



Ephesians

SIT – WALK – STAND OR OUR IMMEASURABLE BLESSINGS IN
CHRIST

About Ephesus

- ▶ Known for magnificent Temple of Artemis (or Temple of Diana)
 - ▶ One of the 7 wonders of the ancient world
 - ▶ A Greek temple dedicated to the goddess Artemis
 - ▶ Rebuilt 3 times before its final destruction in 401 AD
- ▶ Principal port city in southern Asia Minor
- ▶ Important
 - ▶ Political City
 - ▶ Educational City
 - ▶ Commercial City

About Ephesus

- ▶ Paul Pastored 3 years followed by Timothy for a 1 ½ Years
- ▶ Issues of false teachings by influential Men, likely elders
 - ▶ 1 Timothy 1:3, 1:20
- ▶ Church was plagued by “fables and endless genealogies”
 - ▶ 1 Timothy 1:4
 - ▶ Examples:
 - ▶ Forbidding Marriage
 - ▶ Abstaining from Certain Foods
- ▶ 30 years after Paul's letter Christ gave John a letter for the Church indicating that it's people had lost their 1st love for him (Rev 2:1-7)

About Ephesians

- ▶ Written by Paul while in prison
 - ▶ Paul first ministered in Ephesus in 53AD – 2 years later returned for his 3 year period of pastoring the church.
- ▶ Estimated that it was written between 60-62 AD
- ▶ Possibly written the same time as Colossians
- ▶ Likely 1st brought to Ephesus by Priscilla and Aquila
 - ▶ Acts 18:26 & 18:18-19
- ▶ May not have been written specifically for Ephesus
 - ▶ Colossians 4:16

About Ephesians

- ▶ Suggested Subtitles
 - ▶ Our Immeasurable Blessings in Christ
 - ▶ Gaining the Things that Money Can't Buy
 - ▶ Christian Riches in Christ
 - ▶ Building a Community in Christ
 - ▶ Discovering Your Identity and Purpose in Christ
 - ▶ Wholeness for a Broken World
 - ▶ The Unity of the Church (especially between Jews & Gentile Believers)

About Ephesians

▶ Theme Breakdown

- ▶ Chapters 1 – 3 – Theological; emphasizing New Testament doctrine
- ▶ Chapters 4 – 6 – Practical; focus on Christian behavior
 - ▶ Or
- ▶ Chapters 1- 2 - Sit: We are seated with Christ in heavenly places
- ▶ Chapters 3 – 4 - Walk: We must walk worthy of our high calling
- ▶ Chapters 5 - 6 – Stand: We must stand against the attack of the enemy.

About Ephesians

- ▶ Purpose of Ephesians
 - ▶ Unveils God's intention for the Church
 - ▶ 1. Form a body to express Christ's fullness on Earth
 - ▶ 2. To do this by uniting both Jew and Gentile, among whom God himself dwells
 - ▶ 3. Equip, empower, and mature the people to the end that they extend Christ's victory over evil.