EPHESIANS - INTRODUCTION

I. PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS IN EPHESUS:
   A. Paul came to Ephesus at the end of his second preaching tour - stayed for only a short time (Acts 19:19-21)
      1. Left Aquilla and Priscilla here.
      2. Reasoned with the Jews in the synagogue.
   B. Paul came to Ephesus on his third preaching tour and preached here and the surrounding areas of Asia for 3 years (Acts 19:1-20:1; 20:31).
      1. Teaching the baptism in the name of the Lord to 12 disciples of John (19:1-7).
      2. Spoke boldly concerning the kingdom of God for 3 months in the synagogue (19:8)
      3. Taught disciples in school of Tyrannus for 2 years - All Asia (Jews and Greeks) heard the word of the Lord (19: 9-10).
      4. Through miracles the name of the Lord was magnified - Magical books willingly burned amounting to the price of 50,000 pieces of silver over presumptuous spirit of seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish high priest (19:11-20).
      5. Uproar over goddess Diana and the preaching of Paul (19: 22-41).
         a) Diana - the Ephesians' mother goddess of the earth.
         b) Temple of Diana was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.
            (1) Built on marshy ground - pains taken to build good foundation.
            (2) feet by 425 feet with 107 pillars, each 60 feet high.
            (3) A place of safe keeping of people's money.
            (4) Annual feasts were celebrated with people all over the world taking home shrines of Diana as souvenirs (Acts 19:24).
            (5) Her rituals involved sacrifices and ceremonial prostitution (cf. Eph. 4:17-20).

II. AUTHOR
   A. Paul - twice refers to himself by name (1:1, 3:1)
      1. "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus through the will of God..." (1:1).
      2. "I Paul" (3:1).

III. DATE AND PLACE OF WRITING
   A. Probable date - A.D. 61-62
1. Companion letters of PHILEMON and COLOSSIANS were probably sent at the same time by the same messengers: Tychicus and his companion, Onesimus. (Eph. 6:21; Col.4:7-9; Philemon 10,12).

EPHESIANS - INTRODUCTION
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  1. Paul refers to himself as a prisoner (4:1; 6:20; cf. Col. 4:18; Philemon 1,9,23)

IV. THEME AND PURPOSE OF THE BOOK
A. Theme: The Glorious Church
  1. Glorious as conceived in eternity by God.
  2. Glorious as it functions in time.
B. Purpose: To set forth God's purpose in summing up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and things upon the earth (1:9-10).

V. FEATURES OF THE BOOK
A. No personal salutations - leads to the belief the epistle was to be a circular letter read to other area churches, not just the one in Ephesus.
B. The church:
  1. The church is revealed in its "universal" sense (1:22-23; 4:4, 16).
  2. Its divine and eternal character:
     a) Conception: Planned by God in eternity (1:4; 3:11)
     b) Construction: Grace of God through faith (1:19 - 2:10).
     c) Consummation: fullness of God (1:10, 23).
  3. Three metaphors emphasizing relationship:
     a) The BODY of Christ - Christ the authoritative HEAD (1:22-23; 4:4, 16).
     b) The BUILDING of God - Christ is the chief CORNERSTONE (2:19-22).
     c) The BRIDE of Christ - Christ the sacrificial HUSBAND (5:25-27, 32).
C. Key words and phrases:
  1. "in" occurs some ninety times denoting relationship -"in Christ"
     a) Where all spiritual blessings are found (1:3, 11; 2:6, 7, 13).
     b) Where God's chosen, unblemished, and holy people dwell in love (1:4).
     c) Where Redemption from sin is found (1:7)
     d) The focal point for the summation of all things in the heavens and upon the earth (1:10).
     e) The theme of the gospel message (1:13).
  2. "Grace" occurs thirteen times denoting the numerated favor of God expressed in salvation for man through Christ (1:6, 7; 2:5, 8).
  3. "Heavenlies" occurs 5 times; the realm of the Christian's walk and warfare (1:3; 2:6; 6:12; etc.)
  4. "Mysteries" occurs 6 times; Not something you cannot understand, but the truth held in secret until revealed by God at the proper time (3:3-6, 9; 6:19).
5. "Walk" occurs 8 times denoting the character of living (2:2, 10; 4:1, 17; 5:2, 8, 11-15-16; etc.).

