|  |
| --- |
| Related image |
| the Epistles  Galatians & Ephesians |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | DILLON JARRETT |  | FALL 2019 | |

# Getting Started

|  |
| --- |
| Resources |
|  |
| Related image |

Tap here to add a caption

Whether you are new to the Epistles of Paul or have studied them numerous times, we all can glean something from an in-depth study of his writings.

This lesson series will aim to:

* explain the cultural and contextual significance in Paul’s writings.
* identify the application of that significance to Christians then and now.

## Plan to answer the following questions throughout the series:

### Q: What is it about Galatians that leads scholars to refer to this epistle as, “the letter or declaration of Christian Liberty?

We will spend the first 6 lessons exploring the significance and importance of this epistle as it pertains to Christians across the centuries.

### Q: How do we as Christians keep the church (universal) and our congregation (local), Christ’s body, pure and holy?

We will spend the next 6 lessons examining how Christians should imitate God, as beloved children, striving to be pure and holy.

“If we do not love God and His Word what difference does it make if we love anything at all?” ~Martin Luther

# Take time to study beforehand

Each lesson will stand on it’s own and will not be carried over (if possible) into the next week. Our plan will be to stay on task with the goal of completing one lesson per week. If you aren’t prepared what that means for you is that you will be lost. We will NOT spend half of the class on one question or topic. Expect that if a question of concern is brought up that will not allow for us to complete the lesson for that particular week, we will move on. Questions or concerns are welcomed following each class if time did not provide for ample discussion. The final week of the quarter (the 13th week) will be provided as overflow and/or as the conclusion to this set of lessons.

# Expectations for the Teacher

It is my job to come prepared each week and ensure the class flows properly. I will aim to teach in a manner that is scripturally based and will strive to stay in the context to ensure the purity of the text is not riddled with personal opinions and dogmatic conclusions. I will ensure you have all the resources needed to excel in this series and leave having learned something new and worthwhile from the text. I welcome any corrective criticisms or points to ensure that what is being taught is not missing the mark in any way. Should it be doing so, you would be my friend to enlighten me regarding the fallacy.

# Expectations for the student

Your job is to be prepared each week and be ready to discuss the questions provided to you. Each class will have our outline provided along with the verses to be covered from each epistle. (Ex. Lesson 1 will cover the topic Paul’s Defense and a Different Gospel. We will cover Galatians 1 in it’s entirety for lesson one.) Pre-week assignments are expected to be completed on your own, prior to class. These will be labeled in the beginning of each lesson. Please note the time frame for study required for this course and ensure that you are adequately prepared for class. **If you are uncomfortable answering questions during class and do not wish to be called up, please make me aware. Otherwise, I will assume you are willing to participate.** A resource guide will be provided to you at the end of this lesson book for help with you studies. Also note, that there will be electronic resources available through our website, [www.woodlandhillscoc.com](http://www.woodlandhillscoc.com). Use this resource and our libraries should you need them for commentaries. Finally, for any missed week during the quarter, that corresponding week will have a podcast will be offered for review of that material at any time. Use this tool to ensure you are not lost should you have to miss a service during the quarter.

“Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” **Ephesians 5:1-2**



# table of contents

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Lesson 1** | **Paul’s Defense and a “Different Gospel”** |
| **Lesson 2** | **Acceptance; Peter Opposed; Justified by Faith.** |
| **Lesson 3** | **Law and the Prophets / Law and the Promise** |
| **Lesson 4** | **Heirs to a Promise and the O.T. Parallel** |
| **Lesson 5** | **Freedom in Christ and Walking in the Spirit** |
| **Lesson 6** | **Bearing One Another’s Burdens** |
| **Lesson 7** | **Blessings and Thanksgiving in Jesus Christ** |
| **Lesson 8** | **By Grace Through Faith** |
| **Lesson 9** | **Revealed Mysteries** |
| **Lesson 10** | **United in Christ** |
| **Lesson 11** | **Therefore, Be Imitators of God** |
| **Lesson 12** | **Familial Connection Paralleled With the church** |
| **Lesson 13** | **Overflow / Conclusion** |

