

## Purpose

To explain what Christ has done for us and to challenge us to live a life that reflects our redemption

## Author

Paul

## To Whom Written

The churches in and near Ephesus

## Date Written

From Rome (60-62 AD) during Paul's imprisonment

## Key Verses

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ."  
*Eph. 1:3* (for Chapters 1-3)

"Therefore, I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called."  
*Eph. 4:1* (for Chapters 4-6)

## Special Feature

The first half of this letter (1-3) is more doctrinal in nature (orthodoxy), while the second half (4-6) is more practical, laying out guidelines for Christian conduct (orthopraxy).

## An Overview (6 Chapters)

- What Christ Has Done for Us (1:1-3:21)
- Living a Life That Honors Christ (4:1-6:24)

## Major Themes

- *Spiritual Blessings*: The opening of Paul's letter (1:1-14) recounts a multitude of spiritual benefits that we have been afforded through Christ (1:3).
- *Reconciliation*: Paul writes of two great acts of reconciliation. The first is that of God reconciling sinners to Himself; the second is that of reconciling Jews with Gentiles (2:1-22).
- *Mystery*: A mystery is something that is once hidden but revealed in time. Several mysteries are unveiled in the New Testament, one being the inclusion of Jews and Gentiles in one body called the Church (3:5, 9). The idea of the Church was hidden from Old Testament saints.
- *A Worthy Walk*: The second half of Paul's letter (4-6) hinges on this transition, that our lives reflect externally what Christ has done for us internally (4:1). That change only comes as we submit to the leadership and influence of the Holy Spirit (5:15-6:9).
- *Spiritual Warfare*: Paul challenges us to stand firm against our spiritual enemy, which can only be accomplished with spiritual resources (6:10-24), not in the flesh.