D. Our relationship with the Lord controls our personal relationships (5:21-6:9).
   1. Wife - Husband
   2. Children - Parents
   3. Servants - Masters

VI. OUTLINE OF THE BOOK (Adapted from Baxter in EXPLORE THE BOOK)

A. OUR WEALTH IN CHRIST (Chapters 1-3).
   1. Praise for spiritual possession (1:3-14).
   2. Prayer for spiritual perception (1:15-23).
   3. Our new condition in Christ (2:1-10).

B. OUR WALK IN CHRIST (Chapters 4-6)
   1. Regarding the church corporately (4:1-16).
   3. Regarding sensual living and living before outsiders (5:3-21).
   4. Regarding special relationships at home (5:22-6:9).

INTRODUCTION
How often do you thank God for the spiritual blessings you enjoy in Christ? Can you name them one by one? Do you think you have spiritual blessings outside of Christ? Has God really predestined you to either salvation or eternal damnation?

Ephesians one deals with these issues. May we apply ourselves in the study and come away with a greater appreciation for the salvation we have in Christ.

I. GREETINGS (v.1-2)
A. From Paul the apostle of Christ Jesus
B. To the saints and faithful in Ephesus
C. Grace and peace extended From God our Father and Lord Jesus Christ.

II. BLESSINGS WE HAVE IN CHRIST (v.3-14)
A. God who gives spiritual blessings is praised (v.3)
B. We are chosen (v.4)
C. Foreordained to Adoption (v.5)
D. Grace bestowed (v.6)
E. Redemption (v.7)
F. God’s will revealed - mystery known (v.9)
G. We are made a heritage (v.11-12)
H. Sealed with Spirit of Promise (v.13-14)

QUESTIONS:
1. From the "greetings" in verses 1-2, write down what you know about:
   (a) Paul:
   (b) God the Father:
   (c) Jesus:
   (d) Christians:

2. For what kind of blessings does Paul want us to be praising God?

3. Where are these blessings be found?

4. What are the "heavenly places"?
5. Write down the phrases that begin with "according to..." and from these summarize what this says of the scheme of redemption:

6. Did God choose us as individuals, or as a class of people? (Explain.)

7. When did God make this choice?

8. What two characteristics did God desire us to have when we are before him?

9. Unto what did God foreordain those who are in Christ?

10. Who is "the beloved"?

11. What does the word "redemption" mean?

12. What is the relationship between redemption and forgiveness of sins?

13. To what degree has God extended grace toward us?

14. What two words are connected with this extended grace?

15. Why would God's will be called a "mystery"?

16. What is a "dispensation"? (cf. Lk.16:2-4, 1 Cor. 9:17, Eph. 3:9)

17. What purpose does God have in mind for heaven and earth?
18. What is a "heritage" in verse 11? (KJV - "obtained an inheritance")

19. Who had before "hoped in Christ"?

20. What people are addressed as "ye" in verse 13?

21. What two things had the Ephesians done before they were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise?

22. How are people "sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise"?

23. What is the "earnest" of our inheritance

24. What is "the redemption" in verse 14, if we have it in verse 7?
INTRODUCTION:

After we have entered a saving relationship with God in Christ, what is next? By studying 1:15-23, we learn from Paul’s prayer for the Ephesians, new Christians should be growing in spiritual perception. Let us notice in this study the character of this spiritual perception and make it ours.

