. Teach others about God and His Word
3. Teach Christians how we should behave ourselves
4. Be knowledgeable about the past, present, and future for mankind

Course Reading Material

This course follows the True Bible Study reading material (<http://www.TrueBibleStudy.com/Products.htm>):

- Ephesians – Word Translation and Study Guide

Course Outline

Introduction to the Book of Ephesians

The following is a short summary of the 6 chapters included in this course:

· **Verses 1-23** **Chapter 1**

Paul writes that he is an apostle of Christ Jesus by means of the intention of God. He addresses this letter to the people who are holy and believing in Christ Jesus.

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is blessed, and He has already blessed all holy-people (Christians) in every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ according as God selected us in Christ. We have been sealed with the spirit of the promise, the holy spirit, which is the deposit of our inheritance.

In Christ we have the full-redemption by means of his blood. At a future time all things will be headed-up in the Christ, the-things on the heavens and the-things on the earth that are within Christ's sphere of action - and we will be into the praise of God's glory.

God previously energized in the Christ, having raised him up out-from dead-people and having caused him to sit-down in His right-side in the heavenlies, super-above all rulership and authority and ability and lordship and every name being named not only in this age but also in the age being about to come, and "He subjected all-things under his feet," and He gave the resurrected Christ, who is head over all-things, to the church which is his body.

· **Verses 1-22** **Chapter 2**

We used-to-be children by nature of wrath – but God being wealthy in mercy because-of much love was merciful-towards us. God made us alive together with the Christ. In the spirit category we are now seated together in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus.

We were saved with grace by means of belief, and this free-gift is from God - not from works. We are God's made-product, having been created in Christ Jesus on good works which God prepared-beforehand in order that we may walk in them.

Christ is our peace. He rendered ineffective the law of the commandments in order that he may create the two groups of people (Judeans and Gentiles) in himself into one new man making peace and he may fully-reconcile both in one body to God by means of the cross, having killed the enmity in himself.

Now by means of Christ we both have the access in one spirit towards the Father. Consequently we are citizens together, God's household-people, built on the foundation

of the apostles and prophets – Christ Jesus himself being the extreme-corner. It is in Christ that all the building joining together increases into the holy interior-temple in the Lord, in whom also we are being built-together into the dwelling-down-place of God in spirit.

· **Verses 1-21** **Chapter 3**

Paul was given the stewardship of the grace of God according to the revelation of the mystery which was made-known to him. He understood the mystery of the Christ which had been hidden-away in God during previous ages. Many details of the mystery are provided in Chapter 3 which was revealed to God's holy apostles and prophets in spirit.

Paul also asked those to whom he was writing not to despond regarding his pressures on their behalf.

God is able to super-exceedingly do all-things of which we ask-for-ourselves or we mentally-perceive according to the ability that is being energized in us by means of the gift of holy spirit.

· **Verses 1-32** **Chapter 4**

Paul encourages the holy-people to walk worthily of the calling of which we were called. There is:

- one body
- and one spirit,
- according as also you were called in one hope of your calling,
- one Lord,
- one belief,
- one baptism,
- one God and Father of all holy-people.

Christ has given to all holy-people - the apostles, and the prophets, and the good-messengers (evangelists), and the shepherds and teachers. We must new ourselves up with the spirit of our mind and clothe ourselves with the new man, the new man according to God having been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth - and we must put away the lie from ourselves.

· **Verses 1-33** **Chapter 5**

Paul writes that we must become imitators of God as loved children, and walk in love according as also Christ loved us and gave himself over on behalf of us.

We are light in the Lord, as children of light we must walk – for the fruit of the light is in all goodness and righteousness and truth – proving what is well-pleasing to the Lord.

We must fill ourselves in spirit, uttering-forth to ourselves, in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs singing and psalming with our heart to the Lord, being thankful always on behalf of all-things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God Who is our Father, subjecting ourselves to one-another in fear of Christ.

Paul continues to teach regarding the behavior of the wives and the husbands.

Verses 1-24 Chapter 6

Chapter 6 continues about the behavior of the children and the fathers, plus the slaves and the lords.

All holy-people must be enabled in the Lord and in the strongness of his strength. We must clothe ourselves with the full-armor of God for the purpose of being able to stand against the methods of the devil, because the wrestling is...

- not for us against blood and flesh
- but against the rulerships,
- against the authorities,
- against the world-strong-ones of this darkness,
- against the spiritual-things of the evilness.

Therefore we must stand...

- having girded our loin around in truth,
- and having clothed ourselves with the breastplate of the righteousness,
- and having bound-under our feet in the preparation of the good-message of the peace,
- in all-things having taken-up the shield of the belief in which we will be able to quench all the missiles of the evil-one having been set-on-fire,
- and we must accept the helmet of the salvation
- and the sword of the spirit, which is the spoken-matter of God,
- by means of all prayer and supplication praying in every time in spirit.

Paul closes out with:

May the grace be with all the people loving our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruption.