

EPHESIANS

¹ Paul, the apostle of Jesus Christ, by the will of God, to all the saints that be at Ephesus, and to the faithful men in Jesus Christ,

² grace *be* to you and peace of God, our Father, and of our Lord Jesus Christ.

³ Blessed *be* God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that hath blessed us in all spiritual blessing in heavenly things in Christ,

⁴ as he hath chosen us in himself before the making of the world, that we were holy [*or that we should be holy*], and without wem in his sight, in charity.

⁵ Which hath before-ordained us into [*the*] adoption of sons by Jesus Christ into him, by the purpose of his will,

⁶ into the praising of the glory of his grace; in which he hath glorified us [*or he made us able to his grace*] in his dearworthy Son.

⁷ In whom we have redemption by his blood, [*and*] forgiveness of sins, after the riches of his grace,

⁸ that abounded greatly in us in all wisdom and prudence,

⁹ to make known to us the sacrament of his will, by the good pleasance of him;

¹⁰ the which *sacrament* he purposed in him in the dispensation of plenty of times, to store up all things in Christ, which be in heavens, and which *be* in earth, in him.

11 In whom [*also*] we be called by lot, before-ordained by the purpose of him that worketh all things by the counsel of his will;

12 that we be into the praising of his glory, we that have hoped before [*or we that before hoped*] in Christ.

13 In whom also ye *were called*, when ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your health, in whom ye believing be marked with the Holy Ghost of promise,

14 which is the earnest [*or a wed*] of our heritage, into the redemption of purchasing, into [*the*] praising of his glory.

15 Therefore and I hearing your faith, that is in Christ Jesus, and the love into all saints,

16 cease not to do thankings for you, making mind of you in my prayers;

17 that God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give to you the spirit of wisdom and of revelation, into the knowing of him;

18 and the eyes of your heart enlightened, that ye know, which is the hope of his calling, and which be the riches of the glory of his heritage in saints;

19 and which is the excellent greatness of his virtue, into us that have believed, by the working of the might of his virtue,

20 which he wrought in Christ, raising him from death, and setting *him* on his right half in heavenly things,

21 above each principat, and potentate, and virtue, and domination, and *above* each name

that is named, not only in this world, but also in the world to coming [*or to come*];

²² and made all things subject under his feet, and gave him to be head over all the church,

²³ that is the body of him, and the plenty of him, which is all things in all things fulfilled.

CHAPTER 2

¹ And when ye were dead in your guiltes and sins,

² in which ye wandered sometime, after the course of this world, after the prince of the power of this air, of the spirit that worketh now into the sons of unbelief;

³ in which also we all lived sometime in the desires of our flesh, doing the wills of the flesh and of the thoughts, and we were by kind the sons of wrath, as other men;

⁴ but God, that is rich in mercy, for his full much charity in which he loved us,

⁵ yea, when we were dead in sins, quickened us together in Christ, by whose grace ye be saved,

⁶ and again-raised together, and made together to sit in heavenly things in Christ Jesus;

⁷ that he should show in the worlds above coming the plenteous riches of his grace in goodness on us in Christ Jesus.

⁸ For by grace ye be saved by faith, and this not of you; for it is the gift of God,

⁹ not of works, that no man have glory.

¹⁰ For we be the making of him, made of nought in Christ Jesus, in good works, which God hath ordained, that we go in those *works*.

11 For which thing be ye mindful that sometime ye were heathen in flesh, which were said prepuce, from that that is said circumcision made by hand in flesh;

12 and ye were in that time without Christ, alienated [*or strangers*] from the living of Israel, and guests of the testaments, not having hope of promise, and without God in this world.

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye that were sometime far, be made nigh in the blood of Christ.

14 For he is our peace, that made both one, and unbinding the middle wall of a wall without mortar,

15 enmities in his flesh; and voided the law of commandments by dooms, that he make two in himself into a new man, making peace,

16 to reconcile both in one body to God by the cross, slaying the enmities in himself.

