

Knowing Christ

A Study of Ephesians

The Church and the Trinity

Lesson 1

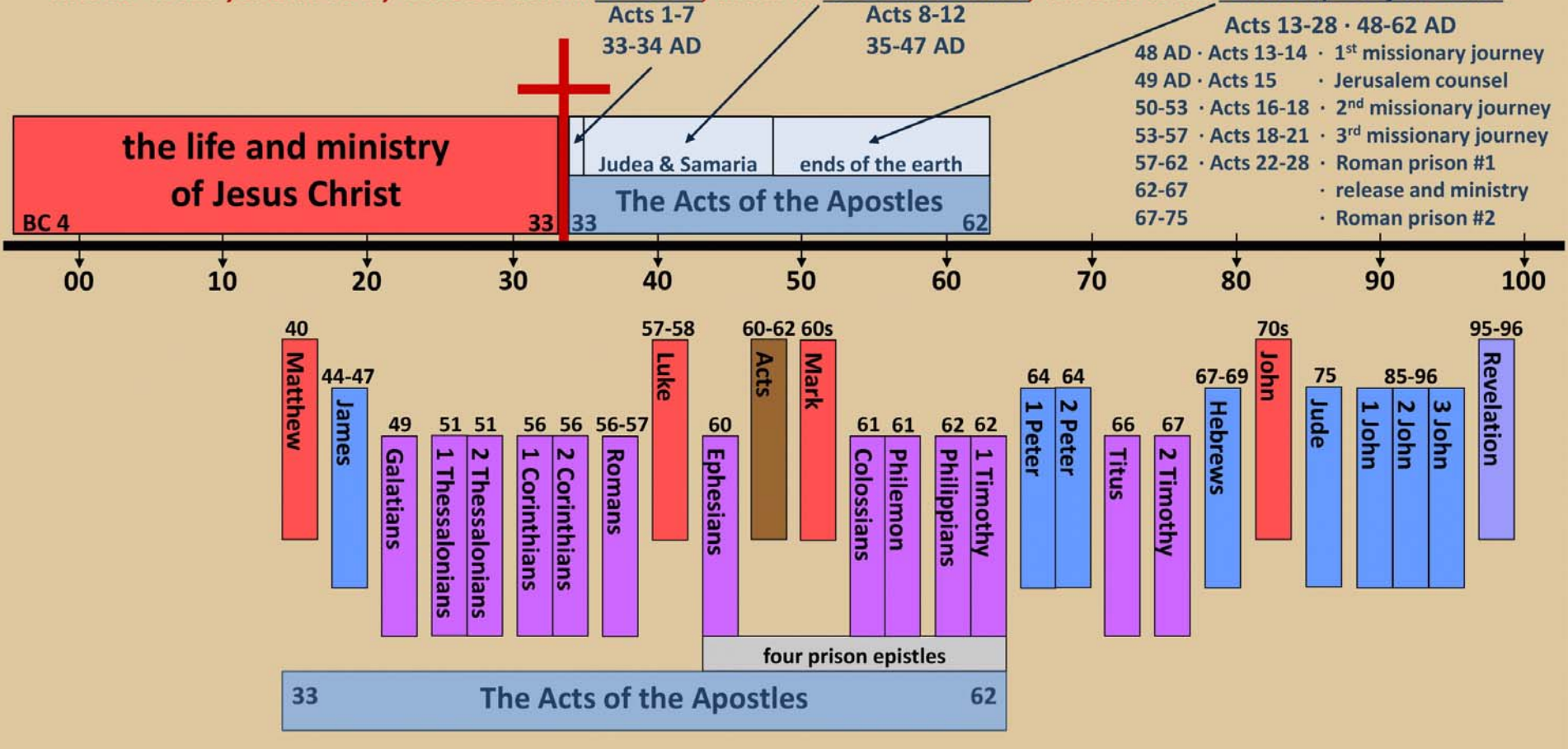
Ephesians 1

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School

January 5, 2020

The Development of the New Testament

Acts 1:8 "... and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."