Paul’s Defense and a Different Gospel – Galatians 1:1-24

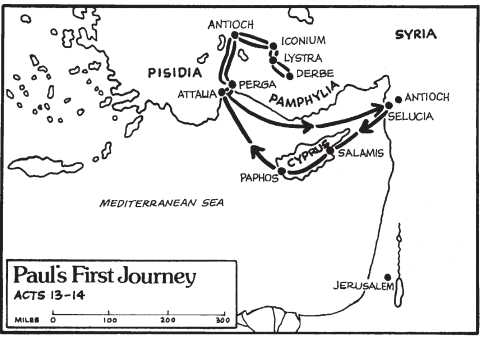
1 Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— 2 and all the brothers who are with me, To the churches of Galatia: 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

# No Other Gospel

6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. 10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

# Paul Called by God

11 For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. 12 For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. 13 For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it. 14 And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. 15 But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, 16 was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. 18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. 19 But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother. 20 (In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!) 21 Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. 22 And I was still unknown in person to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. 23 They only were hearing it said, “He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.” 24 And they glorified God because of me.



# Questions

1. Explain how Paul was made an apostle. Further, how did others see Paul in comparison to the original apostles?
2. What was the purpose in Paul’s statement, “**not from men nor though man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead?”**
3. What to Paul was astonishing about the Galatians? If you believe there is more than one factor, cite it below and be ready to discuss your findings.
4. Paul makes the statement, **“I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel…there are some who want to distort the gospel of Christ.** Explain the cultural and spiritual parallels found in the Galatian churches when considering churches around the world today (specifically in the US. Meaning, how do churches today similarly distort or turn to a “different gospel.)
5. Who called the Galatians to the **grace of Christ? How?**
6. We know that Paul too received the gospel. Explain how this happened. How did God call Paul?
7. List out some of the attributes and accomplishments, much like a “resume,” Paul had acquired prior to the road to Damascus in Acts 9.
8. What duration of time did Paul wait before he went to Jerusalem? Can you provide some insight into why he would have waited so long?
9. What was the reaction others had when they learned Paul was preaching the gospel?

# Challenge questions

#### Paul explains that Christ gave himself for his so that, **he might deliver us from this present evil age.** In this context, explain the idea behind the word **deliver,** specifically how we weren’t delivered from the presence of something, but rather, the POWER of something.

1. In an age of SO MANY churches, beliefs, cultural and ethnic differences, how can we ensure that the gospel we follow isn’t one that is a **pervert(ed) … gospel of Christ?**
2. What factors, if any, affect our allegiance to Christ and potentially our perception of other Christians, especially when we don’t know the whole picture?

Justified by Faith - Galatians 2: 1-21

# Paul Accepted by the Apostles

1 Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. 2 I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. 3 But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. 4 Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery— 5 to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. 6 And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. 7 On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised 8 (for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), 9 and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. 10 Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

# Paul Opposes Peter

11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party. 13 And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

# Justified by Faith

15 We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; 16 yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. 17 But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! 18 For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. 19 For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

# Questions

1. Who was it that Paul took with him to Jerusalem and why?
2. What was Paul’s purpose in meeting with the “influential Christians,” privately?
3. Paul makes the statement, “**Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery.”** 
   1. Who were the false brothers?
   2. Who were the false pretenses?
   3. What freedom in Christ was he referring to?
4. What is the **gospel to the uncircumcised**? Is Paul insinuating there were in fact two gospel messages in this statement?
5. Please provide insight into reasoning for Peter spreading the gospel to the **circumcised** and Paul in like manner to the **uncircumcised**?
6. How do we give the right hand of fellowship today in the 21st century? (Provide 2 examples.)
7. List examples scripturally how they **remembered the poor.** How would we go about doing the same today? (Provide 2 examples).
8. Why did Paul rebuke Peter? List an instance today how this could happen.
9. When Paul opposed Peter, was there potential for his actions to cause a split / division? In this situation, is it worth the time and potential fallout these actions may cause? Why?
10. When Peter refuses to eat with the Gentiles, how do his direct actions have detrimental, indirect affect on those around him?
11. Paul makes mention that, **“a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. 17 But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not!”** 
    1. How are we justified by faith in Christ?
    2. What works did Paul refer to in this context that **no one will be justified?**
    3. What is the significance in his question, **“But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin?”**

# challenge questions

1. Jesus Christ is supposed to live in us for we **have been crucified with Christ.** His actions leading up to and on the cross were painful, uncomfortable, and lonely, but necessary. As a Christian, in today’s incredulous society, what cultural, ethnic, corporate, religious, financial, political, or familial factors could cause one to nullify the grace of God? Identify **two situations** that could be painful, uncomfortable, and/or lonely, but necessary to overcome from the above-mentioned categories.
2. How was the cultural divide (amongst Jews and Gentiles) in these congregations leading to such diversion from the approved way of living? Further, explain how we as Christians today are affected in our perception and inclusion of different peoples simply because of their cultural or ethnic differences, despite the fact that we are all, “equal in Christ?”