I. PAUL’S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS’ SPIRITUAL PERCEPTION (1:15-23)

A. Basis for Paul’s thanksgiving for the Ephesians (v.15)
   1. The blessings connected with being in Christ (cf.v.3-14) - “for this cause”.
   2. Heard of Ephesians’ faith.
   3. Heard of Ephesians’ love toward the saints.

B. Thanks given always (v.16).

C. Requests: (v.17-23).
   1. That God would give Ephesians spirit of wisdom and revelation (v.17-18a)
      a) Based upon knowledge of Himself.
      b) Have eyes of heart enlightened.
   2. Things Ephesians would know: (v.18b - 23).
      a) The hope of God’s calling (v.18b).
      b) The riches of the glory of God’s inheritance in the saints (v.18c).
      c) The exceeding greatness of God’s power toward saints (v.19-23).
         (1) The power used in raising Christ from the dead (v.20a).
         (2) The power used in exalting Christ (v.20b-21).
         (3) The power used in subjecting all things to Christ (v.22a).
         (4) The power used to make Christ head over the church (v.22b-23).
            a) The church is His body (v.23a).
            b) The church is His fulness (v.23b).

QUESTIONS:

1. What two essentials in our spiritual life were found in the Ephesians?
   a. How did Paul know about these qualities?

2. How regularly did Paul pray for the Ephesians?

3. Describe the character of the type of “spirit” Paul desired for the Ephesians:
4. Paul's priority for the Ephesians was for them to have a (an) (a) emotional experience (b) boring experience (c) understanding experience.

5. What three main things did Paul want the Ephesians to know?

6. How were the Ephesians called?

7. What is connected with this calling?

8. What is the "inheritance in the saints" in verse 18?

9. What does Paul want saints to appreciate about this inheritance?

10. Define the word "power", and how is it used in verses 19-23?

11. How great is God's power?

12. Christ is ___________ over _____ _______ to the ____________.

13. The church is Christ's ________________.

14. In what sense is the body of Christ the "fulness" of God?
INTRODUCTION

In 2:1-10, Paul helps us see the greatness of God’s love and our salvation by putting it in the context of our sins. When we see the helplessness of our old sinful condition (dead in sin) we should appreciate our new condition (alive in Christ).

In this lesson we will investigate the character of the sinners' (Gentiles and Jews) condition outside of Christ, God's love behind our salvation, and what our new condition is in Christ.

I. OUR NEW CONDITION IN CHRIST (2:1-10)

A. The Old Condition (v.1-3).
   1. Dead in sins.
   2. Spiritual death characterized by:
      a) Walking according to the course of this world
      b) Inspired by the prince of the powers of the air.
      c) Manifested by disobedience
      d) Deserving of God's wrath.

B. The Basis for our new condition (v.4-5).
   1. By a Merciful and Loving God.
   2. By Grace through Faith.

C. The New Condition (v.6-10).
   1. Raised to sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.
   2. Saved by God's grace - not by works.
   3. Workmanship of God for good works.

QUESTIONS:

1. We are spiritually dead because of (a) inherited sins of Adam  (b) our own sins.

2. Define "trespasses" and "sins":

3. Being dead means we are (a) separated (b) inactive.

4. How had sinners "walked"?
5. How is Satan connected with the sinner's walk in life?

6. What does it mean to be children of wrath "by nature"?

7. In our salvation should we FIRST look to what we have done or what God has done?

8. What is the character of God's saving grace?

9. When were we raised to sit with Christ?

10. The gift of God in verse 8 is pointing to (a) our faith (b) our salvation.

11. What does it mean to sit with Christ in the heavenly places?

12. What is God's eternal purpose for his new creatures in Christ?
INTRODUCTION

One beautiful facet of the great wisdom of God is how Jews and Gentiles with their diverse backgrounds and practices could be brought together as "one man" in Christ. As we shall see in this lesson the focal point for uniting both Jews and Gentiles unto God was not heathen philosophy or the Law of Moses, but Christ.