17 And he coming preached peace to you that were far, and peace to them that were nigh;

18 for by him we both have nigh coming in one Spirit to the Father.

19 Therefore now ye be not guests and strangers, but ye be citizens of saints, and [*the*] household meine of God;

20 above builded on the founda-ment of apostles and of prophets, upon that highest corner-stone, Christ Jesus;

21 in whom each building made waxeth into an holy temple in the Lord.

22 In whom also ye be builded together into the habitation of God, in the Holy Ghost.

CHAPTER 3

¹ For the grace of this thing I, Paul, the bound of Christ Jesus, for you heathen men,

² if nevertheless ye have heard the dispensation of God's grace, that is given to me in you.

³ For by revelation the sacrament is made known to me, as I above wrote in short thing,

⁴ as ye may read, and understand my prudence in the mystery of Christ.

⁵ Which was not known to other generations to the sons of men, as it is now showed to his holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit,

⁶ that heathen men be even-heirs, and of one body, and partners together of his promise in Christ Jesus by the evangel;

⁷ whose minister I am made, by the gift of God's grace, which is given to me by the working of his virtue.

⁸ To me, least of all saints, this grace is given to preach [*or to evangelize*] among heathen men the unsearchable riches of Christ,

⁹ and to enlighten all men, which is the dispensation of [*the*] sacrament hid from worlds in God, that made all things of nought;

¹⁰ that the much-fold wisdom of God be known to princes and potentates in heavenly things by the church,

¹¹ by the before-ordinance [*or after the setting*] of worlds, which he made in Christ Jesus our Lord.

¹² In whom we have trust and nigh coming [*to*], in trusting by the faith of him.

¹³ For which thing I ask, that ye fail not in my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

¹⁴ For grace of this thing I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹⁵ of whom each fatherhood in heavens [*or in heaven*] and in earth is named,

¹⁶ that he give to you, after the riches of his glory, virtue to be strengthened by his Spirit in the inner man,

¹⁷ that Christ dwell by faith in your hearts; that ye rooted and grounded in charity,

¹⁸ may comprehend with all saints, which is the breadth, and the length, and the highness, and the deepness;

¹⁹ also to know the charity of Christ more excellent than science, that ye be [*full*]-filled in all the plenty of God.

²⁰ And to him that is mighty to do all things more plenteously than we ask or understand, by the virtue that worketh in us,

²¹ to him be glory in the church, and in Christ Jesus, into all the generations of the world[s] of worlds. Amen.

CHAPTER 4

¹ Therefore I bound for the Lord beseech you, that ye walk worthily in the calling, in which ye be called,

² with all meekness and mildness, with patience supporting each other in charity,

³ busy to keep unity of Spirit in the bond of peace.

4 One body and one Spirit, as ye be called in one hope of your calling;

5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 one God and Father of all, which is above all men, and by all things, and in us all.

7 But to each of us grace is given by [*or after*] the measure of the giving of Christ;

8 for which thing he saith, He ascending on high, led captivity captive, he gave gifts to men.

9 But what is it, that he went up [*or ascended*], no but that also he came down first into the lower parts of the earth?

10 He it is that came down, and that ascended [*or went up*] on all heavens, that he should fill all things.

11 And he gave some apostles, some prophets, others evangelists, others shepherds and teachers,

12 to the full ending of saints, into the work of ministry, into [*the*] edification of Christ's body,

13 till we run all, into [*or in*] unity of faith and of knowing of God's Son, into a perfect man, after the measure of the age of the plenty of Christ;

14 that we be not now little children, moving as waves, and be not borne about with each wind of teaching, in the waywardness of men, in subtle wit, to the deceiving of error.

15 But do we truth in charity, and wax in him by all things, that is Christ our head;

16 of whom all the body set together, and bound together by each jointure of underserving, by working into the measure of each

member, maketh increasing of the body, into *[the]* edification of itself in charity.

