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."

The life and ministry of Jesus Christ

the Acts of the Apostles

Judea & Samaria

ends of the earth

48 AD · Acts 13-14 · 1st missionary journey
49 AD · Acts 15 · Jerusalem counsel
50-53 · Acts 16-18 · 2nd missionary journey
53-57 · Acts 18-21 · 3rd missionary journey
57-62 · Acts 22-28 · Roman prison #1
62-67 · release and ministry
67-75 · Roman prison #2

40 Matthew
44-47 James
49 Galatians
51 1 Thessalonians
51 2 Thessalonians
56 1 Corinthians
56 2 Corinthians
56-57 Romans
57-58 Luke
60 Acts
60-62 60s Mark
61 Ephesians
61 Colossians
61 Philemon
62 1 Thessalonians
62 2 Thessalonians
62 1 Timothy
62 1 Peter
64 2 Peter
64 1 John
66 Hebrews
67 Titus
67 2 Timothy
70s John
75 Jude
75 1 John
75 2 John
75 3 John
85-96 Revelation
95-96 1 John
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

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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
  - 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