

## THE “EPHESIAN” LETTER

<sup>1.1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by *the* will of God, to the holy ones who are indeed [or far less likely “in Ephesus and”] faithful in Christ Jesus. <sup>1.2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and *the* Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>1.3</sup>Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the one having blessed us by means of every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, <sup>1.4</sup>just as he called us out in him before *the* foundation of *the* universe, in order for us to be holy and blameless before him, in love <sup>1.5</sup>having marked out a boundary around us into sonship through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>1.6</sup>to the praise of the glory of his grace, with which he graced us in the one having been loved, <sup>1.7</sup>in whom we have the release *on the payment of ransom*, through his blood: the forgiveness of *our* trespasses, according to the wealth of his grace, <sup>1.8</sup>which he caused to abound in us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>1.9</sup>having made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure, which he previously put *into place* in him, <sup>1.10</sup>for a house-law for the fulfillment of the times: *that is*, to head-up all things in Christ, *both* the things in the heavens and the things on the earth in him, <sup>1.11</sup>through whom also we were allotted an inheritance, *after* being marked out with a boundary according to what was previously put *into place* by the one having worked out all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>1.12</sup>in order for us, the ones previously having placed *our* hope in Christ, to be for *the* praise of his glory, <sup>1.13</sup>in whom also you—*after* hearing the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in whom also *after* believing—were marked with a seal by the Holy Spirit *who is* related to the promise, <sup>1.14</sup>who is a down-payment of our inheritance, for the purpose of the release *on the payment of ransom* of the purchased possession, for *the* praise of his glory.

<sup>1.15</sup>On account of this, I also—having heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and *your* love for all of the saints—<sup>1.16</sup>do not cease giving thanks for you, making mention *of you* in my prayers, <sup>1.17</sup>in order that the God of *our* Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in *the* knowledge of him, <sup>1.18</sup>*with* the eyes of *your* heart having been enlightened in order for you to know what is the hope of his calling, what *are* the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, <sup>1.19</sup>and what *is* the overflowing greatness of his power in us, the ones who go on believing according to the working of the might of his strength, <sup>1.20</sup>which he has worked in Christ, having raised him from death and having seated *him* at his right *hand* in the heavenly places, <sup>1.21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name being named, not only in this age, but also in the one coming, <sup>1.22</sup>and he subjected all things under his feet, and he gave him headship over everything in the church, <sup>1.23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of the one who goes on filling all things in all.

<sup>2.1</sup>And you *went on* being dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2.2</sup>in which you then walked, according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit now working in the sons of disobedience, <sup>2.3</sup>among whom also we ourselves all turned back then in the lusts of our flesh, performing the will of the flesh and the thoughts, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the others. <sup>2.4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of his great love *with* which he loved us—<sup>2.5</sup>even *with* us *as being* dead in *our* transgressions—made us alive together with him through Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>2.6</sup>and he raised us up and seated us with *him* in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>2.7</sup>in order that in the coming ages he may show the overflowing riches of his grace in kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>2.8</sup>For by *his* grace you continue *in your* having been saved through faith, and this *is* not of you; *it is* the gift of God, <sup>2.9</sup>not of deeds, that no one should boast. <sup>2.10</sup>For we are his doing, created by Christ Jesus for good deeds, which God previously prepared, in order that we would walk in them.

<sup>2.11</sup>Therefore, remember that then, you yourselves—the Gentiles in flesh, the ones being called “uncircumcision” by the ones being called “circumcision,” performed in the flesh by hand—<sup>2.12</sup>that at that time you had been alienated, without Christ, from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers *to* the

covenants of the promise, not having hope, and godless in the world. <sup>2.13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus, you yourselves, then the ones being far off, became near by the blood of the Messiah.

<sup>2.14</sup>For he himself is our peace, the one having made both *into* one and having destroyed the central divider of the wall of *separation*, having rendered inoperative—in his flesh—the hostility, <sup>2.15</sup>the law of commandments *consisting of* decrees, in order that in himself, he may fashion the two into one new person, making peace, <sup>2.16</sup>and may reconcile both to God in one body through the cross, having put to death the enmity in himself. <sup>2.17</sup>Now having come, he proclaimed good news of peace to you, the ones far off, and peace to the ones nearby, <sup>2.18</sup>because through him we both have access to the Father by means of one Spirit. <sup>2.19</sup>So then, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the family of God, <sup>2.20</sup>being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being *the* cornerstone, <sup>2.21</sup>in whom *the* entire building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>2.22</sup>in whom also you yourselves are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

<sup>3.1</sup>For this reason, I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles, <sup>3.2</sup>if indeed you heard of the stewardship of the grace of God having been given to me for you, <sup>3.3</sup>that according to revelation the mystery was made known to me, just as I previously wrote in brief, <sup>3.4</sup>about which you—by reading—are able to realize my understanding in reference to the mystery of Christ, <sup>3.5</sup>which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as now it was revealed to his holy apostles and prophets in spirit, <sup>3.6</sup>that the Gentiles *are* to be fellow heirs, and fellow members of the body, and fellow sharers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, <sup>3.7</sup>of which I became a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, being given to me according to the working of his power. <sup>3.8</sup>To me, the least of all *the* saints, this grace was given, to preach to the nations the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>3.9</sup>and to bring to light all of what is the administration of the mystery having been hidden from the ages in God, the one having created all things, <sup>3.10</sup>in order that the multi-faceted wisdom of God may now be made known to the rulers and authorizes in the heavenly places through the church, <sup>3.11</sup>according to the eternal purpose that he performed in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>3.12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access in confidence through faith in him. <sup>3.13</sup>Therefore, I ask *you* not to lose heart in my afflictions on your behalf, which are your glory.

