

CH 1. Introduction and Prayer of thanksgiving

Q1. The letter's greeting (v1-2) can be divided into three parts: sender, receiver, and greeting words. What is the common expression found in those three parts?

Christ Jesus and God.

What does it imply?

Q2. Paul started his letter with praising God. What was his situation according to 3:1, 4:1, 6:20?

He was in prison (Rome)

Note he doesn't pray to be released from prison.

Q3. Reason of praise = Blessing from God. Paul explains about the blessing in verses 4 – 14. How many times does Paul say, 'in Christ,' 'through Jesus', or similar phrase?

Ten.

Each and every blessing comes through Jesus Christ and in Christ. Note the matching expressions.

He is the father of Jesus Christ, thus he blesses those in Christ. (3)

V4-6 entail more about the heavenly blessing in v3. V4 starts with 'just as'

Chose us in Christ -> to be legal heirs (sons). In love, in his dearly loved son. (4-6) Here, 'in Christ' means that we are called into 'dearly loving father-son relationship.'

V7-14 tell what we have in Christ.

7-10: In him we have redemption through his blood. (v7)

Riches of grace lavished Wisdom and insight (v8): this is redundant part and related to the theme of Ephesians.

V9-10 are also related to the theme of the book. God's mysterious plan in Christ: to head up all things in Christ.

11-12: in Christ, we became the inheritance (of God). To set our hope on Christ = to become the reason of the praise to the Lord. As God brings all things together under Jesus' feet, they will praise the Lord seeing God's great works revealed through His workers.

13-14: In whom, when you believe in Christ, you received the Holy Spirit.

Q4. Verses 4 – 6 summarize the blessing from God. We are chosen to be holy and blameless before God. How could we be blameless? (two, v5, v6)

By being adopted as God's children

By the work of grace

This question is not good.

Q5. What was the motivation of God's salvation works in verses 4-6? (hint, focus on the last phrase of each verse)

God's love

In love, pleasure of his will, in his dearly loved son.

Q6. Verses 7-10 explain more about the God's salvation of verses 4-6. (a) What is the grace mentioned in verse 6 about? (b) What is the mystery of God's salvation? (v9-10)

Grace: Redemption through Jesus' blood. Forgiveness of our offense (not 'sin')

Mystery of God: To head up all things in Christ. (And Christ is the head of the church. Through joining the body of Christ, we will be saved.)

Q7. Who is the down payment of our salvation?

The Holy Spirit.

(v15-16) "For this reason": If you know God's plan to sum up all things in Christ, you would want to know more about Christ.

Q8. When Paul heard of their faith, he praised the Lord. What was Paul's prayer for them? (17)

Knowing more about God and His salvation blessings

This is a theme of the Ephesians.

Q9. What are included in the wisdom that Paul wanted them to know? (v18-19)

The hope of his calling

The wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints

The incomparable greatness of his power that raised Jesus and make all things submit under him. This power will transform us to be holy and blameless and thus raise us from dead.

As you read through the book of Ephesians, you can focus more on those terms.

(v20-23) is a digression that Paul was excited to explain about the power.

Q10. Verses 22-23 are the mystery of God's salvation. How can we win over our enemies including the Death? (meditation question)

Through Jesus Christ who is over all things. He was given to us as our head. Stay connected to Him, then we will get victory over all.

CH 2. NEW life in Christ

(1-10) New Life: from dead, from great love (grace), God's creative work for purpose.

Q1. Our former status: We were () in our () and ().
Dead, offenses, sins.

In this world, sin is an act that hurts others. But, in the Bible, it is any act that hurts God.

Offense (transgression): violation of a certain code of the law

Sin: a status that we cannot stand before God's glory.

Q2. Verses 2 - 3 explain our former status. People in the world seek the desires of () and thoughts of (). We might think there is nothing wrong with them. The Bible, however, says that they are under the control of () that also works in the heart of disobedient people against the law. Therefore, even though the law was not given to them, such people are by () children of wrath.

Flesh, mind, the spirit, nature.

A certain act might not be obvious enough to be called sin. However, unless we are in the Holy Spirit, we are under Satan, who has controlled human hearts since Adam's fall, and we seek our own desires and thoughts. Seeking our own thoughts alienates us from God, thus rendering our status as dead.

Q3. But (), being rich in (), because of his great () with which he loved us, even though we were dead in (), made us alive together with Christ – by () we are saved.

God, mercy, love, offenses, grace.

Here, we can see the grace of God who paid back their offenses with the sacrifice of His Son.

Q4. God saved us by () to demonstrate the surpassing wealth of his (). For you are saved by (), not from your (), so that you cannot (). For we are His creative work, we are to do () of God.

Grace, grace, grace, works, boast, good works

Other insights:

V10 signifies our identity: His creative work in Christ Jesus. To do good works! What are they?

Not from works, but God's creative work: contrast! The salvation by grace seems very simple and nothing serious because it is not from our works. But, it is by God's work!

Surely it is a BIG work. To raise someone from death to life.

Great Love: offender -> by great love.