¹⁷ Therefore I say and witness this thing in the Lord, that ye walk not now, as heathen men walk, in the vanity of their wit;

¹⁸ that have understanding darkened with darkneses, and be alienated *[or made far]* from the life of God, by ignorance that is in them, for the blindness of their heart.

¹⁹ Which despairing betook them-selves to unchastity, into the working of all uncleanness in covetousness.

²⁰ But ye have not so learned Christ,

²¹ if nevertheless ye heard him, and be taught in him, as is truth in Jesus.

²² Do ye away by the old living *[or after the first living]*, the old man, that is corrupt by the desires of error;

²³ and be ye renewed *[or made new again]* in the spirit of your soul;

²⁴ and clothe ye the new man, which is made after God in rightwiseness and holiness of truth.

²⁵ For which thing put ye away leasings, and speak ye truth each man with his neighbour, for we be members each to other *[or together]*.

²⁶ Be ye wroth, and do not do sin *[or do not ye sin]*; the sun fall not down on your wrath.

²⁷ Do not ye give stead to the devil.

²⁸ He that stole, now steal he not; but more *rather* travail he in working with his hands that that is good, that he have whereof he shall give to the needy.

²⁹ Each evil word go not out of your mouth; but if any is good to the edification of faith, that it give grace to men that hear.

³⁰ And do not ye make the Holy Ghost of God sorry, [*or heavy*], in which ye be marked in the day of redemption.

³¹ All bitterness, and wrath, and indignation, and cry, and blasphemy be taken away from you, with all malice;

³² and be ye together benign, [*or of good will*], merciful, forgiving together, as also God forgave to you in Christ.

CHAPTER 5

¹ Therefore be ye followers of God, as most dearworthy sons;

² and walk ye in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God, into the odour of sweetness.

³ And fornication, and all uncleanness, or avarice, be not named among you, as it becometh holy men;

⁴ either filth, or folly speech, or buffoonery [*or harlotry*], that pertaineth not to profit, but more *rather* doing of thankings.

⁵ For know ye this, and understand, that each lecher [*or each fornicator*], or unclean man, or covetous [*man*], that serveth to maumets [*or to idols*], hath not heritage in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

⁶ No man deceive you by vain words; for why for these things the wrath of God came upon the sons of unbelief.

7 Therefore do not ye be made partners of them.

8 For ye were sometime darknesses, but now ye *be* light in the Lord. Walk ye as the sons of light.

9 For the fruit of light is in all goodness, and rightwiseness, and truth.

10 And prove ye what thing is well pleasing to God.

11 And do not ye commune to unfruiteous works of darknesses; but more *rather* reprove ye [*them*].

12 For what things be done of them in privy, it is foul, yea, to speak.

13 And all things that be reprov'd of the light, be openly showed [*or be made open*]; for all thing that is showed, is light.

14 For which thing he saith, Rise thou that sleepest, and rise up from death, and Christ shall lighten [*or illumine*] thee.

15 Therefore, brethren, see ye, how warily ye shall go; not as unwise men, but as wise men,

16 again-buying the time, for the days be evil.

17 Therefore do not ye be made unwise, but understanding which is the will of God [*or of the Lord*].

18 And do not ye be drunk of wine, in which is lechery [*or is luxury*], but be ye filled with the Holy Ghost;

19 and speak ye to yourselves in psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and saying psalm in your hearts to the Lord;

²⁰ evermore doing thankings for all things, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God and to the Father.

²¹ *Be ye* subject together in the dread of Christ.

²² Women, be they subject to their husbands, as to the Lord,

²³ for the man is head of the woman, as Christ is head of the church; he is Saviour of his body.

²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so women to their husbands in all things.