Law and the Prophets / Law and the Promise – Galatians 3:1-29

# by faith, or by works of the law?

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. 2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? 4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? 5 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— 6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? 7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

# The Righteous Shall Live by Faith

10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” 12 But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

# The Law and the Promise

15 To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. 16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ. 17 This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. 18 For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. 19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. 20 Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. 21 Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. 22 But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23 Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. 24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptizsed into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

# Questions

1. The Galatians were notorious, ethnically and culturally, to be easily swayed from new and enticing ideas or knowledge. When Paul says, **“O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you?”** is he saying they were (a) morally or mentally deficient, or, (b) knowledgeable and understanding, but simply weren’t choosing to think?
2. How could Christ have been “**publicly portrayed as crucified?**
3. What does he mean when he is asking them, **did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith?**
4. Who are the TRUE children of Abraham today? (cf. Galatians 3:26-27).
5. What is the curse mentioned in Galatians 3:10?
6. What factor makes justification by the law impossible for man?
7. Please explain Paul’s statement, **“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us?”**
8. What are the blessings of Abraham mentioned in Galatians 3:14?
9. How do men confirm a covenant? (Cite one example from the Old Testament.)
10. What three great promises did God make to Abraham (Genesis 12: 1-3)? List the promises and find the passages in which they were fulfilled.
    1. Promise 1 – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    2. How as it fulfilled? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    3. Promise 2 – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    4. How as it fulfilled? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    5. Promise 3 –\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    6. How as it fulfilled? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. How were we made sons of God?
12. How did the Galatians **put on Christ?** (List a minimum of five references).

# Challenge questions

1. Does Galatians 3:19 tell us when the Law would end? If so, how does it?
2. First, take a moment to describe the responsibilities of a **Galatians (Galatians 3:24-25).** Now, if the Law of Moses was a guardian or a “schoolmaster,” what role does it play in our lives (if any) today as Christians under a New Law and a New Covenant?
3. Galatians 3:28 reads, **“there is neither male nor female”** in Christ. We are described as **heirs according to promise.** Does this mean that men and women therefore should have the right to be in the same roles in the church? How about the family? If not, please provide scriptural references to back your claim.

Heirs to a Promise – Galatians 4:1-31

# Sons and Heirs

1 I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, 2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. 3 In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

# Paul's Concern for the Galatians

8 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years! 11 I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain. 12 Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. 13 You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, 14 and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. 15 What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. 16 Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth? 17 They make much of you, but for no good purpose. They want to shut you out, that you may make much of them. 18 It is always good to be made much of for a good purpose, and not only when I am present with you, 19 my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you! 20 I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

# Example of Hagar and Sarah

21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. 23 But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. 24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written, *“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband.”* 28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? *“Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.”* 31 So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

# Questions

1. What are Christians heirs to?
2. Explain the elementary principles we were enslaved to when we were children.
3. Paul references the **fulness of time (having) come.** Why was it at the time period Jesus comes in instead of during the time of kings or the prophets? What was it not today?
4. Explain the significance of the following when describing Jesus Christ:
   1. God sent forth his Son
   2. Born of woman
   3. Born under the law
   4. To redeem those who were under the law
   5. So that we might receive adoptions as sons.
5. How does God send **the spirit of his Son into our hearts?**
6. How would one serve things **that by nature are not gods at all?**
7. Explain what the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world are in Galatians 4:9.
8. How can Christ be formed in us?
9. Note the reference coming from Galatians 4:27. Where is this verse quoted from? Now, explain the verse or, most importantly, why Paul felt the need to quote it in this context.
10. Hebrews 12:18-29 described the way both covenants were revealed. Study those verse and make a comparison below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Old Covenant | New Covenant |
|  |  |

1. Was the first covenant intended to govern all men? Prove your answer.
2. How are we born according to the Spirit?

# challenge question

1. Paul tells the Galatians in 4:11, **“I am afraid I may have labored over you in vain.”** It is easy to remove ourselves from the conversation. Remember though, the Spirit is speaking through Paul to us just as much as he is the Galatians in these verses. What do Christians do today that would warrant Paul’s statement? Further, what do YOU do that would warrant this statement from the apostle Paul.
2. It is not a hard concept to accept that we have or will fail God. It is equally difficult to accept that (a) people fill fail us, (b) you have or will also fail others, and (c) finally, you will fail yourself more than anything. In the end, knowing this is the case, what is worth fighting for?
3. How do we make others our enemy, consciously and subconsciously, when they simply tell us the truth?