I. OUR NEW RELATION IN CHRIST (2:11-22)
A. The Gentiles' past relationships remembered (v.11-12).
      a) Separated from covenants of promise (cf. Gal.3:15-16, 2 Sam. 7:12-16).
   2. Separate from Christ - without God.
B. Reconciliation for Gentiles and Jews made possible through Christ (v.13-18).
   1. By His blood - through the cross.
   2. By His fulfilling the Old Law of commandments.
   3. By preaching the Christ of peace.
C. The new united relationship characterized (v.19-22)
   1. as a united household or family.
   2. as parts of a well founded building growing together into a holy temple - a habitation of God.

QUESTIONS:
1. What did Paul want the Gentiles to do regarding their past? Why would this be helpful?
2. What physical characteristic divided the Jews from the Gentiles?
3. What were the covenants of promise from which the Gentiles were strangers?
4. The Gentiles were ______________ hope and without ____________ in this world when they were ______________ from ________________.
5. By comparing verses 13 and 16 parallel the following, manifesting the new relationship of Jew and Gentile with God:
   V.13                                           V.16
   "Made nigh"                                    ________________________
   "in Christ"                                    _________________________
   "in the blood of Christ"                        ________________________
6. Who is our peace?

7. What is the middle wall of partition that prevented peace?

8. In verse 17, who were those who "were far off" were ____________________ and those who "were nigh" were ____________________.

9. What did both of these groups need?

10. How does the Spirit give us access to the Father?

11. If we are no longer strangers and sojourners from God, what are we?

12. Who are "the apostles and prophets" in verse 20? What have the provided us?

13. What is the function of a "chief cornerstone"?

WHO is the chief cornerstone?

14. "Each several building" in v.21 are (a) Denominations (b) local churches (c) individual Christians.

15. In verses 19-21, give two descriptions of the church of Christ:
EPHESIANS - LESSON 5

INTRODUCTION

What was the underlying cause for Paul being a prisoner? Could Paul being a prisoner be discouraging to the Christians in Ephesus? In Ephesians 3:1-13, Paul addresses these issues. Paul states his imprisonment was connected with the cause of Christ "in behalf of you Gentiles" (3:1). He then lays down the background of his ministry in receiving the gospel of grace and how the Gentiles are included in God's redemptive plan in Christ (3:2-12). By knowing Paul's ministry is in behalf of the Gentiles, they should not be discouraged, but rejoice in the glory of the cause (3:13).

I. THE REVEALING OF THE DIVINE MYSTERY (3:1-13)

B. Received mystery through revelation - understood when read (v.2-5).
C. Mystery defined: Gentiles share in the promise of Christ (v.6)
D. Great mystery preached by humbled apostle Paul (v.7-9).
E. Mystery manifests varied wisdom of God to spiritual powers through the church (v.10-11).
F. Mystery revealed gives boldness and strength through faith (v.12-13).

QUESTIONS:

1. For what cause was Paul a prisoner?
2. How did Paul's imprisonment help the Gentiles?
3. "Dispensation" in verse 2 indicates (a) a time frame (b) a stewardship or administration (c) an exemption or remission.
4. How did Paul get the message he preached?
5. In what sense is Christianity "a mystery"?
6. To what does Paul refer when he said, "as I wrote before in few words"?
7. To what two groups of men has God revealed the mystery of Christ?
8. In (or by) what has the mystery been revealed?
9. Name the three things in which the Gentiles are now "fellows" with the Jews.
10. What is the promise of which the Gentiles are sharing in?

11. According to what two things was Paul made a minister?

12. How did Paul look at himself in comparison to the least of saints? Why did he have such a view?

13. What did Paul preach unto the Gentiles?

14. What is seen in the establishing of the church?

15. The church and God's eternal purpose are (a) connected (b) separate with/ from one another.

16. What are the "principalities and powers" to which God's wisdom is to be made known?

17. In whom an we have boldness in approaching the Father?

18. Why should the Gentiles not faint at Paul's tribulations?
INTRODUCTION

In 3:14-21, Paul continues to strengthen his brethren by expressing his desire for them in prayer. In connection with these requests, Paul's heart is filled with the glory of God's inexhaustible power. May we appreciate more the fact that God desires all of us to be spiritually strong, and allow Him to strengthen our "inward man."