(11-22) New life: Former status. One new man in Jesus Christ. Reconciled and became God's household. Being built as God's dwelling place. It is not individual but corporative.

Q5. Verses 11 – 16 tell two things Jesus accomplished. What are they? (#1: v11, v14-16, #2: v12-13, v16,19)

Jesus removed hostility and created in himself ONE New Man out of the Jews and the Gentiles.

Jesus reconciled them in one body to GOD. Once they had been alienated from God, but were brought near to God by Jesus' blood and became God's household.

Q6. What does the middle of wall of partition mean? And by what means did Jesus nullify this? (v14-15)

The hostility between the two parties, which was triggered by the law.

In his flesh: through his death.

Q7. What is the purpose of making both parties, the Gentiles and the Jews, one body? (v18, v19-20, v21-22)

One body, one Spirit, one way: we have access to the Father through Christ.

To become God's household, for Jesus became the cornerstone.

To be built, in the Lord, as God's dwelling place.

CH 3. Paul's Relationship to the Divine Mystery

Q1. At the time Paul wrote this letter, he was in prison. According to verse 1~2, why was he in prison?

As Christ's servant, his ministry for the Gentiles made him imprisoned.

Paul's proclamation of salvation by grace, apart from adherence to Jewish traditions, provoked strong opposition from the Jews. As a result, he was persecuted and falsely accused.

Q2. Why does Paul call the gospel the mystery of Christ? (v5, 9-11)

Hidden -> disclosed. about Christ.

It had been hidden since the creation and was revealed to Paul and the apostles (the disciples).

Purpose of this enlightenment: the multifaceted wisdom of God is now to be disclosed to the rulers of the world through the church.

Q3. What is the content of the mystery? (v6, 12)

Gentiles to be fellow heirs of God in Christ. Fellow members of the body
In Christ we have boldness and confident access to God through faith in Him (or faithfulness of him).

Q4. Why does Paul tell the readers not to lose their hearts because of Paul's suffering? (v7, 13)

It was by God's **grace** that Paul became a servant of the gospel. By God's power, Paul realized and accepted the grace.

Called as the apostle to the Gentiles, he suffered because of that calling.
His suffering was not accidental; God allowed him to suffer for the sake of the Gentiles, making his afflictions a sign of God's love for them.
(Paul's suffering is their **glory**)

Because the mystery had long been hidden, rejection and persecution are inevitable for those who become ministers of that mystery.

Q5. What is Paul's role as the servant of the gospel? (two, v8, v9)

To proclaim the unfathomable riches of Christ to the Gentiles

To enlighten everyone about God's secret plan

Q6. What is the role of the church regarding to the mystery? (v10)

To reveal multifaceted wisdom of God to the rulers and even to the spirits.

It is remarkable that even the angels wait for the church to reveal God's wisdom. Rulers in heavenly realm refer to angels and spirits.

Q7. What are Paul's prayers for the readers? (three in stages. V16-17, v18-19a, v19b)

Indwelling of Jesus Christ in us, in love

To know the surpassing love of Jesus

To be filled up to all the fullness of God.

Q8. The love of Christ is beyond our knowledge. How could we know it? (v17-19)

Jesus who lives in us makes us experience Jesus' love.

Though fellowship with the believers (in church)

(20 – 21) Paul's praise to God expecting what He would accomplish through the church.

By the power working within us

He is able to do far beyond all that we ask or think

Glory to Him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generation, forever.

CH 4. Live in Unity

Q1. What is to live worthily of the calling? (v2-3)

Doing every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit

One man one body in Christ Jesus (2:15)

Q2. Why do we need to live that way? (v4-6)

We are called to belong to one body of Christ and one Spirit of God. It is our identity.

Count how many 'one' in verse 4.

Q3. Compare v8 with Psalm 68:18

📖 **Psalm:** *received* gifts. Psalm 68 celebrates **YHWH as the victorious King** returning after battle

📖 **Paul:** *gave* gifts. Paul's focus is not ascension itself, but **spiritual gifts given to the church**

Q4. Think about the purpose of v9 and v10. V9 says this prophecy is fulfilled by (). V10 tells purpose of descending and ascending is ().

Christ, to fill all things

He himself (autos) gave gifts (11)

Q5. Why does the Lord Jesus give gifts to each one of us? (v12)

To equip each one of us, so thus to build up the body of Christ.

Q6. Summarize how we could grow to Jesus Christ. (two. v14-15, v16)

Practicing truth in **love** and grow up into Christ.

When each one does its part: apostles, teachers, ushers, deacons, choirs,.....the body builds itself up in **love**

V13 is a part of the previous sentence and tells the goal of the gifts being given by Christ. The Unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.

Paul warns us not to pay attention to deceitful teachings (14), but rather to practice the truth in love. (15)

V16 explains how we grow using body analogy.

Q7. Verses 17-22 explain how non-believers come to live a futile life. Fill in the blanks (v18-19, 22) Hardened heart -> () -> alienated from () -> their conscience becomes () -> following ().
ignorance (of Christ), the life of God, callous, deceitful desires.

