

*Paul's Letter to the*

# Ephesians



God's Plan, Our Place

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# “In Christ”

- Called; holy; blameless; adopted; redeemed; inheritance; sealed
- “Above all”: 1:21; 3:10; 6:12
- *arche* – *exousia* – *dunamis* – *onoma*
- Disobedience, BUT GOD! Raised, seated
- Grace thru faith - Created for good works
- Brought near for reconciliation & Peace
- Access by the HS (2:18)

# New Structure(19)

- No longer strangers, aliens... to God...
- Fellow citizens, God's household
- **FAMILY!**
- Built on the apostles/prophets – word!
- Jesus the cornerstone
- Fit together (4:16) and growing!

# For what purpose?

- TEMPLE!!! (*naos*)
  - Holy to the Lord
  - Universal and all inclusive – Is 45:23; Ro 14:11; Phil 2:11; Rev 5:9; 14:6
- Built together (1x) continual process
  - varied materials...

# For what within?

## ■ Dwelling of GOD in the Spirit

–THE GLORY! – Jn 14; 17; Ro 8:9ff

–We are each a part, none are left out

–So Paul gets specific... his part

–CH 3 – “for this reason” (1:15; 3:14)

–Prisoner??? And in God’s perfect will!

# Paul's call (2,3)

- Stewardship of God's grace
  - We are not owners, but stewards
  - Gentiles...
- By revelation – mystery...
- Apostles, prophets, in the Spirit
  - God's plan for all, not just Jews
  - Wrote in brief? Eph 1! Refer to it...

# Mystery made known

- of Christ (4)

- Gentiles are fellow heirs with Jews

- Jn 4:22; Rom 3:1ff; started with the Jews

- Fellow members of the Body (joint-body)

- “in Christ Jesus through the gospel”

- Is this the Gospel we share/hear today?

# Paul's place (7)

- *diakonos* – servant, waiter
- God's grace given to me
- Working of His power [*dunamis*]
- I am the “less of the least” 1x WHY?
- Focus on the ethnos – nations
- *euaggelizo* – announce, glad tidings (8)
- Unsearchable – Ro 11:33; Job 5:9; 9:10



# Bring to light! (9)

- Made visible by God
  - It was hidden in God, world not ready...
  - He is creator of all... just remember...
- God's Wisdom, not man's (Gnostics)
  - Thru the church (*ekklesia*)- important!
  - *arche & exousia* (1:20,21) in heavenlies
  - Eternal purpose