I. RECEIVING OF THE DIVINE FULNESS (3:14-21)

A. Prayer to God for inward man to be strengthened (v.14-16).
B. Prayer that Christ will dwell in the heart through faith (v.17a).
C. Prayer for comprehending the magnitude of Christ's love (v.17b-19a).
D. Prayer that Ephesians be filled with the fulness of God (v.19b).
E. Doxology for God's glorious power (v.20-21).

QUESTIONS:

1. For what cause was Paul praying to the Father?
2. What posture does Paul have in prayer?
   Is this the only posture in prayer that pleases God?
3. From whom is every family in heaven and earth named?
4. Who is "the family in heaven"?
5. What is one blessing that manifests the "riches of his (God's) glory"?
6. Through God's _________ God strengthens the ________________ _____.
7. What is the concept of "Christ dwelling in our hearts"?
8. How does Christ dwell in our hearts?
9. In what is a Christian to take root?
10. All Christians should be strong to know the ____________ and ____________
    ________________ and ________________ of ________________._
11. How can we know the love of Christ if it passes knowledge?

12. How much of the divine fulness can we here and now expect to receive?

13. ________ is able to do exceeding abundantly _____________ all that we __________ or ______________ .

14. Is God's power available to now, or will it only be available to us in the future life?

15. In what two areas is God glorified?  
   How is he glorified in each?

16. How long shall glory be ascribed to God?

17. Is there any good reason for Christians to remain weak?
INTRODUCTION:

One facet of living as Christians is to live in unity with one another. In 3:1-16, we learn humility and diligence is needed for such a worthy walk (vs.1-5). Unity is possible because of the "oneness" the Holy Spirit has revealed (vs.4-6). While diverse miraculous gifts were given they all were given for the unifying purpose of building up the body of Christ through teaching the truth and perfecting the saints unto Christ-like characters (v.7-16).


A. Walk Worthily Of The Calling (v.1-3).
   1. With lowliness and meekness.
   2. With Longsuffering.
   3. Forbearing one another with love.
   4. Giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit.

B. The Unity The Holy Spirit has Revealed (v.4-6).
   1. One Body
   2. One Spirit
   3. One Hope
   4. One Lord
   5. One Faith
   6. One Baptism
   7. One God

C. Unity Served By Diversity of Gifts (4:7-16).
   1. Christ has given different Gifts to each one (v.7-11).
   2. Purpose of Gifts: Teaching (v.12)
      a) Perfecting Saints
      b) Building up the body of Christ
   3. Goal of Gifts: Unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (v.15-16)

QUESTIONS:

1. How is our "walk" as a Christian to compare with our "calling" through the gospel message?

2. What are **FOUR** characteristics of the Christian who is walking worthily of God's calling? (Be able to describe each characteristic).
3. Christians are to (a) devise methods to produce unity (b) preserve the unity already in existence (c) seek unity at all cost.

4. What is the "one body"?

5. Who is the "one Spirit"?

6. What is "one hope of your calling"?

7. Who is the "one Lord"?

8. What is the "one faith"?

9. Is it correct to speak of "interfaith" activities? Why or why not?

10. The "one baptism" is (a) John's baptism (b) baptism of suffering (c) baptism in water (d) baptism in the Holy Spirit. (Prove your answer with Scripture.)

11. In what **THREE** relationships does God stand to all things?

12. How can God be the "Father of all" when multitudes are "the children of the Devil" (cf. Jn. 8:44)?

13. To what does the word **grace** refer in 4:7?

14. Why did Paul quote Psalm 68:18?

15. What are the "lower parts of the earth" into which Christ descended?

16. For what purpose did Christ ascend?
17. In verse 11, how could these offices or activities of work be considered gifts?