Freedom in Christ and Walking in the Spirit – Galatians 5: 1-26

# Christ Has Set Us Free

1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. 2 Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. 3 I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. 4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. 5 For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love. 7 You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? 8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you. 9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump. 10 I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. 11 But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. 12 I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves! 13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.



16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

# Questions

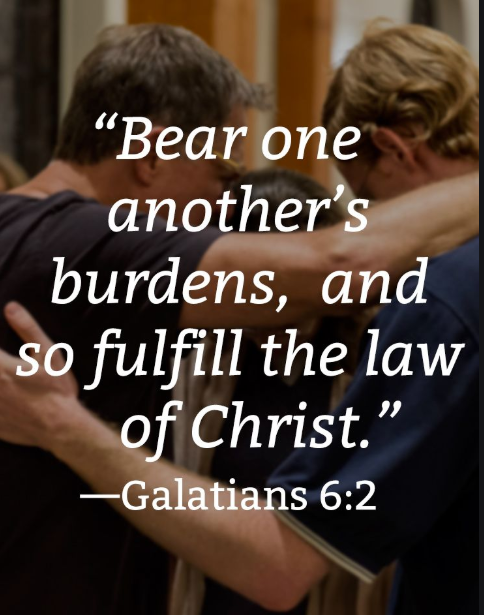
1. What has Christ set us free from?
2. Paul in Galatians 5:1 warns of becoming under a **yoke of slavery.** Enslaved to what? (Are there other references in the New Testament with the same warning? List some of them below)
3. What is the significant of this statement, “y**ou are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace(?)”**
4. How is a life through the Spirit, by faith, of hope for righteousness?
5. What other passages in the New Testament talk of the power of a little leaven?
6. How could you use **freedom as an opportunity** to indulge the flesh?
7. In what way is ALL the law fulfilled in the command **you must love your neighbor as yourself?**
8. How can Christians be **consumed by one another?**
9. How are the flesh and the spirit in opposition to one another?
10. Being led by the Spirit means what? (DO NOT give a critique of what others say this means. Just do your best to explain what Paul meant by this statement.)
11. Which sins are often minimized in the list found in Galatians 5:19-21?

1. How can we tell if someone has the **fruits of the Spirit** in their life?
2. How can we crucify the flesh with its passions and desires?
3. What does it mean to **keep in step with the Spirit?**

# Challenge Question

**Q:** Paul makes the statement, **“Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.”** How can Christians be more like this today?

Bearing One Another’s Burdens – Galatians 6: 1-18



# Bearing One Another’s Burdens

1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. **2**Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. **3**For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. **4**But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor.**5**For each will have to bear his own load. **6**Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. **7**Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. **8**For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. **9**And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. **10**So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

# Final Warning and Benediction

**11**See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. **12**It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. **13**For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. **14**But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. **15**For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. **16**And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. **17**From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. **18**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.



# Questions

1. What does Paul mean by, “being caught in any transgression(?)”
2. What steps should you take to **keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted(?)”**
3. Explain the difference in one’s **burden** in verse 2 and one’s **load** in verse 5.
4. Paul makes the statement, **for if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.** Are we ever truly…something? If so, how?
5. The concept of reaping what you have sown is not a new illustration. For Christians, we need to see beyond the physical. What rewards are reaped when following God emotionally, spiritually and psychologically? (Answer one category.)
6. Going along with question #5, what opportunities can occur from Galatians 6:10?
7. Do we like those in Galatians 6:12 **want to make a good showing in the flesh?** How?
8. What should we be boasting of in contrast to “making a good showing?”

9.      What **marks** was Paul referring to in Galatians 6:17?

# Challenge Question

1. Paul makes note that we should bear one another’s burdens. How does one go about doing this in the 21st Century?

1. What is the law of Christ? How do we go about fulfilling it?

Blessings in Jesus Christ – Ephesians 1:-23

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus: **2**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

# Spiritual Blessings in Christ

**3**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,**4**even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love **5**he predestined usfor adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, **6**to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. **7**In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, **8**which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight **9**making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ **10**as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. **11**In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, **12**so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. **13**In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14**who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

# Thanksgiving and Prayer

**15**For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, **16**I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, **17**that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, **18**having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, **19**and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might **20**that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, **21**far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. **22**And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, **23**which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.



