

A dramatic landscape painting of Ephesus at sunset. In the foreground, the dark, silhouetted ruins of the Temple of the Virgin Mary are visible, with its iconic archway framing the view. The background shows a vast, hazy landscape with a city, likely Ephesus, nestled in a valley. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun, creating a warm and atmospheric scene. The overall mood is contemplative and historical.

EPHESIANS

WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST

Relationships... intimacy

- We are members of HIS Body – 1Co 12
 - Leave father and mother, cleave
 - A Great Mystery... UNITY!
- Men: Love you own wife as yourself
- Ladies: Respect (*phobeo*) your husband
- Godly marriages create godly families making a godly church...

Relationships... Kids

- Only Godly families can do this...
 - HS effects are essential in Childrearing
- *hupakouo* – to listen, when door knocks: open it! Be obedient
- This is just and right: Isaac, David, Jesus
 - Pr 1:8; 6:20; 23:22; 30:11,17
 - Commandment with a promise! LIFE! Ex 20
 - Good grace in the Land...

Relationships – Fathers!

- What does this say about who does it???
- Quote from LXX - *parorgizo 2x*
- To bring to wrath, exasperate
- Commands need to be clear and do-able!
- Severity, anger, withheld love/approval
- *paideia* – nurture, instruction, chastening
- *nouthesia* – understanding, admonition

Thoughts for today...

- What does this do for single adults? 50%+
 - They need “Family” more than ever!
 - They are outside authority structures
 - Not a safe place...
 - This is not freedom, it is suicide!!!
 - Open our hearts and homes
 - Listen for their need, help them be accountable
 - We **NEED** each other!!!

Concerning Business

- Slaves ??? (*doulos*)
 - Not a popular thought in any age
 - Many kinds and some are self-imposed
 - The only alternative for many...
- Obedient – hupakouo pres. act. imp
 - Your own masters, not everyone! (like wives...)
 - Knowing WHO you are accountable to...

It's About Attitudes

- Fear and trembling – WHY?
- *phobos* ; *tromos* – attitudes of anxiety?
 - This goes over well in today's marketplace!
 - We need to honor authority... duty...
- Sincerity in heart
 - You do not “work” for money!
 - “as to Christ” – all we do is a reflection of HIM!

But, we are free...?

- NOT “eyeservice” – inspected, when watched
- NOT “men pleasers” – you work for GOD!!!
- SLAVES of Christ – what would this mean?
- Doing the will of God from the heart...
 - How do you think Rome got saved???
 - Impact of daily lives, attitudes...

Thoughts

- industry, fidelity, conscientiousness, submission, and obedience
- “good will” here & Mt 5:25 only
 - Kindness and conciliation – (we are talking slaves!)
- “render service” – to serve as a slave, bondage
 - You do not work for any HUMAN
 - YOU DO ALL TO AND FOR THE LORD

If Jesus is Lord...

- So many of us lose it here...
- Christianity is most needed...
 - Individuals, couples, homes, workplace
 - WE CANNOT MAKE SEPARATIONS!
- If we can't live for God in everyday issues...
- What does this say about Him???
- Puritans, Quakers, Shakers, Pilgrims, Amish
our country was built on such lifestyles, ethics – how should we then live?

PAYDAY!

- “good things”