18. What essential work is common to all these offices?

19. To what did Paul have reference when he spoke of "perfecting of the saints"?

20. To what does "the unity of the faith" have reference?

22. God wants us to deal with doctrinal error by (a) ignoring its existence (b) accept it if it comes from sincere teachers (c) combat it by speaking truth and love.

23. What must each several part do if the body is to make increase?
EPHESIANS - LESSON 8

INTRODUCTION
When we become Christians, we are to live a life "becoming" to saints. The Christian thinks and lives differently from the world - or he should. In this lesson Paul contrasts the "mind" trouble of the Gentile world that leads to sinful living (4:17-19), with the "renewed mind" of the "new man" that leads to righteous living (4:20-24). He then offers seven practical exhortations characteristic of holy living (4:25-5:2). May we so live as to prove we have properly "learned Christ" (4:20).

I. OUR WALK AS INDIVIDUALS: THAT WHICH BECOMETH SAINTS (4:17-5:2).
   A. Walk NOT as the Gentiles walk (4:17-24).
      1. The Gentile Walk (4:17-19)
         a) In the vanity of their mind.
         b) Darkened in understanding.
         c) Alienated from the life of God
            (1) Because of the ignorance in them.
            (2) Because of the hardening of their heart.
         d) Given over to lasciviousness.
            (1) Because they were past feeling.
            (2) To work all uncleanness with greediness.
         a) Different from the Gentile's walk.
         b) Must put away former manner of life.
         c) Must be renewed in the spirit of our mind.
         d) Must put on the new man.
   B. Exhortations to live the life of the new man in Christ (4:25-5:2)
      1. Speak the truth.
      2. Control our anger.
      3. Steal no more - but labor and share.
      4. Speak good words that edify.
      5. Grieve not the Holy Spirit
      6. Put away bitter anger.
      7. Be imitators of God
         a) Be Kind.
         b) Be tenderhearted.
         c) Be Forgiving.
         d) Walk in love.

QUESTIONS:
1. Who does Paul have reference to when he speaks here of the Gentiles?
2. In what do most Gentiles walk?

3. What was the condition of the Gentile's understanding?

4. Why were the Gentiles alienated from the life of God.

5. Define lasciviousness?

6. What attitude of heart leads up to and accompanies lasciviousness?

7. What works are connected with lasciviousness?

8. One who learns Christ must put away the ___________ __________.

9. Why should you not live a life lusting after the things of the world?

10. What accompanies the spirit of your mind being renewed?

11. The new life of the Christian is a new ____________. 

12. From verses 21 and 24, characterize TRUTH:

13. When you put away the "old man" you put away ____________.

14. What reason does Paul give for speaking truth to your brethren?
15. A Christian is never to be angry. (T) (F)

16. Of what kind of anger does Paul warn the Christian?

17. What are we not to give the Devil?

18. When a Christian practices verse 28, he can continue to participate in the various forms of Gambling today. (T) (F)

19. What type of speech is to not come out of our mouths?

20. What type of speech is to be spoken?

22. How can we grieve the Holy Spirit?

23. Unto what day are we sealed?

24. Does God really expect us to control feelings of bitterness and malice?

25. "And be ye ___________ one to another, ________________, ________________ each other, even as ________ also in Christ forgave you."

26. We imitate God when we ___________ in ________________.

27. After looking at Christ's example, describe the walk of love:
INTRODUCTION
At times God's people need a "wake-up" call reminding them that they are different from the disobedient world. Paul reminds Christians to not be deceived with empty words, but know judgment is coming on those who practice the works of darkness (v.6). He exhorts the Christian to not only refrain from practicing these things, but reprove these unfruitful works as well (v.11). Let us now investigate how God wants his people to be children of light, walking in wisdom.