# Questions

1. Define the term “saint.”
2. List at least six “spiritual blessings” that we have in Christ.
3. Who was chosen before the foundation of the world?
4. Define the term, “predestined.”
5. Paul uses the phrase **in HIM.** Please define this, then, compare with the other times this phrase is found ( Ephesians 1:3, 4, 7, 9, 20; 2:7, 10, 13, 21, 22l 3:6, 11, 12, 21; 4:21, 32.)
6. Explain the **administration of the fullness of the times.**
7. What is the **redemption of God’s own possession?**
8. Please note what Paul had **heard** about the brethren at Ephesus.
9. List the things that Paul prayed the brethren at Ephesus would receive.

# Challenge Question

How is Christ the **fullness of Him who fills all in all?**

By Grace Through Faith – Ephesians 2: 1-22

# By Grace Through Faith

**2**And you were dead in the trespasses and sins **2**in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— **3**among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. **4**But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, **5**even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— **6**and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, **7**so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. **8**For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **9**not a result of works, so that no one may boast. **10**For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

# One in Christ

**11**Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— **12**remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.**13**But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **14**For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility **15**by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, **16**and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. **17**And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. **18**For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.**19**So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **20**built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, **21**in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. **22**In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.



# questions

1. How were we made alive?
2. How were we by nature children of wrath?
3. How are we **saved by grace**?
4. How and when were we seated with him in the heavenly realms?
5. What is the gift of God mentioned in 2:8?
6. Paul references works in Ephesians 2:9. What were these works?
7. How are we the workmanship of Christ?
8. What does the phrase **far away** have special reference to in Ephesians 2:13?
9. How are Christ and the apostles a **foundation?**
10. How are **we a holy temple in the Lord?**

# Challenge Question

What is the dwelling place of God in the Spirit?

Revealed Mysteries – Ephesians 3: 1-21

# Mystery of the Gospel Revealed

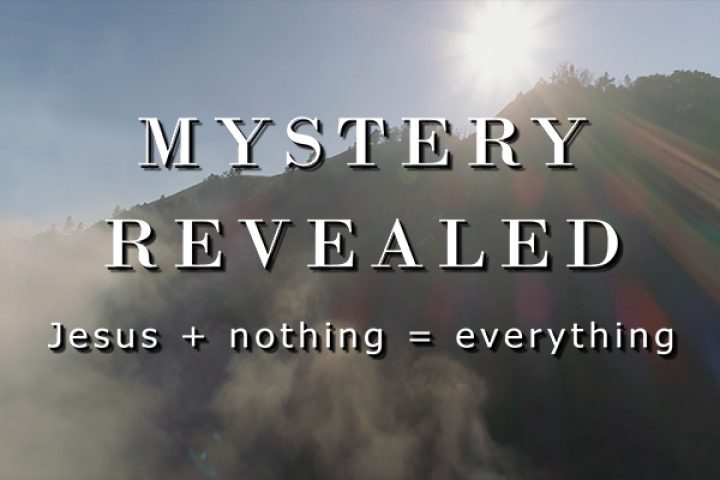
**1**For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— **2**assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, **3**how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. **4**When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, **5**which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. **6**This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

**7**Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. **8**To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, **9**and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, **10**so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. **11**This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, **12**in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. **13**So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

# Prayer for Spiritual Strength

**14**For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, **15**from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, **16**that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, **17**so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18**may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, **19**and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

**20**Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, **21**to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.



# Questions

1. How was Paul a prisoner of Jesus Christ for the sake of the Gentiles(?)”
2. What is the stewardship of God’s grace?
3. Define divine secret. Now, explain what it is in this context.
4. Who had been kept in the dark concerning this secret?
5. How was this secret revealed?
6. Why did Paul consider himself, “less than the least of all the saints?”
7. What is the **manifold wisdom of God**?
8. What is the **eternal purpose** mentioned in Ephesians 3:11?
9. How does God receive “glory in the church and in Christ Jesus ”?

