

Ephesians Bible Study Notes

Tyrannus Korean Baptist Church EM – Arlington Heights, IL

02/26/2021

Ephesians 4:1-6

Recap – Literary Context

What was Chapter 1 about?

- Spiritual blessings in Christ
 - o Adoption as children through Jesus Christ (v.5)
 - o Redemption through his blood, forgiveness of sins (v.7)
 - o Obtained an inheritance (v.11)
 - o Sealed with the Holy Spirit (v.13)
- Prayer of Paul
 - o He does not stop giving thanks (v.16) and does not stop praying for them.
 - Because of their faith in Jesus and their love for the saints (v.15)
 - o He prays for God to give them the Holy Spirit (v.17), who will
 - Open the eyes of their heart (v.18) to understand
 - the hope (v.18)
 - the riches (v.18) of his glorious inheritance
 - the greatness of his power (v.19)
 - o This same power that was in work in Christ.
 - Who is far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion.
 - Who has been...
 - given all things under his feet.
 - become the head of the church
 - o church, who is the body of Christ.

What was Chapter 2:1-10 about?

- Spiritual condition apart from Jesus Christ (v.1-3)
 - o We are dead in our transgressions
- Spiritual condition in Jesus Christ (v.4-10)
 - o Made alive in Jesus Christ

What was Chapter 2:11-22 about?

- Before the cross
 - o Foreigners
- Through the cross
 - o Unites us (Jews and Gentiles) as one people/humanity to God.
 - o Fellow heirs

- Temple – dwelling place
 - Worship.

What was Chapter 3:1-13 about?

- The Message (v.1-6)
 - Administration of God’s grace – to make the known the mystery (this is known by revelation)
 - Mystery of Christ is...
 - Gentiles are fellow heirs through Jesus Christ
- The Messenger (v.7-13)
 - Paul has been given the gift of God’s grace/privilege to be the minister of this mystery.
 - The mystery that was hidden through all ages to all people. (v.9)
 - But he can preach to everyone. (v.9)
 - This mystery that reveals the manifold wisdom of God in the church. (v.10)
 - Through Jesus Christ, which was his eternal purpose. (v.11)

What was Chapter 3:14-21 about?

- Paul’s Petition (v.14-19)
- Paul’s Praise (v.20-21)

Walk in a Manner Worthy of the Calling

- **What is “Therefore” referring to (v.1)?
 - _____
- Where else has the word “call” or “calling” been used (v.1)?
 - 1:18 _____
 - κλησικς - calling
 - 2:11 _____
 - λέγω – to say (i.e. “they say about you”, or “they call you”)
 - **Here, καλέω – to call and κλησικς – calling are used 4 times (v.1, v.4).
- What does God’s calling call for (v.1)?
 - Walk in a _____ of the calling
 - **This means those who have been called and those who have not been called live two different ways of life.
- What types of characteristics accompany a life worthy of God’s calling (v.2-3)?
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
 - 3) _____ bearing with one another in _____
 - 4) _____ to maintain the _____ of the Spirit in the bond of _____
 - Why is this unity described as the “unity of the Spirit”?
 - _____
 - Ref.

- Philippians 2:1-3 – “So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.”
 - Why is there a bond that comes from peace?
 - _____
 - Ref.
 - Matthew 5:9 – “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”
 - Hebrews 12:14 – “Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.”
 - Colossians 3:13 – “Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.”
 - **Peacemaking is an essential attribute of a Christian.
 - **The importance of unity is emphasized in vv.4-6.
- What is the basis for Paul’s insistence to keep unity in the church (v.4-6)?
 - 1) There is one _____.
 - 2) There is one _____.
 - 3) You were called to the one _____ that belongs to one _____.
 - 4) One _____
 - 5) One _____
 - 6) One _____ and _____ of all.
 - 7) One _____
 - Who is over all and through all and in all.
 - Ref.
 - Genesis 1:1 – “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”
 - Nehemiah 9:6, “You are the Lord, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.”
 - 1 Corinthians 8:6 – “Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.”
 - Colossians 1:16-17 – “For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”
 - **Unity is one of the most (if not THE most) essential attribute of the church, the body of Christ.

Main Idea

All those who have received the calling of God have been called into one single faith, so they should live a life worthy of such calling being eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit.

Applications for Life and Faith

1. When do you find it difficult to be...
 - a. humble toward others?
 - b. gentle?
 - c. patient and bearing in love?
 - d. maintaining the unity of the Spirit?
2. Have you seen examples of failure to keep these things in the church? How have they impacted the church?
3. We are reminded that we have been called to one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all – does this change the way that you view your church and your church family?
4. On the other hand, what does humility, gentleness, patience, and unity in the church look like? How have they impacted the church?