I. OUR WALK BEFORE THE SENSUAL WORLD: AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT IN WISDOM (5:3-21).
A. Walk as children of light (v.3-14)
1. Things not part of the life of children of light (v.3-4).
   a) Fornication
   b) Uncleanness
   c) Covetousness
   d) Instead of thanksgiving coming from the mouth, filthiness, foolish talking, course jesting proceeds.
2. The wrath of God is upon those who practice these things - be not deceived (v.5-6).
3. Have no fellowship with darkness by practicing these things - reprove them (v.7-14).
B. Walk in wisdom (v.15-21).
1. In evil times be wise by buying up opportunities and understanding the will of the Lord (v.16-17).
2. Instead of being drunken with wine, be under the control of the Holy Spirit (v.18-20)
   a) Speaking to one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.
   b) Making melody in the heart with thanksgiving unto the Lord.
3. Submitting to one another in the fear of Christ (v.20).

QUESTIONS:
1. What three things are definitely not befitting for a Christian to do?

2. Is all humorous jesting wrong?
   What kind of jesting is wrong?

3. What is one type of speech always befitting of a Christian?
4. What can we forget concerning the state of the world if we are not listening to God in his Word?

5. What is the covetous man called? Explain.

6. How does one go about "proving what is well-pleasing unto the Lord"?

7. Is it enough for the Christian to just "ignore" evil?

8. How shameful are many of the works of darkness?

9. Is everything that is exposed to the light made to be light?

10. From what kind of death does God call us to arise? Explain what will result?

11. What are we to do that shows we are living wisely?

12. Can God's will for our lives be clearly understood? If not, who is at fault?

13. We are not to be __________ with wine?

14. What is "riot" and where is it found?

15. How are we "filled with the Spirit"?
16. Describe the three types of materials we are to sing. Does this have anything to do with public worship?

17. Has God specified the instrument he wants us to use in our song service? Why is this fact important in our worship unto God?

18. Describe what our singing should be like if it is pleasing unto the Lord?

19. What does the fear or reverence of Christ cause us to do?
EPHESIANS - LESSON TEN

INTRODUCTION:
In this lesson we investigate relationships in the home. Paul addresses the marriage relationship, the child and parent relationship, and the servant and master relationship. Subjection is a key issue in all of these relationships. When we are "in subjection...as unto the Lord" or "obeying...in the Lord, or "obedient...as unto Christ" we are building upon a solid foundation for lasting and effective relationships so needed in our crumbling society.

I. OUR WALK IN CHRIST: SPECIAL RELATIONSHIPS AT HOME (5:22-6:9)
   A. Wives and husbands
      1. Wives to be in subjection (5:22-24, 33b)
         a) As unto the Lord
         b) The husband IS head.
         c) As the church is subject unto Christ
         d) With reverence
      2. Husbands to love their wives (5:25-33a)
         a) As Christ loved the church - self-sacrifice
         b) As own body - nourishment and warmth
   B. Children and fathers (6:1-4)
      1. Children to obey
         a) in the Lord
         b) It is right.
      2. Children to honor parents
         a) Commandment with promise of well-being
      3. Fathers to nurture
         a) Provoke not children to discouraging wrath.
         b) Nurture in chastening and admonition of the Lord.
   C. Slaves and masters (6:5-9)
      1. Slaves to be obedient
         a) With fear and trembling
         b) With singleness of heart as unto Christ
         c) Not in eyeservice pleasing men, but as servants of Christ.
         d) With good will knowing reward will come from Lord.
      2. Masters to act justly.
         a) Forbear threatening.
            (1) Knowing Christ, the master of EVERYONE is in Heaven.
            (2) Knowing Christ is no respect of persons.

QUESTIONS:
1. What does the word "Subjection" mean?