# Challenge Questions

1. How does Christ dwell in your heart?

United in Christ – Ephesians 4: 1-32

# Unity in the Body of Christ

**1**I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, **2**with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, **3**eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **4**There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— **5**one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **6**one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. **7**But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.**8**Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.”**9**(In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? **10**He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) **11**And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, **12**to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, **13**until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, **14**so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. **15**Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,**16**from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

# The New Life

**17**Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. **18**They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. **19**They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. **20**But that is not the way you learned Christ!— **21**assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, **22**to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,**23**and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, **24**and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

**25**Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. **26**Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, **27**and give no opportunity to the devil. **28**Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. **29**Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. **30**And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31**Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. **32**Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

# Questions

1. Define humility
2. How do we bear **with one another in love?**
3. What is **the unity of the Spirit?**
4. Explain how each of the following elements play a role in salvation:
   1. the Body
   2. the Spirit
   3. Our Hope
   4. the Lord
   5. Faith
   6. Baptism
   7. God (the Father)
5. How did Christ lead **a host of** **captives**? When did this occur?
6. Describe the qualifications and duties of each of the following works:
   1. Apostles
   2. Prophets
   3. Evangelists
   4. Shepherds and Teachers
7. Explain each of the following phrases:
   1. to equip the saints
   2. the work of ministry
   3. building up of the body of Christ
   4. unity of the faith
8. Please identify Paul’s reason(s) for describing some Christians as **children.**
9. How do we lay aside the old man?
10. List the characteristics of life we are to **put on.**
11. Is anger always a sin? Explain you answer, citing references below if able.
12. How can we give the devil opportunity?
13. What is an unwholesome word?
14. How could we grieve the Holy Spirit?

# Questions

1. Is a life in Jesus Christ really worth living? Think about that seriously. Is it worth the life change, the nature of your life now as a bondservant, to someone you can’t see, feel or touch? Someone who is asking for you to submit in everything to Him, even if it means leaving all you love and know. Truly contemplate your answer and explain below. This question is for you and you alone to answer. It will NOT be brought up in class.
2. How do we go about living a life worthy of our calling when so many others today are either viciously against or apathetic to the gospel’s purpose?

Therefore, Be Imitators of God – Ephesians 5: 1-33

# Image result for be imitators of god

5 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. 3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not become partners with them; 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, 14 for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

# Wives and Husbands

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. 25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.[a] 28 In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body. 31 “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. 33 However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. 

# Questions

1. How are we to be imitators of God?
2. What does it mean to live in love?
3. What example of love does Paul offer?
4. What type of people have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ?
5. How can we be deceived today? In doing so, how can we become partakers with evil people?
6. How can we participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness?
7. Who is to rise from the dead?
8. How can we take advantage of every opportunity presented before us?
9. How are we filled by the Spirit?
10. Define the following items:
    1. Psalms
    2. hymns
    3. spiritual songs
11. How do we submit to one another out of reverence for Christ?
12. How are wives to submit to their husbands? What example is given to emulate this?
13. How much are husbands to love their wives? What example is given to emulate this?
14. How did Christ sanctify the church? Why did he do it?

# Challenge Question

What was the great mystery? WHY?

**Familial Parallel to the Church – Ephesians 6:1-24**

# Children and Parents

**6**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. **2**“Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise),**3**“that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.”**4**Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

# Bondservants and Masters

**5**Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, **6**not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, **7**rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, **8**knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free.**9**Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

# The Whole Armor of God

**10**Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. **11**Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. **12**For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **13**Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. **14**Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, **15**and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. **16**In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; **17**and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, **18**praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, **19**and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, **20**for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

# Final Greetings

**21**So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord will tell you everything. **22**I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage your hearts.

**23**Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **24**Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

# Questions

1. Explain the phrase **in the Lord.** Can you cite anywhere else this is used and why?
2. How does one honor his or her parent(s)? What promise is attached to this?
3. How could a father provoke his child(ren) to wrath?
4. What does, **discipline and instruction in the Lord** mean in this context? Is there significance to its placement in the context?
5. Servants were instructed by Paul to serve their masters. Given this is uncommon in our society, how would you explain any application to us?
6. Paul says of **the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.** 
   1. What is the first step in combatting the devil’s schemes?
   2. Describe the significance of each element below:
      1. the Belt of Truth
      2. Breastplate of righteousness
      3. Shoes for your feet (the readiness given by the gospel of peace)
      4. Shield of faith
      5. Helmet of salvation
      6. Sword of the Spirit
7. Paul makes a request of the brethren before his conclusion. What was that request?
8. How was Paul an ambassador in chains?