²⁵ Men, love ye your wives, as Christ loved the church, and gave himself for it,

²⁶ to make it holy; and cleansed it with the washing of water, in the word of life,

²⁷ to give the church glorious to himself, that it had no wem, [*or spot*], nor rivelling [*or wrinkle*], or any such thing, but that it be holy and undefouled.

²⁸ So and men shall love their wives, as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife, loveth himself;

²⁹ for no man hated ever his own flesh, but nourisheth and fostereth it, as Christ *doeth* the church.

³⁰ And we be members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

³¹ For this thing a man shall forsake his father and mother, and he shall draw [*or he shall cleave*] to his wife; and they shall be twain in one flesh.

³² This sacrament is great; yea, I say in Christ, and in the church.

³³ Nevertheless ye all, each man love his wife as himself; and the wife dread her husband.

CHAPTER 6

¹ Sons, obey ye to your father and mother, in the Lord; for this thing is rightful [*or is just*].

² Honour thou thy father and mother; that is the first commandment in [*the*] promise;

³ that it be well to thee, and that thou be long living on the earth.

⁴ And, fathers, do not ye provoke your sons to wrath; but nourish ye them in the teaching and chastising [*or in the discipline and correction*] of the Lord.

⁵ Servants, obey ye to fleshly lords with dread and trembling, in simple-ness of your heart, as to Christ;

⁶ not serving at the eye, as pleasing to men, but as servants of Christ; doing the will of God by discretion,

⁷ with good will serving as to the Lord, and not as to men;

⁸ witting that each man, whatever good thing he shall do, he shall receive this of the Lord, whether servant, whether free man.

⁹ And, ye lords, do the same things to them, forgiving menacings; witting that both their Lord and yours is in heavens, and the taking of persons is not with God.

¹⁰ Here afterward, brethren, be ye comforted in the Lord, and in the might of his virtue.

¹¹ Clothe you with the armour of God, that ye may stand against the ambushings, [*or assailings*], of the devil.

¹² For why striving [*or battle*] is not to us against flesh and blood, but against [*the*] princes

and potentates, against governors of the world of these darkneses, against spiritual things of wickedness, in heavenly things.

¹³ Therefore take ye the armour of God, that ye may against-stand in the evil day; and in all things stand perfect.

¹⁴ Therefore stand ye, and be girded about your loins in soothfastness, and clothed with the habergeon of rightwiseness,

¹⁵ and your feet shod in making ready of the gospel of peace.

¹⁶ In all things take ye the shield of faith, in which ye may quench all the fiery darts of *him that is most wicked or the worst*.

¹⁷ And take ye the helmet of health, and the sword of the Ghost, that is, the word of God.

¹⁸ By all prayer and beseeching pray ye all time in Spirit, and in him waking in all busyness, and beseeching for all holy men [*or for all saints*].

¹⁹ and for me; that word be given to me in opening of my mouth, with trust to make known the mystery of the gospel,

²⁰ for which I am set in message in a chain; so that in it I be hardy to speak, as it behooveth me [*to speak out*].

²¹ And [*that*] ye know, what things be about me, what I do, Tychicus, my most dear brother, and true minister in the Lord, shall make all things known to you;

²² whom I sent to you for this same thing, that ye know what things be about us, and that he comfort your hearts.

²³ Peace to brethren, and charity, with faith of God our Father, and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴ Grace with all men that love our Lord Jesus Christ in uncorruption. Amen, *that is, So be it.*

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Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling, was made in response to requests from readers who wanted my Wycliffe's Old and New Testaments and Apocrypha in one volume. Printing limitations dictated the number of pages available to me and the letter size. In my previous books, Wycliffe's Bible, Wycliffe's Old Testament, Vols. 1 amp 2, Wycliffe's New Testament, and Wycliffe's Apocrypha, I have tens of thousands of rewritten verses, presented in parentheses "()", to provide help in comprehending the 14th century Middle English vocabulary and grammar. In this present volume, with space at a premium, those "helps" had to be eliminated, to make room for the text of the Apocrypha.

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