Q8. What is a life of seeking truth? (three in order. V22-24)

To lay aside the old man following deceitful desires

Renewed mind

Put on the new man created in God's image. Belonging to the body of Christ and live accordingly.

Q9. "Therefore, having laid aside (), each one of you speak the () with his neighbor because we are members of ()"
Falsehood, truth, one another.

What would be the falsehood? It is not clearly stated in Ephesians. But it could be rendered as anything that is not truth: we have life in the body of Christ & we are one.

Q10. What is the ultimate purpose of the instructions in verses 25-32? (hint: focus on the later parts of these verses: 25, 26-27, 28, 29, 31-32)

To build up one another and the body of Christ.

Q11. According to your answer in Q10, what is to grieve the Holy Spirit of God?

To break down the body of Christ.

Especially, v32 shows what kind of talks destroy the body of Christ.

CH 5. Live wisely, in Love and Light. Exhortations to Household

Q1. What are the two reason we should live in love? (v1-2)

We are children of God. We should imitate Him
Christ loved us and gave himself for us.

Q2. In comparison with verse 2, how does the life of verses 3-4 show the opposite of love? (hint: think about the nature of love)

Self-indulgence is the opposite of sacrificial love.
Kingdom of God is the theme in v1-5.

Q3. What would the empty words that deceive us as in verse 6? (hint: verse 5)

Words of deception: Your salvation is secure even though you live immoral and impure.

Truth: if you believe in Jesus, you will be saved.

Q4. "Therefore do not be sharers with them, for you were at one time (), but now you are () in the Lord. Live like children of ()" You might ask what is to live as like children of light. It is not complicated but so obvious if you want to live so. "the fruit of the () consists in all goodness, righteousness, and ()." By pursuing those things, we will () what is pleasing to the Lord"

Darkness, light, light, light, truth, learn.

We will know God's will through obedience and thus know what is good.

"Therefore do not be sharers with them, for you were at one time (darkness), but now you are (light) in the Lord. Live like children of (light)" You might ask what is to live as like children of light. It is not complicated but so obvious if you want to live so. "the fruit of the (light) consists in all goodness, righteousness, and (truth)." By pursuing those things, we will (learn) what is pleasing to the Lord"

Q5. "Awake, O ()! Rise from the (), and Christ will () on you!"

Sleeper, dead, shine

Q6. Why is a life in the light wise? (v12-16)

All things will be made visible. Quiet soon (for the days are evil). If you know that, you would not live in darkness.

Q7. How to live wise? (four, v17, v18, v19-20, v21)

- By understanding what the Lord's will is
- Not get drunk with wine, but be filled by the Spirit
- Speaking hymns and spiritual songs, giving thanks to God
- Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Why does Paul call such a life wise?

These verses should be read in the light of the theme of the book. "God's plan for the church" Then each verse carries ample meaning. Paul doesn't collect these admonitions arbitrarily, but in purpose; to build up the church, the Lord's will.

Q8. Why do wives need to submit to their husbands and husbands need to love their wives?

- Just as Church submits to Christ, her head. Just as Christ loves the church, his body.

Q9. What kind of love should husbands love their wives? (v25-28)

To give oneself for his wife. To take care of her as your own body.

Q10. According to Paul in verses 31-32, () and () relationship is to reflect () and () relationship.

Husband, wife, Christ, church

In every relationship and life situation, reflect Jesus and His gospel and be changed because of Jesus.

Find how the work of Christ has affected in each section. (1-5, 6-14, 15-21, 22-33)

What part of your life has changed because of Jesus Christ?

CH 6. Exhort. to Household (cont.), Spiritual warfare, Closing

Q1. In those days, a household included house slaves as well. It was a small community. Paul's exhortation to households show how their faith should change their everyday lives. Summarize his exhortations.

- To children: Obey your parents in the Lord
- To fathers: raise your children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord
- To slaves: obey your human masters as to Christ. As slaves of Christ who obeyed the will of God from the heart, serve your masters.
- To masters: Don't threaten them. Be nice to them. You will be rewarded by the Lord if you do good whether you are a slave or a freeman.

Q2. What is the reason that Paul asks us to have the full armor of God? (two, v11, v12)

To stand against the scheme of the devil

The war is not against flesh and blood but against spiritual powers.

Q3. Stand firm therefore, by fastening the belt of () around your waist, by putting on the breastplate of (), by fitting your feet with the () that comes from the good news of (), and in all of this, by taking up the shield of () with which you can extinguish () the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of () and the sword of () (which is the word of God).

truth, righteousness, preparation, peace, faith, all, salvation, the Spirit

Q4. How to summarize the exhortation to the spiritual warfare? (two. v14-17, v18)

Stand firm with the full armor of God

Pray unceasingly.

Q5. what is the purpose of sending Tychicus?

To make the readers know Paul's circumstances in God's providence and to encourage them.

The God's providence: God proclaims the secret of salvation through the church, which has been hidden since the creation.

Q6. "**Peace** to the brothers and sisters, and () with **faith**, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Grace** be with all those who () our Lord Jesus Christ with an ()."

Love, love, undying love.