Knowing Christ

Studies in the Later Epistles

Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, 1 & 2 Peter

- ▶ Ephesians – the Church of Jesus Christ – “the mystery of Christ” (3:4)
- ▶ Philippians – rejoicing in Christ – “to live is Christ” (1:21)
- ▶ Colossians – Christ, our exalted Savior – “complete in Christ” (1:28)
- ▶ Philemon – grace in life – “for Christ’s sake” (6)
- ▶ 1 Peter – standing firm in the true grace of God – “share the sufferings of Christ” (4:13)
- ▶ 2 Peter – standing firm in the true knowledge of Christ – “grow . . . in knowledge of Christ” (3:18)

Ephesians

the Church of Jesus Christ			prison epistle 60		
①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
the foundation of the Church			the function of the Church		
the ministry of salvation	the life in Christ	the ministry to Gentiles	the walk in Christ		the stand in Christ
<u>salutation</u> 1-2 <u>doxology</u> 3-6 Father 7-12 Christ 13-14 Holy Spirit <u>prayer</u> 15-23	<u>Jews & Gentiles</u> <u>individual new life</u> 1-3 past life 4-10 present life <u>Jews & Gentiles</u> <u>corporate church life</u> 11-12 past life 13-22 present life	<u>God's revelation</u> 1-7 the mystery of Christ 8-13 the ministry of the mystery of Christ <u>prayer</u> 14-19 Christ may dwell in your hearts <u>benediction</u> 20-21	<u>general</u> <u>the Christian walk</u> 4:1-16 the worthy walk 4:17-19 the no longer walk 4:20-32 the old and new walk 5:1-6 the walk in love 5:7-14 the walk in truth 5:15-21 the walk in wisdom	<u>specific</u> <u>family walk</u> wives 5:22-24 husbands 5:25-33 children 6:1-3 fathers 6:4 <u>work walk</u> servants 6:5-8 masters 6:9	<u>spiritual warfare</u> strength 10-11 enemies 12 armor 13-17 prayer 18-20 <u>final word</u> 21-24

The Church and the Trinity

Ephesians 1

- ▶ The opening greeting (1:1-2)
- ▶ A doxology (1:3-14)
 - Opinion or glory (doxo) + word (logia) – a word of glory (praise)
 - A single sentence in the Greek text about salvation by Father, Son and Holy Spirit
 - “to the praise of His glory” stated after each Member’s role is presented (1:6, 12, 14)
- ▶ A prayer (1:15-23)

The Opening Greeting

Ephesians 1:1-2

- ▶ Paul – apostle of Christ Jesus – by the will of God
- ▶ Ephesians – saints – faithful in Christ Jesus
 - Ministry for 2 years at Ephesus on 3rd missionary journey (Acts 19)
 - Meeting with Ephesian elders on trip back to Jerusalem (Acts 20:17-38)
- ▶ Epistle also intended for surrounding area
- ▶ Greeting: grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
 - Sovereign favor – “Gospel of . . .” and “word of . . .”(Acts 20:24, 32)
 - Peace – a just peace with God (Romans 5:1)

A Doxology

Ephesians 1:3-14

- ▶ Blessed be God . . . for blessing us with all spiritual blessings in Christ (1:3-6)
 - Blessed God – worthy of praise – honored for His work of salvation
 - Blessed man – happy – honored by God’s work of salvation
- ▶ Every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ
- ▶ Chosen before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before Him
- ▶ Predestined by love to adoption as His sons through Jesus Christ
- ▶ To the praise of the glory of His grace freely bestowed on us in Jesus Christ
- ▶ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for His blessings for us in Christ

A Doxology

Ephesians 1:3-14

- ▶ Blessed be God for the work of the Son (1:7-12)
- ▶ Redemption through His blood (sacrifice) – forgiveness of our trespasses
- ▶ Making known to us the mystery of His will – salvation in Christ for all believers
- ▶ An inheritance granted (Romans 8:17)
- ▶ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for Christ's blessings

A Doxology

Ephesians 1:3-14

- ▶ Blessed be God for the work of the Spirit (1:13-14)
- ▶ Sealed with the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the Spirit's blessings

A Prayer

Ephesians 1:15-23

- ▶ Paul's prayer for the believers: "For this reason . . ." (1:15-23)
- ▶ Thanksgiving for saving faith manifest by love for the saints
- ▶ Prayer requests:
 - To have a spirit of wisdom and understanding in the knowledge of Christ
 - To see the hope of His calling (Col 1:27 – "Christ in you, the hope of glory")
 - To see the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints
 - To see the surpassing greatness of His power toward believers
- ▶ The exaltation of His power in the resurrection and ascension of Christ
- ▶ The exaltation of Christ as head over the Church which is His body – His fullness

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

Ephesians 1

- ▶ Every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Jesus Christ
- ▶ All members of the Godhead are devoted to this work of salvation
- ▶ The blessing of the revelation of the work of Jesus Christ in our salvation
- ▶ The resurrection power of God to bring this to pass
- ▶ The guarantee of the final outcome by the Holy Spirit
- ▶ The blessing of our life in Christ – the fullness of Him who fills all in all