<sup>3.14</sup>For this reason, I bow my knees to the Father, <sup>3.15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on the earth is named, <sup>3.16</sup>that he may grant to you according to the riches of his glory, to be declared mighty with power through his Spirit into the inner man, <sup>3.17</sup>for Christ to reside in your hearts through faith, having been rooted and founded in love, <sup>3.18</sup>in order that you may have strength to comprehend, with all of the saints, what *is* the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>3.19</sup>and to know the love of Christ, *which* surpasses knowledge, that it may be fulfilled in reference to all the fullness of God.

<sup>3.20</sup>Now to the one being able to perform superabundantly all that we ask or think, according to the power working in us, <sup>3.21</sup>to him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations into the age of the ages. Amen.

<sup>4.1</sup>Therefore, I myself, the prisoner in *the* Lord, urge you to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called, <sup>4.2</sup>with all humility and meekness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another, in love <sup>4.3</sup>being eager to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4.4</sup>*There is* one body and one Spirit—just as you also were called in one hope of your calling—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>4.6</sup>one God and Father of all, the one over all and through all and in all.

<sup>4.7</sup>But to each one of us, grace was given according to the measure of the gift of Christ. <sup>4.8</sup>Therefore, it says, “Having ascended on high, he led captivity captive. He gave gifts to men.” <sup>4.9</sup>And the saying, “He ascended,” what is its *meaning* except that he also descended into the lower *parts* of the earth? <sup>4.10</sup>The one having descended is himself also the one ascending far above all of the heavens, that he would fulfill all things. <sup>4.11</sup>Now he himself gave some as apostles, others as prophets, and evangelists, and shepherds, and teachers, <sup>4.12</sup>for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, for

the building up of the body of Christ, <sup>4.13</sup>until we all arrive at the unity of the faith and the full knowledge of the Son of God, into a complete man, into the measure of *the* stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>4.14</sup>in order that we no longer should be infants, being blown and carried around by every wind of teaching, in the deceit of men, in cleverness toward the craftiness of error, <sup>4.15</sup>but speaking truth in love, we may grow in him in everything, he who is the head, Christ, <sup>4.16</sup>from whom the entire body—being fitted and knitted together by every supplying connection, according to the proper working of each individual part—performs the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

<sup>4.17</sup>Therefore, this I say and bear witness to in *the* Lord, for you no longer to walk just as the Gentiles indeed walk: in futility of their minds, being in the state of having been darkened in *their* thinking, <sup>4.18</sup>having been alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance being in them, because of the hardness of their heart, <sup>4.19</sup>who—having ceased to care—gave themselves over to sensuality, for an enterprise of every *kind of* impurity in greediness. <sup>4.20</sup>But you yourselves did not learn Christ in such a way, <sup>4.21</sup>if indeed you heard him and were taught in him, just as truth is in Jesus, <sup>4.22</sup>for you to put off the old man, according to *your* former conduct, the one being corrupted according to the lusts of deceit, <sup>4.23</sup>and to be renewed in the spirit of your mind, <sup>4.24</sup>and to put on the new man, the one having been created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

<sup>4.25</sup>Therefore, having put off the lie, speak truth, each one with his neighbor, because we are members of one another. <sup>4.26</sup>Be angry and do not sin. Do not allow the sun to set on your anger, <sup>4.27</sup>nor give a place to the devil. <sup>4.28</sup>The one who steals is to steal no longer; but rather, he is to work to the point of fatigue, laboring with *his* hands in reference to what is good, in order that he may have *something* to give to the one having need. <sup>4.29</sup>Do not let a corrupt word proceed from your mouth, but *only one that is* good for the building up of the *one in* need, so that it may give grace to the one hearing. <sup>4.30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed unto *the* day of redemption. <sup>4.31</sup>Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and blasphemy be removed from you, along with all evil, <sup>4.32</sup>[but] become kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other just as God, in Christ, forgave you.

