

Living Temple
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CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Ephesians 1-3

True Riches

Ephesians Context

Author:

Paul of Tarsus, the apostle, is most commonly accepted as the author of Ephesians (see 1:1; 3:1)

Genre:

An Epistle (letter). This letter was written by Paul to the Christians in Ephesus as a source of encouragement and instruction.

Date: 62-64 A.D

Ephesus at the time:

A key city to the 7 major cities of Asia Minor (Rev 2-3)

Famous for:

- 1) Occult Practices** and demonic worship
- 2) The Temple of Artemis (Diana)**, a pagan goddess. The temple, one of the seven wonders of the world, 425ft long, 220ft wide, 62ft high became the pagan religious centre of all Asia.
- 3) Outdoor Stadium** built by Nero (who was famous for burning Christians alive). It had a seating capacity of 25,000 people and was the venue of the riot against Paul and his team in Acts 19

Week 1 Ephesians 1:1-10

- 1) Holy and Blameless in his Sight (v4)
- 2) Adopted into God's family (v5)
- 3) Lavished with grace and forgiveness (v6-8)
- 4) Within Gods Will with Jesus as King (v9-10)

Personal Notes:

Further Application and Life-Group Questions:

- 1) What stands out to you in this passage?
- 2) Do you feel Blameless before God?
- 3) What does God's grace mean to you?
- 4) Do you have any questions about this passage?
- 5) What is the personal application for your life?

Week 2 Ephesians 1:11-14

- 1) Predestined for salvation (v11)
- 2) Included in Christ through hearing and believing the Word (v13)
- 3) Filled with the Holy Spirit (v14)

Personal Notes:

Further Application and Life-Group Questions:

- 1) What stands out to you in this passage?
- 2) Does the doctrine of Predestination bring you freedom or fear?
- 3) Have you ever felt pursued by God?
- 4) Do you have any questions about this passage?
- 5) What is the personal application for your life?

Week 3 Ephesians 1:15-23

Paul prayed for 2 things

- 1) For a Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation so you may
Know Jesus better (v17)
- 2) Eyes of your Heart to be enlightened so you may
know...
 - 1) The hope to which he has called you (v18)
 - 2) The riches of his glorious inheritance (v18)
 - 3) Incomparably great power for us believers
(v19-23)

Personal Notes:

Further Application and Life-Group Questions:

- 1) What stands out to you in this passage?
- 2) Do you know Jesus intimately?
- 3) Have you ever been God's vessel to be used in a powerful way?
- 4) Do you have any questions about this passage?
- 5) What is the personal application for your life?

Week 4 Ephesians 2:1-10

- 1) You were DEAD (v1-4)
- 2) You are now ALIVE
 - A) Alive with Christ through Gods saving grave (v5)
 - B) Raised up with Jesus Christ and seated WITH him in the heavenly realms! (v6)
 - C) Recipients of incomparable riches of his GRACE shown kindness by Jesus Christ (v7)
 - D) All a free gift from God we couldn't earn (v9)
- 3) Made alive with a purpose (v10)

Personal Notes:

Further Application and Life-Group Questions:

- 1) What stands out to you in this passage?
- 2) Do you usually picture Jesus as kind?
- 3) What purpose did God specifically make you for?
- 4) Do you have any questions about this passage?
- 5) What is the personal application for your life?

Week 5 Ephesians 2:11-22

- 1) Paul's Personal Journey of Salvation and Evangelism. (v1-6)
- 2) A servant of the great and glorious riches of the gospel (v7-11)
- 3) The Power of God at work in us (v12-13)

Personal Notes:

Further Application and Life-Group Questions:

- 1) What stands out most to you in this passage?
- 2) What is your personal faith journey? What good news can you share? To whom?
- 3) Do you feel bold and confident before God?
- 4) Do you have any questions about this passage?
- 5) What is the personal application for your life?

Week 6 Ephesians 3:1-13

- 1) We are hopeless without God (v11-12)
- 2) Jesus brings us together to God (v13-18)
- 3) You have a new Identity– you are a part of Gods Living Temple (v19-)

Personal Notes:

Further Application and Life-Group Questions:

- 1) What stands out to you in this passage?
- 2) What aspect of your life needs the hope God brings?
- 3) What does 'Living Temple' mean to you?
- 4) Do you have any questions about this passage?
- 5) What is the personal application for your life?

Week 7 Ephesians 3:14-21

Pauls Prayer:

- 1) A Prayer for all of God to encompass all of us (v14-17)
- 2) A Prayer for power (v17-19)
- 3) Glory to the God of all Riches (v20-21)

Personal Notes:

Further Application and Life-Group Questions:

- 1) What stands out to you in this passage?
- 2) Do you have any questions about this passage?
- 3) What is the personal application for your life?

Additional Reading

Acts 19. Paul causing all kinds of Mayhem in Ephesus in Jesus name

Revelation Ch 2-3. Letters to the 7 churches of Asia Minor, Ephesus major player

1&2 Timothy. Timothy eventually becomes the Apostle/Elder/Overseer/Pastor of the Ephesians Church. Great insight can into this church can be gleaned by reading 1&2 Timothy

Sproul, R.C. The purpose of God, Ephesians, An exposition of Ephesians...

Bruce F.F. The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians (New International Commentary on the New Testament