2. A woman's subjection to her husband is like her subjection to whom?

3. In what things are the wives to be subject to their husbands?

4. Give some examples of how a wife can manifest "subjection" towards her husband?

5. What is a husband's "love" for his wife to be like?

6. What is the Lord's two-fold purpose for the church that lies behind his sacrifice?

7. How is the "cleansing" of the church like the "new birth"?

8. A husband is to love his wife as he _____________ his ________________ .
   Why?

9. Does God demand the husband to "cater to" his wife?

10. Where does the "cause" for a man to leave his father and mother originate?

11. What does the expression ,"the two shall become one flesh" mean (cf. I Corinthians 6:16) ?

12. What mystery was Paul speaking about and how does he describe it?

13. According to 5:33, what does the New Covenant say about "polygamy"?

14. According to 5:33, the wife is to ________________ her husband.
   What does this mean?
15. What does "obey - in the lord" mean for the children?

16. Are children to obey their parents even when the parents are not Christians?

17. What does God say about children obeying their parents that some child "experts" refuse to admit as existing as an unchangeable standard?

18. What is the two-fold purpose attached to honoring father and mother?

19. Is the honor due parents limited to childhood obedience?

20. What was the original significance of the promise connected with children obeying their parents (cf. Deut. 5:33)? Does the promise still have application to children today?

21. How can a father provoke his child to "wrath"?

22. What is "chastening" and "admonition" that a father is responsible for doing to his children?

23. Does the New Testament abolish slavery by Command?

24. Give three descriptions of what the servant's service unto his master is to be "as":

25. What is "eyeservice"?

26. What kind of heart and attitude must be behind the servant's service?

27. What gives the servant hope about "rewards"?

28. What are the "same things" that a master must do toward the slave as the slave toward the master?

29. Who and where is the one who is Master of both the slave and his master?

30. What warning should cause the master to treat his servant equitably?
INTRODUCTION:
How strong are you spiritually? Paul makes us think about the battle we are in with Devil, and how we must equip ourselves properly to fight and be victorious in the spiritual warfare we all have entered. May we all determine to equip ourselves with "the whole armor of God", and "be strong in the Lord."

I. OUR WALK IN CHRIST REGARDING RESISTING SATAN (6:10-24)
A. Put on Whole Armor of God - Exhortation To Be Strong - (v.10-13)
   1. Strengthened in the Lord.
   2. Strengthened by putting on whole armor
   3. Strengthening necessary because enemies are spiritual hosts of wickedness.

B. Put on Whole Armor of God - Armor Described (v.14-17)
   1. Girdle of truth
   2. Breastplate of righteousness
   3. Feet Shod with preparation.
   4. Shield of faith
   5. Helmet of salvation
   6. Sword of the Spirit

C. Put on Whole Armor of God - With Prayer (v.18-20)
   1. Pray at all seasons for all saints.
   2. Pray for Paul.
      a) To Speak making known the mystery of the gospel.
      b) To have boldness to preach as he ought speak.

D. Concluding wishes (v.21-24)
   1. Tychicus to offer comforting information of Paul's condition.
   2. Peace and love with Faith.
   3. Grace be with all them who love with incorruptible love.

QUESTIONS:
1. Is it a sin not to be "strong in the Lord"?
2. What is it about the Devil that makes putting on the whole armor of God a necessity?
3. Whom do we wrestle against in spiritual warfare?
4. What all must be done before we can "stand"?
5. What is the "evil day"?

6. Relate the following pieces of armor with a passage of scripture that emphasizes the gospel of Christ:
   (a) girded with "truth" ______________________
   (b) breastplate of "righteousness" ______________________
   (c) shod feet with gospel of "peace" ______________________
   (d) shield of "faith" ______________________
   (e) helmet of "salvation" ______________________

7. What is the "sword of the Spirit"?

8. What two-fold function does the "whole armor of God" supply the Christian?

9. How can we be watchful for saints?

10. What is emphasized in the word "prayer"? What is emphasized in the word "supplication"?

11. What did Paul ask his brethren to pray for in regards to his needs?

12. Who was Paul sending to the Ephesians? Why was Paul sending this person?

13. What kind of love for Jesus is the only kind to have?