

Ephesians: God's Spiritual People

By LifeWay Press

Blessing in Christ

Jesus told a parable about a tenant farmer whose plow turned up buried treasure in a field (Matt. 13:44). The man immediately sold his possessions in order to buy the field. By owning the field, he owned the buried treasure. Once in possession of the field, the man could spend his days discovering how rich he had become. Believers are in possession of a great treasure, the indwelling Christ. We came into possession of a great treasure the day we were saved. We will spend the rest of our days discovering how rich we are in Christ. Studying the Book of Ephesians will bring many of God's spiritual blessings into focus and help us to benefit from them in everyday life.

Spiritual Church

Read Ephesians 4:1-16 (NIV)

The Church's Unity (v.1-6)

Call for Unity (4:1-3)

How did Paul see himself as a "prisoner in the Lord"?

In his use of the word "walk," what was Paul trying to say to the Ephesian believers and to us?

In what way are all Christians called of God"? How do we "walk worthy" of this calling?

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Basis for Unity (4:4-6)

Unity depends on what basic principle that never changes?

How does the Holy Spirit mold a diverse body of believers into a spirit of unity?

In what two ways can “one baptism” be interpreted?

The Church Variety (4:7-12)

Gifts to Believers (4:7-10)

Why does Christ give gifts to members of His body?

In verse 7 what kind of “grace” did Christ give to His children?

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Where do you see Christ's incarnation and resurrection implied in verse 9-10?

Gift of Church Leaders (4:11-12)

How do the ministries of evangelist, pastors, and teachers differ?

How do the ministries of evangelist and pastor-teachers differ?

With what two responsibilities did Christ charge these particular church leaders?

The Church's Standard (4:13-16)

If spiritual unity maintained among believers, what two areas did Paul indicate should get special attention?

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When are God's people childlike? Childish?

How did Paul's analogy of the physical body provide a clear picture of the healthy functioning of the church?