<sup>5.1</sup>Therefore, become imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>5.2</sup>and walk in love, just as Christ also loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. <sup>5.3</sup>But indeed, fornication and any impurity or greediness are not to be named among you, just as it is fitting for holy ones, <sup>5.4</sup>along with baseness and foolish talk, or coarse jesting, which things are not becoming, but rather thanksgiving. <sup>5.5</sup>For this you understand, knowing that every fornicator, or impure *man*, or greedy *person*, who is an idolater, does not have an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

<sup>5.6</sup>Let no one deceive you with empty words, for on account of this the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>5.7</sup>Therefore, do not become their cohorts, <sup>5.8</sup>for you were darkness then, but now light in *the* Lord. Walk as children of light—<sup>5.9</sup>for the fruit of the light *comes* in all goodness, and righteousness, and truth—<sup>5.10</sup>proving what is well-pleasing to the Lord. <sup>5.11</sup>Now do not fellowship together with the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but rather, even expose *them*, <sup>5.12</sup>for it is shameful even to speak of the hidden things being done by them. <sup>5.13</sup>But all things being exposed by the light are made evident, <sup>5.14</sup>for everything being revealed is light. Therefore, it says, “Arise sleeper, and stand up from among the dead, and the Messiah will shine on you.”

<sup>5.15</sup>Therefore, look carefully how you walk, not as unwise *people*, but as wise ones, <sup>5.16</sup>redeeming the time because the days are evil. <sup>5.17</sup>On account of this, do not become foolish, but understand what *is* the will of the Lord. <sup>5.18</sup>And do not be made intoxicated with wine, in which is surrendering to immorality, but be filled in spirit, <sup>5.19</sup>speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and songs, singing and psalming in your hearts in the Lord, <sup>5.20</sup>giving thanks always for everything in *the* name of our Lord Jesus Christ to the God and Father, <sup>5.21</sup>submitting to one another in *the* fear of Christ,

<sup>5.22</sup>the wives to *their* own husbands as to the Lord, <sup>5.23</sup>because man is head of the woman, as Christ also *is* head of the church. He is savior of the body. <sup>5.24</sup>But as the church submits to Christ, so

also the wives *are to submit to their* husbands in everything. <sup>5.25</sup>Husbands, love *your* wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave himself for her, <sup>5.26</sup>in order that he may sanctify her, having cleansed *her* in the washing of water in word, <sup>5.27</sup>in order that he may present to himself the church, *as* glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she may be holy and unblemished. <sup>5.28</sup>So husbands [also] ought to love their wives as their own bodies. The one loving his wife loves himself, <sup>5.29</sup>for no one ever hated his own flesh, but he nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also *nourishes and cherishes* the church, <sup>5.30</sup>because we are members of his body. <sup>5.31</sup>For this *cause*, a man will leave a father and a mother and will be joined to his wife, and the two will be *fashioned* into one flesh. <sup>5.32</sup>This mystery is great, but I myself speak in reference to Christ and the church. <sup>5.33</sup>Nevertheless also *as for* you, let each one likewise love his own wife as himself. But *as for* the wife, *let her see to it* that she fear *her* husband.

<sup>6.1</sup>Children, obey your parents, for this is right. <sup>6.2</sup>Honor your father and mother, which is *the* first commandment with a promise, <sup>6.3</sup>in order that it may become well with you, and you may be on the earth a long time. <sup>6.4</sup>Now fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but nurture them in *the* discipline and admonition of *the* Lord.

<sup>6.5</sup>Slaves, obey *your* masters according to *the* flesh, with fear and trembling in sincerity of your heart as to Christ, <sup>6.6</sup>not by way of eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ accomplishing the will of God from *the* soul, <sup>6.7</sup>with goodwill being enslaved as to the Lord, and not to men, <sup>6.8</sup>knowing that whatever good thing each one may do, this he will receive from *the* Lord, whether slave or freeman. <sup>6.9</sup>Now masters, practice the same things toward them, dispensing with the threatening, knowing that both their Lord and yours is in heaven, and there is no respecting of persons with him.

<sup>6.10</sup>For the rest, be empowered in *the* Lord and in the might of his strength. <sup>6.11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, in order for you to be able to stand against the schemes of the devil, <sup>6.12</sup>because your conflict is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual armies of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>6.13</sup>On account of this, take up the whole armor of God, in order that you may be able to stand against *them* in the evil day, and after proving victorious over everything, to stand *firmly*. <sup>6.14</sup>Stand *firmly*, therefore, having wrapped *the area of* your vital organs with truth, and having mounted the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>6.15</sup>and having fitted *your* feet in readiness for the gospel of peace, <sup>6.16</sup>in everything having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all of the flaming arrows of the evil one, <sup>6.17</sup>and take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is *the* word of God, <sup>6.18</sup>by means of all prayer and petition, praying every time in spirit, and seeing to it in all perseverance and petition concerning all of the saints, <sup>6.19</sup>and on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in *the* opening of my mouth to make known in boldness the mystery, <sup>6.20</sup>on behalf of which *I am* an ambassador in chains, in order that I may speak boldly in it as it is necessary for me to speak.

<sup>6.21</sup>And in order that you yourselves also will know the things about me, how I am doing, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you, <sup>6.22</sup>he whom I sent to you for this same thing, so that you may know the things about us, and he may comfort your hearts.

<sup>6.23</sup>Peace *be* to the brethren and love with faith from God *the* Father and *the* Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>6.24</sup>Grace *be* with all the ones loving our Lord Jesus Christ in incorruptibility.